



THE HUSTLE GOSPEL: LIES OF WORK AND WORTH

You Are What You Do (The Lie of Productivity)

Pastor Stephen Hay

September 7, 2025

Life Group Discussion

CONNECT: *Make time for encouragement, relationship-building, and prayer.*

- What do you like to do to rest? How does it help you recharge/fill your bucket?

GROW: *Engage with God's word, one another, and the Dream Disciple tools and practices.*

Scripture: [Ecclesiastes 2:11](#); [Romans 8:15](#); [Hebrews 4:9-10](#); [Luke 5:15-16](#); [Mark 2:27](#); [John 17:3](#); [Matthew 23:11-12](#); [Colossians 3:3](#)

Questions:

- What was one big takeaway for you from the sermon? Which of the two sons in the parable (Luke 15:11-32) do you most identify with? Why?
- Read [Ecclesiastes 2:11](#). How have you seen this verse to be true in your life or the lives of others?

Hustle Catechism	Gospel Catechism
"My value depends on how much I get done."	You are entirely accepted as God's child, no performance required (Rom 8:15).
"If I rest, I'm just being lazy."	Rest is an act of worship and trust (Heb 4:9–10).
"If I stay busy, I'll stay important."	Jesus walked away from crowds to be with the Father (Luke 5:15–16).
"I'll rest when I've earned it."	Sabbath is a gift from God, not a prize for productivity (Mark 2:27).



“Work hard now so I can finally enjoy life later.”	Life with God starts now, not someday (John 17:3).
“People only notice results.”	God honors the humble, not the high-achieving (Matt 23:11–12).
“I matter because I contribute.”	Your identity is safe and secure in Christ (Col 3:3).

- Which lies from the “Hustle Catechism” do you struggle with and why?
- Take time to read the true statements in the "Gospel Catechism" and the verses that accompany them.
- Which ones resonate with you? Why?

PRAY: Pass out notecards or small pieces of paper. Each person writes down one statement from the “Gospel Catechism” and the associated verse they want to focus on. Pray for the person on your left to experience the truth of that statement in the next week.

GO: *Put your learning into practice and hold one another accountable.*

What is God saying to you?

Consider some of the next steps from the sermon:

- o Choose one task you usually associate with your identity and let it go unfinished or unnoticed. Let that space become a sacred reminder: you're not what you do. You're already His.
- o Identity Reset: Replace “I am what I do” with “I am loved before I lift a finger.”
- o Complete this sentence: “Even if I never succeed at _____ again, I am still fully loved and embraced by God because _____.”

What are you going to do about it?

“I will...”



THE HUSTLE GOSPEL: LIES OF WORK AND WORTH

You are Who you Know (The Lie of Social Capital)

Pastor Derek Sanford

September 14, 2025

Life Group Discussion

CONNECT: Have you ever received a notice on Sunday from your phone that you have been using this device for so many hours a day for the last week? Do you sit there and think, "I haven't been on this phone that much."? Do you find yourself checking into your phone and social media the first thing in the morning? Checking what comments, if any, you have received for your post?

GROW: *Engage with God's word, one another, and the Dream Disciple tools and practices.*

Scripture: [Galatians 1:10](#), [Matthew 6:1-6](#)

Questions:

- What was one big takeaway for you from the sermon?
- Looking at Galatians and Mathew, why should we not seek man's approval?
- In [Philippians 3:4-11](#), what is Paul's view of his human accomplishments? What does Paul seek as his greatest desire?
- What do [Proverbs 29:25](#), [John 10:14-15](#), [Psalm 139:1-6](#), and [Luke 12:6-7](#) tell us about God's care for us and how he knows us?

PRAY: Pray that God's approval be what we seek. Pray also that God leads us to opportunities to seek after him and his approval.

GO: *Put your learning into practice and hold one another accountable.*

What is God saying to you?

Try an Identity Reset: Replace "I am who I know" with "I am approved by God"

Write down one relationship or platform where you've been seeking validation or building your identity on social connections. Complete this sentence: "Even if I



never gained another follower/connection/endorsement from _____, I am still fully approved and loved by God because _____"

What are you going to do about it? "I will..."



THE HUSTLE GOSPEL: LIES OF WORK AND WORTH

You Are What You Know (The Lie of Expertise)

Pastor Derek Sanford

September 21, 2025

Life Group Discussion

CONNECT: Share about something you thought you knew a lot about 10 or 20 years ago, but now realize you knew very little.

GROW:

Scripture: [1 Corinthians 8:1-3](#); [1 Corinthians 1:26-31](#); [Jeremiah 9:23-24](#)

Questions:

- What was one big takeaway for you from the sermon?
- Read the passages above from Paul and the Old Testament prophet, Jeremiah. What do they say about the importance of knowledge versus the wisdom of knowing God? What does it mean to 'know God'?
- When it comes to spiritual knowledge, many have cautioned against being “educated beyond your obedience.” What do you think they mean by that? How can that be a danger in your life, and how can you fight that?
- Paul says “knowledge puffs up” and warns against the sin of pride. How have you seen knowledge “puff up” in your own life or the lives of others? What are some ways to evaluate whether you are using your knowledge to build others up in love?

PRAY: Father, we know that knowing You is our greatest calling. Help us make knowing You a priority and use the knowledge you give us to build up those you bring into our lives.

GO: What is God saying to you about how you view your knowledge?

Write down one area where you've been building your identity on your expertise or knowledge. Complete this sentence: "Even if I never learned another thing about _____, I am still fully known and loved by God because..._____."



THE HUSTLE GOSPEL: LIES OF WORK AND WORTH

You Are What You Own (The Lie of Accumulation)

Pastor Derek Sanford

September 28, 2025

Life Group Discussion

CONNECT: *Make time for encouragement, relationship-building, and prayer.*

- Share a time when you felt at peace. Where were you, who were you with, and what were you doing?
- Share a time when you bought something you really wanted, but once you had it, the thrill lasted only a short time.

GROW: *Engage with God's word, one another, and the Dream Disciple tools and practices.*

Scriptures: [1 Timothy 6:6-10](#); [Proverbs 3:5-8](#); [2 Corinthians 1:9](#); [Hebrews 13:5](#)

Questions:

- Share what it means for you to be content.
- What keeps you from being content with your current finances, relationships, accomplishments, or even notoriety, comforts, or privileges?
- Recall and share a time of insecurity. How do you deal with it using self-reliance?
- Why do you think you have struggled to allow God to have dominion over this area of your life?
- How could you go about letting gratitude over that which God has already blessed you "train your heart toward" having a mindset of contentment?

GO: *Put your learning into practice and hold one another accountable.*

What is God saying to you about the Myth of More?

What are you going to do about it? "I will..."

Identity Reset- Replace "I am what I own" with "I am content in Christ"

Even if I never acquire another _____, I will choose to be content and satisfied in Christ because _____.