



SUNGAI WAY-SUBANG METHODIST CHURCH

SERMON
2 OCTOBER 2022

Work & Vocation

Some guiding principles
Is there a difference?
Making a difference

KOH EARN SOO

Work and Vocation

- Some guiding principles
- Is there a difference?
- Making a difference



Some guiding principles

Guiding principle #1
Work is a responsibility

Don't you remember the rule we
had when we lived with you?

"If you don't work, you don't eat."

Cf: 2 Thess 3:6-15 (The Message)

Guiding principle #1 Work is a responsibility

1 Timothy 5:8 (ESV)

8 But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

Some guiding principles

Guiding principle #2

Work is worship and service –
it is meaningful.

God worked.

Genesis 2:2 (ESV)

**2 And on the seventh day God finished His work
that He had done, and He rested on the seventh
day from all His work that He had done.**

Guiding principle #2

Work is worship and service – it is meaningful.

Genesis 2:15 (ESV)

15 The LORD God took the man
and put him in the garden of Eden
to **work it and keep it.**

Work is a gift from God.

Our whole life and work (what we do) should be a worship unto God

Cf: Romans 12:1-2 (ESV)

**1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers,
by the mercies of God, to present
your bodies as a living sacrifice,
holy and acceptable to God,
which is your spiritual worship.**

Some guiding principles

Guiding principle #3

Work is an opportunity to be
salt and light for God

Matthew 5:13-16 (The Message)

13 “Let me tell you why you are here. You’re here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You’ve lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage.

14-16 “Here’s another way to put it: You’re here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. **We’re going public with this, as public as a city on a hill.** If I make you light-bearers, you don’t think I’m going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I’m putting you on a light stand. Now that I’ve put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand - **shine!** **Keep open house;** be generous with your lives. **By opening up to others, you’ll prompt people to open up with God,** this generous Father in heaven.



Queen Elizabeth II (1926 – 2022)

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Guiding principle #3

Work is an opportunity to be salt and light for God



Seven Mountains of Influence: Building A Church To Transform Society



**What is the difference between work and vocation?
Is there a dichotomy (contrast/difference)
between secular and sacred?**

Definition

Vocation - a type of work that you feel you are **suited to doing** and to which you should **give all your time and energy.** (Divine calling)

Not just a job.

Guiding principle #4

We should work for the Lord

Colossians 3:17 (ESV)

17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Colossians 3:22-24 (ESV)

- 22 Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.
- 23 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,
- 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

Sidebar#1 – Compensation for full-time workers – there is a divide.

Our convictions and understanding of identity should drive our life purposes hence our work and vocation.

If we are convicted that God is real and we are children of God – the key question we should be asking is “What is our purpose in life?”

- We all should be living for Jesus.
- We all have a purpose.

In a nutshell, when we work,

- We should contribute to the good of society.
- We should glorify God.
- And we should be salt and light – in big and small ways.

And if we are convicted of the truth in Bible, then we know that this life is temporal.
We should set our eyes on eternity.
Yes, enjoy God's blessings but don't lay down treasures on earth which you can't take with you.
Lay up treasures in heaven.

My personal journey



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Sidebar #2

**Do not allow personal
limitations/ challenges
stop you.**

My personal journey



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God Family Church

**My current focus and passion is reaching
children and young people below the
age of 18.**

KSKA WORK

Conclusion

- **Guiding principle #1** Work is a responsibility
- **Guiding principle #2** Work is worship and service –and it is meaningful.
- **Guiding principle #3** Work is an opportunity to be salt and light for God (7 mountains)
- **Guiding principle #4** We should work for the Lord – whatever we do, it should be a vocation



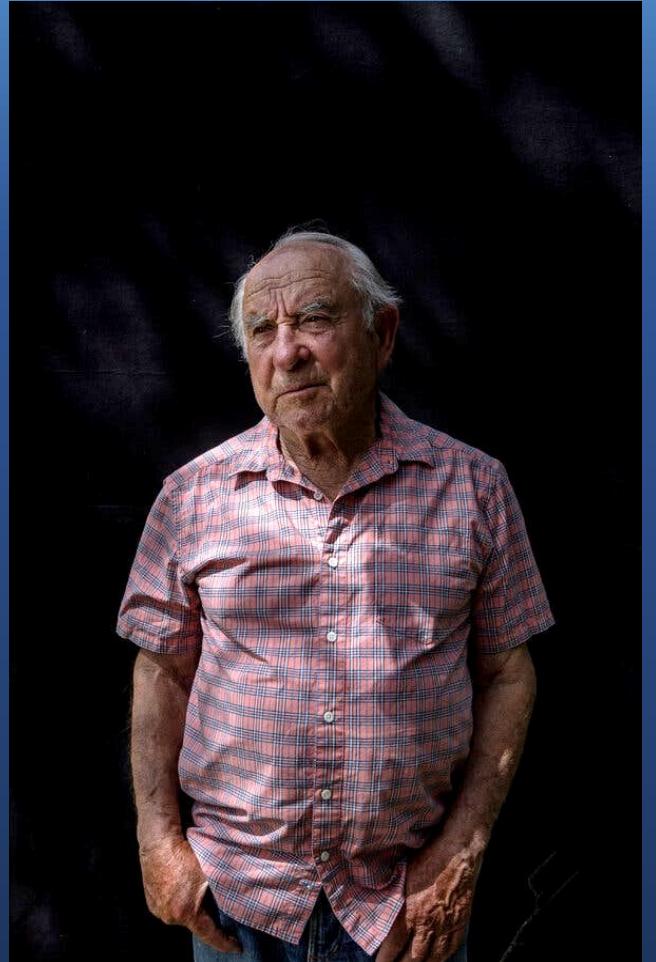
Sidebar #3 - Gold fingers

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Billionaire No More: Patagonia Founder Gives Away the Company



**“All profits, in perpetuity,
will go to our mission to
‘save our home planet’.”**

**“All profits, in perpetuity,
will go to our mission to
‘save souls’ on planet earth”**

Financially – we can contribute significantly.

Do not just work for things, holidays and enjoyment alone.

Contribute to the kingdom of God.

Change the world.

I am looking for a band of business people who can contribute to an IMPACT Malaysia fund.

Final point

We all can make a difference
in society/in God's kingdom.

What is your purpose in life?

What are you working for?

Do you want to make an impact
with your life in whatever station of life
and sphere of influence you are in?