

3) Compartmentalization: 5 boxes – Family, Friendships, Church, School, Work

BIG Box: Faith – shoot smaller boxes inside – needs to encompass every aspect of our life

Goal as a Christian: Balance where we enjoy and thrive at what we do based on who we are in Christ

2 Questions: How many of you plan to work full time?

How many of you plan to go into full-time ministry?

Your Work is Your Ministry. Faith encompasses even our daily work and affects it. Hope by the end of our time, you would raise your hand to both questions.

What vs. Who?

- Why?

1. Your generation is characterized by rapid change - _____ jobs

“The only way you can handle change around you is to know what’s changeless about you.” – Pamela Kilburn

2. People define themselves by work

Work doesn’t define you!!!!

What's the point of work, then?

- Biblical worldview of work
 - Colossians 3:17 our work magnifies His glory
- What gets in the way of this biblical idea of work?
 - Idolize work
 - Drudgery
 - Compartmentalization



What is this? Do trees have a purpose (help oxygenate the atmosphere, prevent soil erosion, provide shelter for animals)

What does that tell us about God?

If God has this much purpose for a tree, how much more do you think he might have a plan and a purpose for your life?

Figuring out purpose:

Do you think God wants you to know your purpose?

("Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." ~Matthew 7:7) God is knowable and God is with us.

What is your purpose? (STUDENTS READ BIBLE VERSES)

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. **Genesis 1:27**

Matthew **22:37-29**-Love God & Love others

James **1:27**-Attend to the lonely & keep yourself pure

Matthew **28:19**-Making Disciples

1) God's common purpose for all humanity

2) God's specific purpose for you – Jer 29:11

Before we seek our purpose we must have an understanding of ourselves. Study a tree: study yourself – Why were we doing personality and ability assessments
Most fundamental, important, and defining thing

"A tree gives glory to God by being a tree." –Thomas Merton

How does this relate to you?

- If God has this much purpose for a tree, how much more do you think he might have a plan and purpose for you!
- Do you think God wants you to know your purpose?
 - Matt 7:7
 - Matt 22:37-39
 - James 1:27
 - Matt 28:19
 - Common Purpose for all humankind
- Jer 29:11 – Specific purpose



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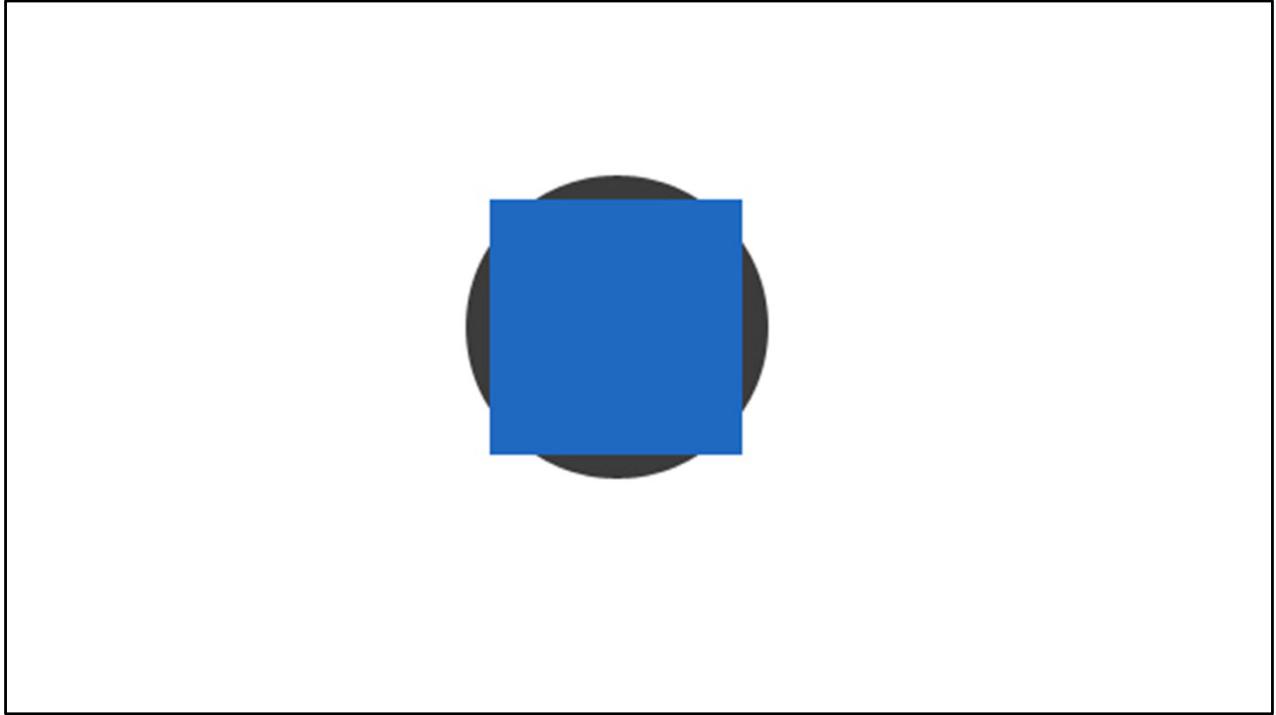
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What famous saying does this image remind you of? Square peg in a round hole
How does this apply to work....

Student comes in and says they want to be a neurologist. Dislike science and math. Tend to NOT come as easily as other classes. Sure, it could happen, but the statistics show how unlikely that will happen. What if you could pursue a career that fits with how you were created and what you have an interest in. Ideal would be if your interests and abilities/skill overlap in the field you choose to pursue.

“The two most important days of your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why.” ~Mark Twain (Passion/Purpose) As a believer, you would probably say the 2nd most important day is when you accepted Jesus as your personal savior.

Here is where the problem lies:

70% of people in the US dislike their job

Why?

- 1) Not making a decision – wait too long, miss deadlines/scholarships etc – limits what they can do

- 2) Bad decision – Land of opportunity, but freedom doesn't always work in our favor; bad motivation – expecting high income at the cost of job satisfaction
- 3) It wasn't what they expected – Most perception of work....t.v.,but not an accurate view

Forbes millionaire interviews: Common denominator is not background, education, ethnicity, etc.

Common denominator is the are passionate about what they do

Good news: All of these are PREVENTABLE

Trying to fit a Square Peg in a Round Hole



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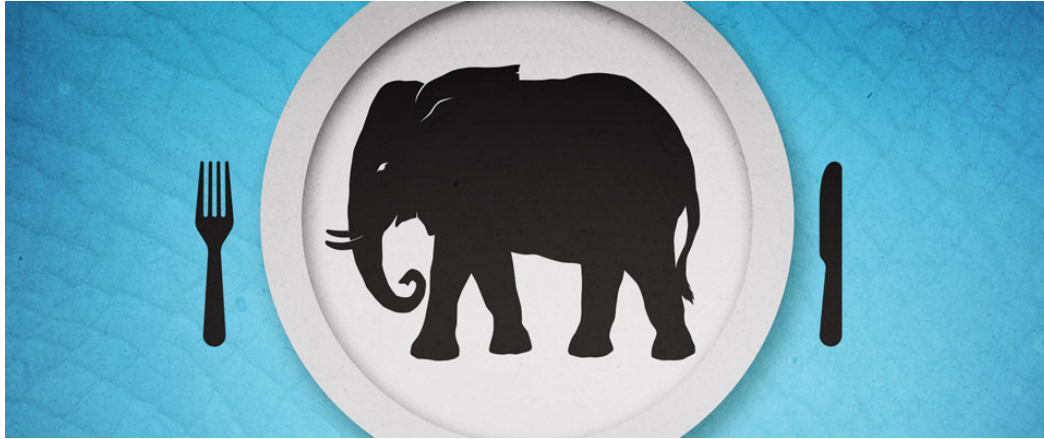
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How does this relate

- Testimony
- “The two most important days of your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why.” – Mark Twain
- What’s the problem?
 - 70 % of people dislike their job
 - Not making a decision and wait too long
 - Bad decisions
 - Wasn’t what they expected
- Good News: It is preventable!!!



What famous saying does this image remind you of? How do you eat an elephant?
One bit at a time.

This can seem like an overwhelming endeavor you are about to embark on.

Decision-making seems unimportant (procrastination: test)

Jr/sr panic – come in at a panic trying to “discern the will of God” at the last minute when God’s process of sanctification is usually a process

Statistics show

- *Students tend to change their major 4-6 times, and in that process, lose college credits

- *Makes a 4-year degree take 6 years to accomplish – costs more

- *Too many students wait until college to figure everything out

9-12 grade College/Career Curriculum – Look at Handout!!!!

9: Career Assessment - Understand yourself

10: Career Exploration: Understanding your options

- 11: College Exploration: Connecting Career and Education
- 12: Career Readiness: Professional Skills

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How does this relate to you?

- Statistics

- Changing majors
- Taking too much time
- Wait until college to find out

= PANIC State = Seems to daunting!!!!

- Take one step at a time – College/Career Curriculum

SO WHAT?

Think about the thing you really don't like doing. Now think about doing that thing for 40 hrs a week x 52 weeks in a year: 2080, 30 years of work x 2080: 62,400 hours of your life

Dan Miller "If you have a job you love, you'll never work a day in your life." You don't have to.. You can make good choices....

What did Jesus say were the two most important things?

³⁷ And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. –Matthew 22:37-39

"Do you know that nothing you do in this life will ever matter unless it is about loving God and loving the people He has made?" ~Francis Chan

If we don't keep this purpose in mind, we may waste 60,000 hours of our life pursuing our own agendas instead of God's. Following God's will gives purpose to our work.

There is also a flipside where we feel pressure or burden of what if I don't do the right thing. We've got to remember that God is working on us and this process is called "Sanctification." : Gives the desires of my heart. God will over time change the desires of my heart to match His. But we also need to remember, God doesn't necessarily need you to fulfill what He is doing. He invites us to join Him in the process.

Analogy of Cooking a Meal: Parent w/ young child in the kitchen: learn & share in joy of process – the meal will get cooked, but the children are invited to learn. It may take longer and may get messier, but it will be done.

Participate in process of redemption and restoration

Important questions to answer: Who will you be? What will you be? Why? Whose

Hope for crystal ball: What is God's will for my life? (Love Him and Love others)

Work is a powerful instrument to do that.

Think about this....

- Something you don't like doing
- 40 hrs / week
- 52 weeks / year
- 30 years of work

= 62,400 hours of your life doing what you dislike

“If you have a job you love, you’ll
never work a day in your life.” –
Dan Miller

BUT.....

What did Jesus say were the two most important things in life?

- Loving God
- Loving others

“Do you know that nothing you do in this life will ever matter unless it is about loving God and loving the people He has made?” – Francis Chan

- If we don’t keep this purpose in mind when pursuing God’s work, we may waste 60,000 hours of our life pursuing our own agenda instead of God’s.

Analogy of Cooking a Meal

- Parent with your children in the kitchen – learn and share in the process of making a meal
- The meal gets finished, but often it takes longer and often messier.
- Child learns in the process

- In sanctification process, God has invited us into this process. Sometimes we don't listen or we mess things up, but He chooses to use us anyways! He wants to!

Last Thought...

- Instead of focusing on what am I going to do in life to make my mark...
- Think who is God transforming me to be and how can that benefit the kingdom
- WORK is the powerful instrument He uses to do that.

YOUR WORK IS YOUR MINISTRY!!!