



COMMUNITY GUIDE

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WEEKLY APPLICATION

TAKEAWAY: Good work in this age will be rewarded in the age to come.

HEAD CHANGE: The resurrection means that your work and labor are not in vain. They matter.

HEART CHANGE: Good work is worthwhile even if it's just for this age.

LIFE CHANGE: Serve others through the means available to me in Jesus' name

OVERVIEW

If you grew up in church, you've probably heard that, in the "end times", the earth and everything in it is going to be destroyed. If you believe that the whole world is just going to burn up in the end, all this talk about work and rest really won't make a ton of sense. However, this view of ultimate world destruction doesn't seem to be consistent with the rest of scripture, nor does it seem to fit into the first-century Jewish perspective on the afterlife that Jesus Himself upheld. How we view the end affects the way we live our lives now. Following Jesus is about partnering with the Holy Spirit in seeing heaven invade earth through us. Our work is not just a means to an end. It is an end in and of itself.

"But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells"
-2 Peter 3:13 (ESV)-

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What implications does this view of the afterlife have on the way that you think about your work in the here and now? Does your work seem more significant, knowing that life on earth lives on in the age to come?
2. Does the way that you spend your money, your time, and your energy align with your beliefs about the future life here on earth?
3. Are you willing to serve others through your occupation? How can you do this practically? Discuss this with your small group, community group, or a small group of friends.

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Heavenly Father, help me to dream the dreams that you have for me. Use me in such a way that is utterly disproportionate to who I am so that the works I do, in your name, may live on forever. Give me grace to see what I do as a means to worship you, to build culture, and show all people who Jesus really is. In Jesus' name, amen.

IN THIS TOGETHER!