



Your Work Matters to God

Doug Sherman, The Navigators

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Your Work Matters to God demonstrates just how important secular work is to God. Whether you are a man or woman, once you realize how many different ways there are to influence your coworkers for Christ without preaching a word, you'll be challenged to develop a lifestyle so striking and true, the people you work with will be eager to let you talk about what makes you different.

- Indexed for easy reference

Your Work Matters to God Details

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From Reader Review Your Work Matters to God for online ebook

Carol Ho says

Good overview on the value of work... was a bit dry, but had great foundational concepts. Helps to undo the two-story view, that some jobs are more "spiritual" than others, etc.

Monique Marquardt says

Made me re-evaluate my real job in the workplace. If I'm going to work then I need to extend myself to others more and bring God into every situation. There are so many people at work that need Him and if you're there as a Christian then your true work is to work at helping them get to know and to love Jesus.

Jimmy says

This is a good resource for people struggling with how their *secular* work fits into the larger picture of *spiritual* work.

However, this book is somewhat outdated and takes a more conservative approach than I would.

sharon says

nangita pa ko sa store....

Jeremy says

I.read this book in college and did a paper on Christian Ethics in the workplace. Good book. Though, I wish I still had that paper I wrote. I had interviewed some prominent local Christian businessmen and discovered just how taken advantage of some Christian business owners are.

Sarah says

Again between 3 and 4 stars for this one; I'd be interested to read in a year's time once I'm fully ensconced in the working world. As this was written in the 80s and directly to an American Evangelical audience, some of it feels a bit dated at times, but of course the main crux and root of the gospel and a Biblical view of work are as applicable and pertinent now as then! Gives a refreshing new perspective on work not just as a means to an end but as a God-honouring way of life - and that applies not just to 'holy' work as distinct from normal jobs. Would recommend to anyone.

Lendl Meyer says

Many good principles, old and new. A needed reminder and perspective on work.

Russell Gehrlein says

This book changed my life!

Tre Pryor says

This book is for anyone who wonders whether God cares about your work life. Much runs counter to some basic human preconceptions and even religious themes, but I believe it to be true.

Gary Patton says

Have you ever been asked by a Christian: "What's your calling?" Ever felt like s/he meant what did you do inside "the church"? And felt ashamed when you didn't have a good enough answer?

I was and did until I read Doug Sherman and William Hendricks book many years ago!

In "Your Work Matters to God" I learned that "ministry" meant more than working in or for the "traditional, institutional church". I learned further that "secular work" is a phoney term invented by religious people with an institutional church-oriented "agenda". Holy vs. secular is NOT Biblical. Most importantly, I learned that what I did in down-town Toronto, first as an HR Executive, and later as a Management Consultant, was just as important to God as going on a "Missions Trip" or being a Deacon or Elder.

I excitedly discovered that sharing Jesus with my work colleagues and the clients I met at work or neighbours near home, whom Holy Spirit brought across my path daily, was more important to God than "bringing them to church" like many Pastors encourage.

This book clarified for me, in the power of Holy Spirit, that being a member of the Christian Business Men's Committee (CBMC) and The Navigators of Canada (Navs) community outreach groups, was as fulfilling of the Great Commission as knocking on apartment doors in areas where I neither worked nor lived as part of my church's Evangelism Explosion Group.

And please don't hear me saying that "Missions Trips", "evangelism Explosion" or similar church programs and being a church Deacon or Elder are not OK or worthwhile.

What I am saying is that the latter are just other "callings" than ministering (serving) through one's daily workplace / neighbourhood activity. Plus, I'm also saying that some churches often don't clearly communicate the above Biblical truths. Nor the fact that being a Jesus Follower is a lifestyle ...regardless of

what you do for a living and whether or not you participate in a church program.

Whether your church teaches the above clearly, you'll still find Messrs. Sherman's and Hendricks' book encouraging and a breath of fresh, non-religious air. This will be especially true if you are a work-person or a home-maker. I recommend it to you, highly!

Enjoy and blessings,

GaryFPatton (gfp '42™)

Barry Davis says

Extraordinary book on integrating work and Christian life. Extensive Biblical overview, including quotes from D. Sayers, G. Friesen, H.R. Rookmaaker, G.K. Chesterton, R.C. Sproul and others. Part One speaks of how Christians view work, challenging the dominant views (secular, to tithe, as a mission field) as being less than Biblical. The authors (as it is co-written, they always write in the 1st person) then speak of how God views work in Part Two. Speaking of the intrinsic value of work and the practical contributions of labor, they also discuss the impact that sin has on our work and the workplace, as well as Christ's potential impact (New Work or New Workers is the chapter title). Part Three focuses on the difference that this Christian "work-view" should make. We are truly working for God, not man. This final section provides some advice on career choice (cites SIMA - System for Identifying Motivated Abilities, from the book Finding a Job You Can Love by Ralph Mattson and Arthur Miller - quite similar to B. Haldane's SIMS), income, lifestyle, even leisure. I was particularly impressed with chapters 11 and 15 - Evil in the Workplace and Relating to Non-Christian Co-Workers. The authors, both graduates of Dallas Theological Seminary, also provide some advice to "the new clergy" as Christ's representatives equipping each saint for the ministry.

All in all, an exceptional book with much Biblical scholarship and an excellent suggested reading list.

Vaughn says

Sherman and Hendricks wrote "Your Work Matters to God" in 1990, but don't let that put you off. It's one of the best treatments on this vital topic, integrating faith and career, that's been written and is referenced by many even in more current books.

The book's major themes include:

1. The different views of secular careers often held by Christians
2. Despite the effects of sin in the workplace, God does care (personally) about our careers
3. Working for God gives (His work, His way and trusting Him to provide His results) gives more dignity, meaning, and purpose to work than of working just to satisfy one's self
4. Determining which job matches the way He's designed you and will honor Christ and allow you to serve others (and when / if you should change careers)

Included is a helpful discourse for those considering full-time ministry. Food for thought: "only one-third of the membership of a local church can be given a job doing church work. So if you think that serving the Lord

means doing some work in church, then two-thirds of you are doomed to frustration and disappointment." More Christians need to see their current jobs as God's place for them to minister to others for His glory.

Read the book and be encouraged to have a different and eternal perspective on your job!

Linda Thompson says

This book is a thorough and comprehensive exploration of the subject of work and where it fits in our relationship to God and in our spiritual lives. It is NOT an easy read - getting the most out of it requires careful reflection. It took me a long time to get through it but it is definitely worth the effort.
