



Pastor's Perspective – *Your Work Matters to God*

By Dr. Ron D. Lindholm, Senior Pastor

Many of us have felt like George Bailey, the main character in the film classic *It's a Wonderful Life*. George has grand visions for his life that always somehow get thwarted, leaving him feeling chained to a very ordinary existence in his little hometown of Bedford Falls. Finally, in exasperation over a calamity that threatens to close his business and ruin his reputation, George wishes he'd never been born. His wish is granted, and through a frightening barrage of discoveries, he sees how significant his "ordinary" life has actually been. George's diligent, thoughtful and skillful work at his humble savings and loan impacted many lives and changed the course of the entire town for good.

Like George, many Christians tend to label their lives and activities as important or ordinary, spiritual or secular. Being a physician, for example, is important work. Being a janitor isn't. Mission work is spiritual. Working for the government is secular.

But do the Scriptures really teach this kind of categorizing? In their book *Your Work Matters to God*, authors Doug Sherman and William Hendricks counter this false division:

There is no distinction between the secular and the sacred. At any moment, no matter what we are doing, we are relating to God either properly or improperly. Thus we need to distinguish, not between the secular and the sacred, but between sin and righteousness.

“Whatever you do,
work at it with all your heart,
as working for the Lord,
not for men.”
Colossians 3:23

In other words, you can go to church and pray (a “sacred” category) and yet be in sin. You may recite a creed or partake of the elements yet retain hateful thoughts towards someone who has wronged you. Or sit there and dream about your ambitions and how fulfilling them will give you esteem, power or money....

On the other hand, you can go to work in an office where the atmosphere is very “secular”—the conversation is littered with profanity, the jokes are off-color, the work is often slip shod, the politics are wearisome. And yet, like Daniel or Joseph in the Old Testament, you can keep your own conversation pure and your behavior above reproach. You can do your work with integrity, even if others do not. You can honor and obey God in a very worldly environment.

In short, God's interest is not simply that we do holy activities, but that we become holy people. Not pious. Not sanctimonious. Not other-worldly. But pure, healthy, Christlike. (NavPress 1987. 54-55)

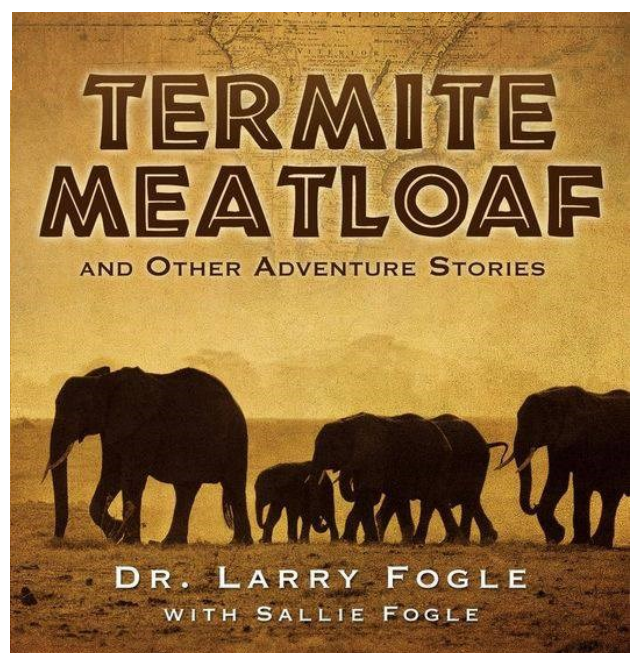
In what ways does this biblical perspective challenge or affirm the way you view your work? Like George Bailey, your life and your work make a difference in ways you may never know until you stand before the Lord.

New Book by Larry Fogle

Missionary Larry Fogle's new book, *Termite Meatloaf and Other Adventure Stories*, is now available!

Termite meatloaf? A snake at church? Rabies shots? Travel by truck, motorcycle and dugout canoe to reach a remote village? These true stories, drawn from the real-life adventures of the authors, display their refreshing zest for life and deep faith in God. Each chapter is written as a series of shorter stories – many of them set in the heart of Africa. Adults and children alike will find these stories so unusual, so captivating, that they may find it difficult to put the book down!

The book is available through Xulon, the publisher or through Barnes and Noble or Amazon.



Congratulations Graduates!

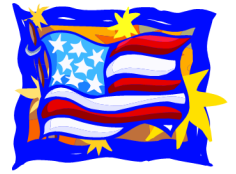


Congratulations to Rose Wasserstein and Joe Odom upon their graduation from high school. We rejoiced with them and their families at a pair of graduation receptions in June.



Fireworks on the Mall

If you would like to view the fireworks on the National Mall with the church family on July 4, please contact Ron ([785-633-1184](tel:785-633-1184)) or Sherry ([785-220-1761](tel:785-220-1761)) for further details.



July 2013 Bible Memory Challenge



Why are you downcast, O my soul?

Why so disturbed within me?

*Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise Him,
my Savior and my God.*

Psalm 42:11

“Investigation Destination” Vacation Bible School

This year’s Vacation Bible School (VBS) for children age 3 – grade 6 promises to be a fun, investigative journey. The students will be sent out into “the field” and go to five locations around “the globe” where they will follow clues to the King of kings. With “Investigation Destination,” students become “secret agents” sent out on important missions to discover clues about a special person, the King of kings.



Even if you are not directly involved in this ministry, there are many ways that you can lend vital assistance to its success. Here are a few: **1) Bring cookies.** Please be sure not to include any that have peanuts or peanut products. The cookies can be put on the counter in Fellowship Hall. **2) Provide flags, maps and/or old electronics.** The flags and maps can be from any country or place. The old electronics are things like

computers, cell phones, scanners, fax machines and headphones. The condition of these items is not important. If you want any of these items back, please mark them with your name. **3) Distribute flyers.** Promotional flyers about “Investigation Destination” are available on the table in the foyer. Please take as many as you can distribute. **4) Pray.** This is the most important need that we have for our VBS. Pray for our teachers and staff. Pray for the children that will attend. Pray that many children would come from the community. Pray that we would be able to connect with the families of these children. Pray that the gospel would be clearly presented in every class each day and that the Lord would be pleased to draw many, both children and parents, to personal faith in Jesus Christ as Savior. Pray that our church would be built up through the ministry of our VBS.

Money Matters

Contributions totaling \$2,297.86 were received during June to help missionaries Jim and Jan Ruff with their moving expenses.

June Giving Per Week (General Fund)	\$4,935
Budgeted Needs Per Week	\$5,229
Budgeted Receipts to Date	\$126,623
Budgeted Needs to Date	\$135,955

Calendar

July 4	Fireworks on the Mall
July 9	Nursing Home Ministry (2:00 PM)
July 12-13	Church-wide camping trip
July 19 or July 20	Fellowship in Homes (Shepherding Groups)
July 22-26	Vacation Bible School (9:00-11:30 AM)
July 31	Quarterly Business Meeting (7:30 PM)

Fellowship Baptist Church

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