



Small Group Study Guide for September 23, 2018

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: This week we look at our time and how it is used. In the chapters for this week Andy Crouch talks about how we can be intentional about our use of the space in our houses and how we can shape them to be less tech-focused. In addition, Crouch talks about work and rest in American culture and how we can be intentional about setting times where we can get lasting work and refreshing rest in (sounds good doesn't it?).

Reading: Chapters 2 (Shaping Space) and 3 (Structuring Time) of *Tech-Wise Family*

Getting Started:

1. Think about which room you or your family is in the most? List the technology (the things that make things easier rather than requiring skill) in the room. List the things that create and require skill.
2. List your go-to activities for relaxation.
3. In what ways have you allowed your time to be stolen rather than given?

The Tech Wise Family

4. In what ways is the center of your house like a "hearth"? Like a "furnace" (pg. 73)?
5. On pages 85-87, Crouch writes about the difference between work and toil, and between rest and leisure. Is your work lasting? Think about your answers to question 2. Is your relaxation refreshing? Are your vacations really putting the work away or simply causing more toil later (pg. 100)?
6. Think about your activities at home. What things require skill, wisdom, and courage? If you're a parent, do you encourage your children to use skill and courage? Do they see you using wisdom and courage in your activities?

In the Word: Genesis 2:17-19; Colossians 3:23-24

7. What is the curse given in Genesis 3? Is work the curse, or is it something else? Was there work before the fall into sin (hint: look at Genesis 2: 15)?
8. What's the difference between the curse in Genesis 3 and the exhortation of Paul to the Colossians (what's the focus in each case)?
9. What work that you do is most rewarding and what work is most lasting? What do these two have in common?
10. How will changing your perspective of work from for-self to for-God affect your work?

Prayer: Pray this week that God would change your heart and your work from inwardly focused to focused on him. Pray that God would strengthen you and your families to do the things in life that require wisdom and courage, rather than only looking for the easy buttons. Pray that God would give you the trust required to truly rest from your labors and take some time to enjoy the fruits of your labor. Pray that we always remember that God looks to our hearts, and that we would forgive ourselves and others when we fail - just as Christ has forgiven us.

Next Week: The sermon for next week is "Cultivating Courage," where Pastor will talk further about encouraging the difficult rather than the easy everywhere. The study guide chapters for next week are 4: "Waking and Sleeping," and 5: "Learning and Working." These will help us look at ways that we can choose courage in our daily lives through the choices we make around growing, sleep, and education.

The remainder of the reading schedule for the Spiritual Growth Campaign is as follows:

Sept 30 – Chapters 4 & 5

Oct 7 – Chapters 6, 7, 8

Oct 14 – Chapters 9 & 10