WHEN NO BUSH OF THE FIELD WAS YET IN THE LAND AND NO SMALL PLANT OF THE FIELD HAD YET SPRUNG UP-FOR THE LORD GOD HAD NOT CAUSED IT TO RAIN ON THE LAND, AND THERE WAS NO MAN TO WORK THE GROUND, AND A MIST WAS GOING UP FROM THE LAND AND WAS WATERING THE WHOLE FACE OF THE GROUND—THEN THE LORD GOD FORMED THE MAN OF DUST FROM THE GROUND

GENESIS 2:5-8, 15

AND BREATHED INTO HIS NOSTRILS THE BREATH OF LIFE, AND THE MAN BECAME A LIVING CREATURE. AND THE LORD GOD PLANTED A GARDEN IN EDEN, IN THE EAST, AND THERE HE PUT THE MAN WHOM HE HAD FORMED [...] THE LORD GOD TOOK THE MAN AND PUT HIM IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN TO WORK IT AND KEEP IT.

GENESIS 2:5-8, 15



GOD'S PURPOSE IN OUR LABORS

GENESIS 1 V. 27-28

GOD ORDAINED HUMANITY TO BE THE PRIMARY INSTRUMENT BY WHICH HIS KINGSHIP WILL BE REALIZED ON THE EARTH. THE GREAT KING HAS SUMMONED EACH OF US INTO HIS THRONE ROOM. "TAKE THIS PORTION OF MY KINGDOM, HE SAYS, I AM MAKING YOU MY STEWARD OVER YOUR OFFICE, YOUR WORKBENCH, YOUR KITCHEN STOVE. PUT YOUR HEART INTO MASTERING THIS

RICHARD PLATT



PART OF MY WORLD. GET IT IN ORDER. UNEARTH IT'S TREASURES, DO ALL YOU CAN WITH IT. THEN EVERYONE WILL SEE WHAT A GLORIOUS KING I AM." THAT'S WHY WE GET UP EVERY MORNING AND GO TO WORK. WE DON'T LABOR SIMPLY TO SURVIVE, INSECTS DO THAT. OUR WORK IS AN HONOR, A PRIVILEGED COMMISSION FROM OUR GREAT KING. GOD HAS GIVEN EACH OF US A

RICHARD PLATT



PORTION OF HIS KINGDOM TO EXPLORE AND TO DEVELOP TO ITS FULLNESS.

RICHARD PLATT



WORK IS A BLESSING.

GENESIS 2 V. 5-15

WORK IS GOOD FOR US.

GENESIS 2 V. 5-15

WORK IS CULTIVATION.

WORK IS REARRANGING THE RAW MATERIAL OF GOD'S CREATION IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT HELPS THE WORLD IN GENERAL, AND PEOPLE IN PARTICULAR, THRIVE AND FLOURISH.

TIM KELLER



"...ACTIVELY PARTNERING WITH GOD TO TAKE THE WORLD SOMEWHERE."

REFLECTION: HOW DOES MY WORK CONNECT TO GOD'S STORY?

HOW DOES MY WORK CONNECT TO GOD'S STORY?

- HOW DOES MY WORK CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMON GOOD?
- · WHO OR WHAT DOES MY WORK BENEFIT?
- IN WHAT WAY IS THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE AS A RESULT OF MY WORK?
- · WHAT WOULDN'T HAPPEN IF I (AND PEOPLE LIKE MYSELF) DIDN'T DO MY WORK?
- · HOW DOES MY JOB CONTRIBUTE TO OTHER PEOPLE'S JOY OR QUALITY OF LIFE?

