**Glorifying and Enjoying God in Exam Term**

**Session 1: Identity and Work**

In what do people around you look for reasons to be valued?

Two primary concepts:

* What we think about ourselves
* What we think other people think about us

As bible-believing Christians, we want scripture to have the final say in shaping and defining our understanding of ourselves and reality

***Identity as children of God***

By putting our faith in Jesus, we are sons and daughters of the most high God (Galatians 3:26; John 1:12).

We have intrinsic dignity and value because of the image we reflect.

We find eternal value, meaning, worth, and hope in being a child of God.

***Identity as Workers***

**Creation**

The story of work begins with God, who is a worker.

We are the work product of God, made in his image.

As His image-bearers, Adam and Eve’s work was to show off the goodness and magnificence of God’s character and is an act of worship to God.

**Fall**

Adam and Even failed to do their job. They were kicked out of the garden, but were not relieved of responsibility.

Three things change about the ***work***:

* It becomes ***toilsome***.
* It becomes ***futile***.
* It becomes ***compulsory*** for survival.

The problem with work is a lost connection between God, worship, and work.

**Redemption**

In Christ, God redeems us back to being his children, in right relationship with him as Adam and Eve were in creation.

He restores the proper connection between God, work and worship in our lives.

We can now again do our work for him, expressing his image in us, as an act of worship.

**Restoration**

Work in the new creation will be satisfying and fruitful and will be restored to its proper context. Work will once again and forevermore, glorify God.

*What that means for us now*

* Remember what is objectively true about you, and what is only subjective
  + Be careful spending all your time thinking and talking about subjective measures
* Remember that your work derives value from you, not the other way round
  + Work is a form of worship
* Remember that while you may be concerned for a great many things, God has only given you responsibility for some
  + God created you as a finite creature – only he is the infinite God

Responsible

Concerned

Fill in some exam-related responsibilities and concerns. What kind of things do we try to move from concerns to responsibilities?

**Session 2: Making the most of exam term**

*Philippians 4:1-8*

* Opportunities for fellowship

*e.g. staying committed to church*

* Opportunities to rejoice
* Opportunities to make your gentleness evident
* Opportunities to work on trust and prayer

*What kind of things can we be praying?*

* Opportunities to remember the good things