



Introduction to the Doctrine of Vocation

CPC Adult Sunday School

Week 2 - The Image of God and the Meaning of Work

February 9, 2025



What practical impact has your understanding of the gospel had on your life (church, family, job/community)?

In what ways have you practically compartmentalized church life, home life and community life?

Creation



Purpose = the glory of God

Day 1 - Light (Day) / Darkness (Night)

Day 4 - Great Lights (Sun & Moon)

Day 2 - Water (Seas) / Sky (Heaven)

Day 5 - Fish & Birds

Day 3 - Land (Earth) and Vegetation

Day 6 - Land Animals & Mankind

Day 7 - Holy, Rest, Blessed (Sabbath)

The Image of God

Genesis 1:26-28

Genesis 2:15-18

WCF 4.2

Mankind is the Image of God.

Social: Male and Female (family) —> State

Equipped:

Body & Immortal Soul

Knowledge

Righteousness

True Holiness

God's Word Written in Hearts

Dominion

Communion with God (WLC 83)



Adam: Prophet, Priest and King

Prophet:

Adam received God's word and was responsible to pattern his life (thought, word, and deed) and all of creation after it, including the prosecution of those who violate it.

Priest:

“work” (worship, serve, cultivate) & “keep” (guard) = cultivation and protection

Worship is meant to permeate all of life (WCF 21.6)

How do you think, speak and go about your labors?

King:

Naming the animals

“fill,” “subdue” and “have dominion”



*United in Communion with God

Covenant of Works

WCF 7.2

Promise: life to Adam and all his descendants

Condition: perfect and personal obedience

Genesis 2:17



Temptation and Fall

Genesis 3:1-8

WCF 6.2-6.5

Genesis 4



Enemy #1 - Satan (John 8:44)

Original Sin

Introduces Enemy #2 - The Flesh

Loss of communion with God

Dead in sin - Guilt & Corruption

Guilt & Corruption imputed descendants

Enemy #3 - The World

Communion becomes disunion - Adam's vocations as Prophet, Priest and King separated

Corruption of the family

Corruption of the Society

Rooted in Christ

And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption... 1 Corinthians 1:30

Genesis 3:15

Genesis 4:25-26

Justification (WLC 70):

Sins pardoned and righteousness of Christ imputed

Addresses our guilt

Sanctification (WLC 75):

Holy Spirit renews the whole person after the image of God

Addresses our corruption

The Difference (WLC 77):

Imputed vs. Infused grace

Sin pardoned vs. Sin subdued

Completed vs. Progressive



Digging Deeper

1. How does understanding humans as image-bearers of God shape your view of work?
2. In what ways have you failed (sinned) in your vocations (family/home, church, job/community)?
3. How do you tend to deal practically with your failures?
4. In what practical ways does corruption show up in your life (family/home, church, job/community)?
5. How does the gospel provide hope to those who fail?
6. How might you pursue/provide discipleship in this area?

