

<b>Theme &amp; Passage(s)</b>	<b>S A C R E D : Work</b> <b>Genesis 2:4-25</b>
<b>Welcome</b>	When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? How has that carried through to adulthood?
<b>Worship</b>	<p>Spend time as individuals and then sharing with the group to identify people's work that has blessed you today. Eg. consider supermarket staff, farmers and factory workers and lorry drivers who brought your food from the field to your plate. Give thanks to God for the way in which he provides for us through other people's work.</p> <p>You may want to use Psalm 90 (especially verses 1-12 and v.17) to reflect on Moses' prayer that God may 'teach us to number our days' and make the most of our time on Earth.</p>
<b>Word/ Read &amp; Reflect</b>	<p>Identify the ways in which we see God working in Gen. 2:4-25. Gen 1:27 refers to humans having been created in God's image. what implications does this have for the type of work we might be involved in?</p> <p>As a result of the Fall (see Genesis Chapter 3) there is a need for us to play our part not only in creative work but also in the work of repair and restoration. Consider your work, whether that is paid employment, volunteering, studying, caring etc - which aspects are creative and which are restorative?</p> <p>Read Romans 12:1-2. What does it mean to live wholeheartedly for Christ in your work? As a Christian, how might your work look different to that of a non-believer doing the same role as you?</p> <p>Romans 12:1-2 (The Message): <i>So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.</i></p>
<b>Working it out</b>	<p>Identify some of the struggles you experience in your work. This may be with particular tasks, workload, relationships, the nature of your work etc. (Don't forget to including 'work' in the broadest sense, not just paid employment!) Spend time encouraging one another and praying for those who are struggling.</p> <p>Pray Psalm 90:17 over each member of the group.</p>