

Labor Day Weekend 2024

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Work

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Work

...something to accomplish.

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...something significant
to accomplish for
the glory of God
and the good of people.

Ephesians 4

- ¹ I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,
- ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,
- ³ eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—
- ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
- ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.
- ⁷ But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

11 And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and
teachers,
12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry,
for building up the body of Christ,
13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the
Son of God,
to mature manhood,
to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,
14 so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves
and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning,
by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

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¹² **to equip the saints for the work of ministry,**

II Corinthians 6:16-21; 6:1

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard Him thus no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

¹ Working together with Him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain.

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15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him
who is the head, into Christ,
16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint
with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly,
makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

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What is the lifeblood of a church?

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What is the lifeblood of a church?

- **Glorify the Head (*Christ*)**
- **Unity of the Body (*Church*)**

***A people and a place where
the skeptic,
the inquirer,
and the already convinced
can find *room* and *reason* to
belong,
believe,
and be transformed.***

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...a people in and for the community.

DO GOOD WORKS

BUILD GOOD WILL

SHARE GOOD NEWS

Seek God

Love People

Engage Life

Find Hope

Seek God

Love People

Engage Life

Find Hope

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Love People

Engage Life

Find Hope

Seek God

Love People

Engage Life

Find Hope

What is the origin of my life?

What is the origin of my life?

What is the meaning and purpose of my life?

What is the origin of my life?

What is the meaning and purpose of my life?

Where do I find a moral structure for my life?

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What is the meaning and purpose of my life?

Where do I find a moral structure for my life?

What is the destiny of my life?

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What is the meaning and purpose of my life?

Where do I find a moral structure for my life?

What is the destiny of my life?

**What do I do with the angst I face as a result of
being a broken person in a broken world?**

Daniel Darling, the author of *Agents of Grace*,
professor at Southwestern Baptist Seminary

Prominent atheist Richard Dawkins shocked the world a few months ago with a declaration that he is a **”cultural Christian”**. This provoked scoffing at his desire to enjoy the fruits of Christianity without believing the truths at its core. Others noted the irony of Dawkins’ lifelong project of sawing at the branches of Christianity while admitting it has significant public benefit. Still, some saw an apologetic benefit to Dawkins’ words and , perhaps, a sign that the atheist is making an ever-so-slight turn toward faith.

**What do I do with the angst I face as a result of
being a broken person in a broken world?**

I dream of “...a Christianity which has balance,
not only exegetically and intellectually,
but also in the area of reality and beauty,
***an insistence that beginning with the Christian
system as God has given it to men in the
verbalized propositional revelation of the Bible***
one can move along and find that every area of life
is touched by truth and a song.”

Francis Schaeffer, He Is There and He Is Not Silent

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Core Values:

Love

Integrity

Relevance

Patience



Church is a Party



Church is a Party

Luke 15:11-24

¹¹ And He said, “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

Church is a Party

¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.””

²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

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Church is a Party

PARTY!

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...for the **spiritually dead and dying,**
and for the **spiritually lost and lonely.**

Church is a Party

PARTY!

...because the 'dead can be made alive',
and the 'lost can be found'!

So...therefore...what now?

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**Our work as the body of Christ...
...is something significant to accomplish
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**Preeminence of Christ
Priority of One another**