

Study Questions

“The Curse and the Cubicle” Part 1

- 1) **READ Genesis 1:26.** It was mentioned in the message that God created the human race with dominion in mind. What is dominion?^{1 2} Why do you believe it was important for the Lord God to give dominion to the human race while on earth? Is there then a connection between “image,” “dominion” and “the glory of God?”
- 2) Why was it important for the human race to have image before dominion? What are the dangers of having “dominion” ahead of “image” (*being made in God’s image*)? What does it mean to be made in the image of God? How differently should we live knowing the Lord has given us dominion on the earth?
- 3) Having dominion means the human race has been put to work. **READ Genesis 2:15.** Based on the placement of this verse in Scripture would you say “work” created as a blessing or a curse? How does work make you feel when you are there? (Blessing or curse?) Does work have any kind of meaning to you? Do you view work differently now than when you first began working?
- 4) Knowing what you presently know about God’s Word on work what would you say is God’s perspective on work? **READ Genesis 1:4, 10, 18, 21, 25, 31.** What were God’s thoughts about the things He created? Was God’s act of “creating” a matter of work for Him? Is there a connection between the way God thinks of work and us being made in His image?

¹ **Dominion.** “Rule or lordship, referring to political authority exercised by human beings (Gen. 37:8; Judg. 14:4; Ps. 72:8) or the realm in which such authority is exercised (2 Kings 20:13). Humanity also rules over creation, though under God (Gen. 1:26, 28; Ps. 8:6). Oppressive rule is condemned (Lev. 25:43, 53; Matt. 20:25). Ultimate and eternal dominion over all things belongs to God (Pss. 22:28; 145:13; Dan. 4:3; Rev. 1:6). In the NT, dominion may also refer to certain angelic or cosmic powers (Col. 1:16; Rom. 8:38), which, however, are subordinated to the power of God (Eph. 1:21; Col. 2:15).” (Harper’s Bible Dictionary)

² **Authority and dominance.** “Creation is clearly subservient to those whom God has blessed, but there is no suggestion that they should feel free to abuse and mistreat creation, which would be clearly inappropriate in light of their creation in the image of God.” (Dictionary of the Old Testament)

5) In what ways could you minister to someone who is struggling with the idea of work?