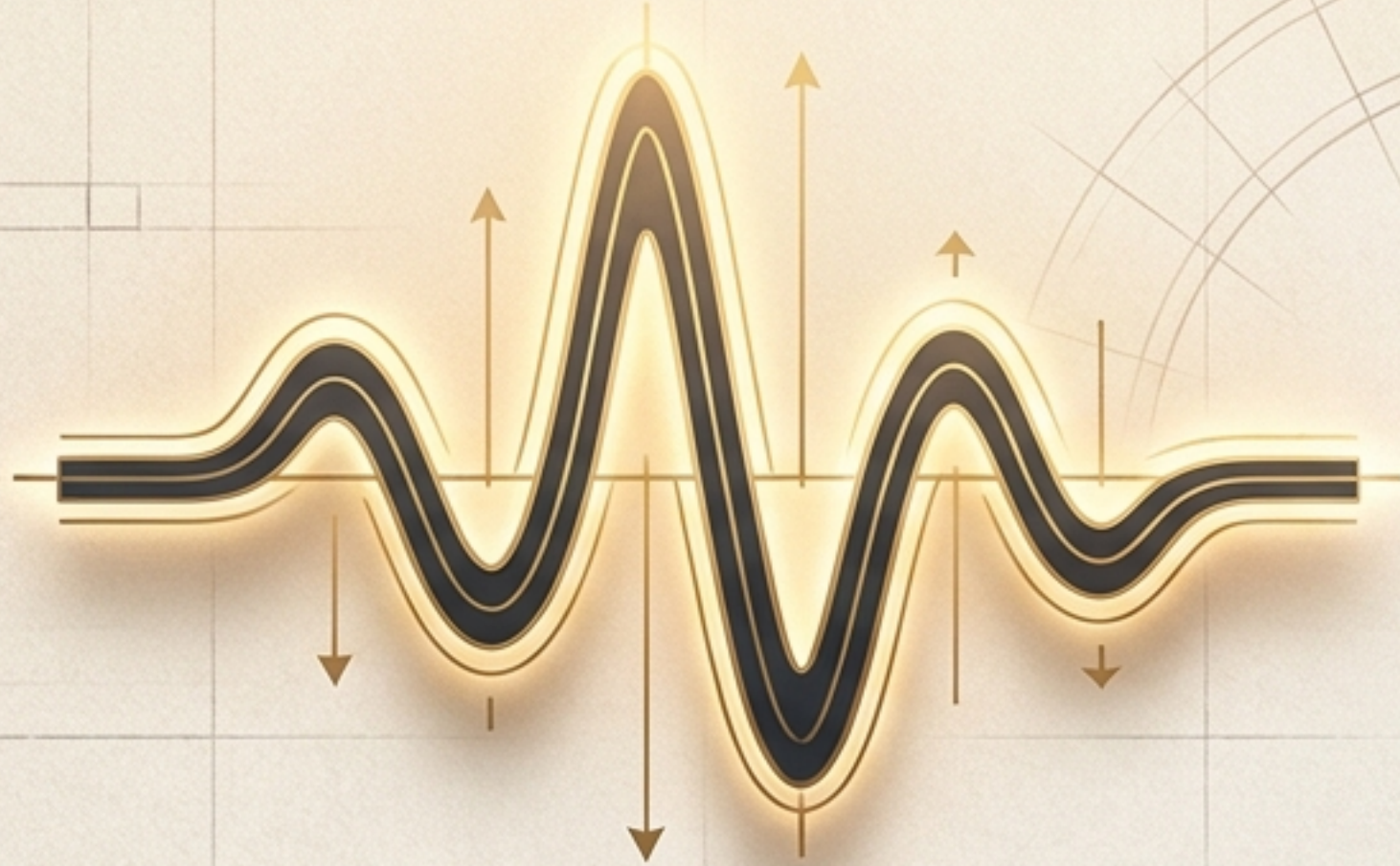




Work That Worships

A New Framework for the Daily Grind



THE CLINICAL REALITY

People with meaningful work feel better, live longer, and experience significantly lower rates of depression.

Am J Health Promot 2022; Journal of Research in Personality 2023



THE HUMAN SPARK

A happy life is a purpose-full life.
We are wired with an innate need to know our time matters.

Science tells us we need purpose. Genesis tells us where to find it.

REDEFINING OUR LABOR

THE CULTURAL DEFINITION

Tied strictly to employment and economic output.

Value determined by paycheck and societal status.

Viewed as a necessary burden or means to an end.

Ends at retirement.

THE GENESIS DEFINITION

Anything done for God's glory.

Includes the paid, unpaid, glamorous, and mundane.

Viewed as a sacred calling and act of worship.

An eternal part of human design.

◆ Work is anything we do for God's glory. ◆

THE ARCHITECTURE OF WORK

THE GIFT

Work as our
original design

THE GLORY

Work as our
highest purpose

THE GRIND

Work as our
necessary friction

*An alternative worldview established in Genesis 1-3
to redefine God, humanity, and the material world.*

Dimension 1: The Good Gift

Even God works. Genesis reveals a Creator engaged in deliberate, productive labor, establishing work as a fundamentally dignified act.

On the seventh day God had completed his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work of creation.

— Genesis 2:1-3

Work is an original blessing, not a consequence of the fall.

The Royal Commission

The Image Bearers

God created humans in His image to oversee the world.



The Mandate

Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature...
(Genesis 1:28)

We are the kings and queens commissioned to rule over and cultivate the world in partnership with God.

Dimension 2: For God's Glory

WORK WORSHIP

Whatever you do, do it from the heart, as something done for the Lord and not for people... — Colossians 3:23

Work transforms into worship
the moment we declare,
“Lord, this is for you.”

Eden as a Temple

Elements of Genesis 1-3

God “walked” in the garden (Gen 3:8)

Commission to “work and watch over” (Gen 2:15)

Cherubim guarding Eden (Gen 3:24)

River flowing from Eden (Gen 2:10)

Elements of the Tabernacle

God’s presence in the tabernacle (2 Sam 7)

Specific duties of Levites and priests (Num 3:7-8)

Cherubim guarding the Ark (Exodus 25)

River flowing from new creation temple (Rev 21)

To work the earth is to serve in the sanctuary.

Dimension 3: The Grind

If work is a divine gift designed for God's glory, why does it so often feel exhausting, frustrating, and fruitless?

The Reality of Genesis 3

The work of giving birth will be hard (painful effort).

The work of family will be hard (relational friction).

The work of the hands will be hard (thorns, thistles, sweat).

The inevitable end: For you are dust, and you will return to dust.

The Idolatry Shield



The curse is a severe mercy. The grind prevents work from becoming our god.

The Sacred Triad

The Gift (Our Design)
- We are wired to labor.

**The Glory
(Our Purpose)** -
Everything redirects
to worship.

The Grind (Our Guardrail)
- Friction keeps us dependent.

Sacred Dependence.

Finding profound meaning in
the mundane by accepting our
role as co-workers with God.

Reborn for the Task

We are not only born to work;
we are saved and recreated to work.

For we are his workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus for good
works, which God prepared ahead
of time for us to do. — Ephesians 2:10

“Good works” are not just religious
activities. They are every ordinary task
executed for the glory of God.



The Daily Liturgy

A close-up photograph of a person's hands pouring tea. The left hand holds a silver kettle, and the right hand holds a white mug. A stream of golden-brown liquid is being poured from the kettle into the mug. Steam is rising from the mug, and the background is a warm, textured surface, possibly a wall or a piece of paper, with soft, golden light filtering through.

Lord, whatever I work at today,
may it be work that worships you.
Amen.

Go and do good work.