**It is Good**

Lifegroup Study (AM) –04/11/18

**INTRODUCTION**

*In the beginning God worked, He laboured in creating the heavens and the earth. At the end of the sixth day of creating, God stood back to observe all HE had created and proclaimed, “It is GOOD”.*

*Work was Gods idea right from the start, this is how he ordered it, and wanted it to be. Work didn’t come about as a result of Adam and Eve’s sinful rebellion to God, quite the opposite in fact. Creation itself was the joyful expression of beauty and artistry at the hands of a master craftsman, and God delighted in His work.*

*In creation, God puts all the raw materials necessary for His creation to flourish, and then in Gen 2:15 we read that he puts humans in the garden and commissions them to what, sit around and admire it all the days of his life, no “take care of it, to subdue it, and rule over it”.*

*We as those who have been made in Gods’ image, now have the privilege and joy of partnering with God in bringing his creation to its fullness, and much of this happens through our work.*

*Work is a blessing for the Lord, it gives us a reason to get up in the morning. Whether its getting the kids ready for school, and then doing the never-ending house work, or going to your paid employment, if it is decent and honest “it is GOOD”.*

*The problem with work though, is it can be so blimmin difficult. This is due the sin problem that we all have to live with until Christ returns and fixes that once and for all.*

*So in light of this, let’s see how we can live fruitful lives in the area of our work for the Lord.*

**DISCUSSION**

**Point 1:** Work is Gods idea, and is good, and we are called to work for God.

**Scripture References**: Genesis 2:15.

**Question**: What is your attitude towards work? Do you see it as a gift or more of a burden?

**Point 2:** Work, whether paid or not can be extremely frustrating at times, and this is because of sin our world.

**Scripture References**: Gen 3:17-19

**Question**: What are the frustrations you face in your work? What aspects of your character are being strengthened through this struggle?

**Point 3**: One of our core values here at Elim is 360 degree honour- This is simply a recognition that all people are made in Gods image, and as such all people have inherent worth that should be honoured.

**Question**: Many jobs in our society are looked down on, and this can rob people of the dignity and joy that God wants all people to have through their work. Have you experienced this in your own life? Have you ever been the seat ‘looking down’ on others?

**DISCUSSION SUMMARY QUESTIONS**

1. If you heard the sermon, was there anything God spoke to you about personally from this message?
2. **James 1:22** says “*Don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves*.” Is there anything that God is asking you to stop, start or continue in this passage?
3. What is the next step you need to take in response to God’s word? (i.e. obedience)