

Sermon Application/Discussion Questions – 8/13/2017
Sunday Message – Scott Faris
Proverbs 16:3

1. God's Word defines work broadly in Proverbs and Ecclesiastes, beyond mere employment or labor done to simply earn a living. This definition includes activities such as things we do to care for friends and family, academic study, tasks we do that are not compensated financially and even many--if not most--of our leisure activities or hobbies. What has been your experience with work over the course of your life? When you look back on your life, what activities have tended to occupy your time and what activities have you invested in the most to reach your goals or the goals others have had for you?
2. Work is an arena of life that can quickly reveal the sinful state of our hearts and areas of weakness. Laziness versus Diligence and Lying versus Integrity were two examples of potential areas of challenge and growth presented in the sermon, but Proverbs highlights other areas of tension as well. When it comes to your work, where are you most weak? What steps do you think the Lord would have you take to repent and grow in those areas of weakness?
3. In a fallen world, tainted by sin, work and all the things related to every human endeavor can be very difficult, an uphill battle. How do you respond to the fallenness of the world as it related to the work you do? What are your expectations of work and the work God has given you to do in your current season of life? Knowing that all labor can be part of our worship of God and is acceptable as such, how does that reality help you think about what you are called to do now?
4. As Christians, all of our work in life should have a clear ultimate goal: glorifying God and advancing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. How does your sense of calling and attitude toward work reflect your convictions about the priority of making disciples of all nations? Has the Holy Spirit or God's Word given you direction about how you engage your work? Do you sense you are called to be more faithful in whatever it is you currently do, or are there changes that you might be called to explore? If changes are in order, how will you engage wise counsel about those changes?