



## questions for reflection

### series: "Hopes And Fears"

We have an idea of what our life could be. We even have glimpses of the deep beauty and goodness that our lives should be. But some days - and sometimes everyday - our fears darken our hopes and cage our dreams.

This series, leading into TNL at Crooked Creek, looks at God's plans and promises for us as a community and as the individuals who follow Him.

### part 5:

"Work"

by Chip Anderson on Tuesday October 20, 2009

Chip asked the crowd on Tuesday night how they would rate their satisfaction with their job from 1 to 5: 1 being the worst and 5 the best.

- What would you say?
- What do you think most people would say?
- What should most people say? In other words, what is a reasonable expectation for how satisfying one's job should be?
- What would make your sense of job satisfaction higher?

One of the first questions people ask each other when first getting to know each other socially is, "What do you do?"

- Why is that question so prevalent?
- What might that prevalence say about our culture?

What is the hardest part of your job?

What is the best part of your job?

What hopes do you have related to your job, vocation or career?

What fears do you have related to your career?

Do you feel your daily work makes any difference in the world? Why or why not?

How do you see your work positively impacting culture at large?

How is it impacting eternity?

Solomon expresses his frustration with the emptiness of his work and the futility of his achievements in Ecclesiastes 2:17-23. He calls them "meaningless."

- When have you experienced the futile and unsatisfactory nature of your work?
- How can an "above the sun" view of work change your experiences?

Genesis 2:15 shows that humanity was created to work and Revelation 22:3 says we will continue to work on the other side of eternity.

- What are your reactions?
- How does this impact your view of work now, and specifically, your job?

Read Genesis 3:17-19. While God made work and intended it to be a fulfilling part of human experience, the Fall made work difficult.

- What are the "thorns and thistles" (challenges) for someone doing your job?
- For you, what is the "sweat of your brow" that makes work personally toilsome or difficult?

How can your work be worship?

How can your work be service to other people?