

WHAT'S THE WAY FORWARD?

New resources, organizations, leaders and models are emerging to fill the gap of knowledge and relationships that exist in this key area of life.

Imagine a world where...



Churches equip people to align their work with God's purposes in the world



Older generations vocationally disciple younger generations



Money no longer dominates our decisions about work



Fulfillment at work is the norm, not the exception

THE CENTER FOR FAITH & WORK



The Center for Faith & Work at LeTourneau University equips Christians to take their faith to work and fulfill their calling as Christ's ambassadors in every workplace and every nation.



In the Workplace

Live workshops and online resources inspire and arm Christians with wisdom and confidence to live out their faith at work.



In Churches

Proven tools help pastors equip and deploy Christians to their workplace mission field and extend God's kingdom influence.



On Campus

Exceptional co-curricular programs help students define their calling and develop a vision for serving Christ in their work.

Receive regular updates from the Center for Faith & Work about events and resources that help you connect Sunday worship with Monday work. Sign up at www.CenterForFaithAndWork.com. Learn about live workshops for your church or organization: CFW@LETU.edu.



THE STATE OF

FAITH & WORK

Barna

We are entering a vocational renaissance. Technological innovation and generational transition are transforming the way we work. Over the last five years, Barna Group and the Center for Faith & Work at LeTourneau University have tracked these changes and compiled research to better understand how people think about faith and work, and to what degree churches and faith leaders are equipping people to integrate faith and work.

WHAT'S THE OPPORTUNITY?

People of all backgrounds are hungry for meaning and purpose. Today's rapidly changing workplace brings opportunities to rediscover and redefine the role work plays in our lives.



75% of adults are looking for ways to live a more meaningful life

(Barna Frames, Multicareering)



The most frequently mentioned work challenge relates to dealing with people (31%)

(LeTourneau University, 2011)



(Barna Frames, Multicareering)

* answers in this section reflect U.S. adults

HOW DO CHRISTIANS VIEW WORK?

Christians have largely digested cultural messages that working is about making money. Additionally, college is seen as the primary pipeline for a successful job or career, and prospective students are pivoting their interests to be competitive for tomorrow's workforce.



When asked, "What is the purpose of having a job or career?" the top response is "to make money or earn income" (80%)
(ABHE, 2015)



Only one-third (30%) of church adults* can clearly see how the work they are doing is serving God or a higher purpose. Over two-thirds lack clarity on how their work connects with God's purposes
(LeTourneau University, 2014)

* Churched adults have attended church service in the past month.



34% of employed Christians have never thought about their work as something they were called to
(Barna Frames, Multicareering)



Almost four out of five church adults (78%) would consider the work they do somewhat or much less important than the work a pastor or priest
(LeTourneau University, 2014)

HOW ARE MILLENNIALS BRINGING CHANGE?

Millennials have significantly shaken up the world of work. In reaction to uncertain economic stability and unpredictable corporate structures, they have re-prioritized flexibility, innovation and value alignment in their work lives.



Over one-third of Millennials (36%) strongly believe that even the most mundane things they do every day have eternal significance, regardless of whether this is at work, school, church or home
(IFWE, 2015)

Christian Millennials



I feel called to my current work



The work I am doing is helping to create a better world
(Barna Frames, Multicareering)

ARE CHURCHES PREPARED?

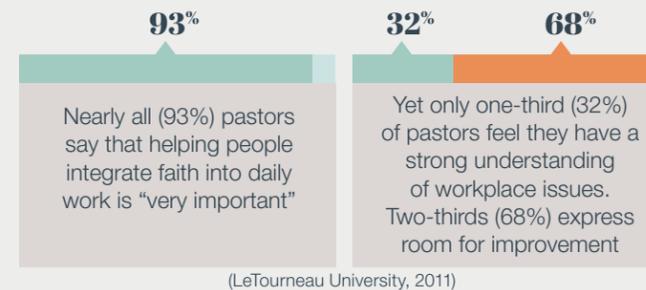
Although some churches, faith leaders and Christian organizations excel at providing vocational discipleship and support, on average most churches and leaders are underequipped.



Excellent
Good
Fair
Poor
Don't know



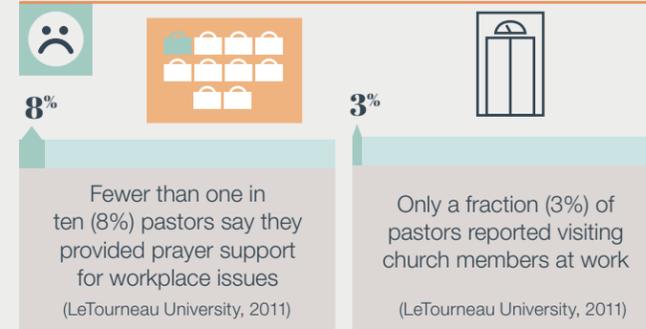
U.S. Pastors Self-Reported Understanding of Congregation's Workplace Challenges (n=646)
(LeTourneau University, 2011)



Nearly all (93%) pastors say that helping people integrate faith into daily work is "very important"

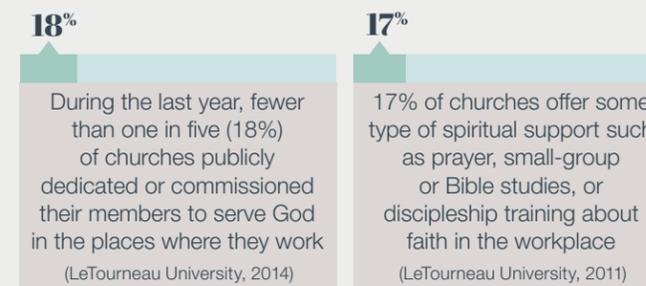
(LeTourneau University, 2011)

Yet only one-third (32%) of pastors feel they have a strong understanding of workplace issues. Two-thirds (68%) express room for improvement



Fewer than one in ten (8%) pastors say they provided prayer support for workplace issues
(LeTourneau University, 2011)

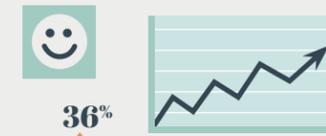
Only a fraction (3%) of pastors reported visiting church members at work
(LeTourneau University, 2011)



During the last year, fewer than one in five (18%) of churches publicly dedicated or commissioned their members to serve God in the places where they work
(LeTourneau University, 2014)

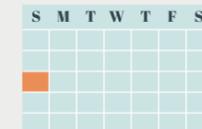
17% of churches offer some type of spiritual support such as prayer, small-group or Bible studies, or discipleship training about faith in the workplace
(LeTourneau University, 2011)

However, there is good news! The distance between the pulpit and pew is narrowing.



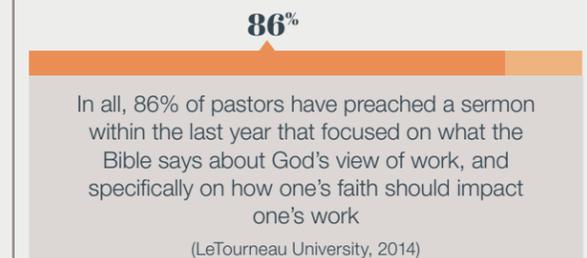
36%

Over one-third (36%) of senior Protestant pastors say within the past month they preached a sermon on what the Bible says about God's view of work



36%

An additional 36% say they have preached on work in the past six months



In all, 86% of pastors have preached a sermon within the last year that focused on what the Bible says about God's view of work, and specifically on how one's faith should impact one's work
(LeTourneau University, 2014)