

MARK 540: Working Blessedly: The Shape of Marketplace Theology

Paul Stevens

July 17 – 21; 1:30 – 4:30 pm

1 or 2 graduate credit hours; or 1 audit hour

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Marketplace theology is good for the soul, the body and the workplace. But what is it? Modifying the enigmatic definition of theology made by the Puritan, William Perkins, we will explore marketplace theology as “the science of working blessedly forever.” This takes us on a journey through the Scriptures and the history of theological reflection. We will deal with practical questions such as: Why work? What does work mean? What is the marketplace? And how can we bring transformation to our daily work, whether remunerated or not, as well as to the workplace and to the worker herself or himself?

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should have a clearer understanding of:

1. Articulate for themselves a workplace theology that is biblical and contextual
2. Understand the breadth of investigation (head, heart and hands) needed to develop their own marketplace theology
3. Demonstrate growth in prayer and spirituality in their own work life
4. Be able to theologically reflect on and unpack workplace joys, experiences and challenges from a biblical perspective

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1 July 17 The Science of Marketplace Theology

Day 2 July 18 Working

Day 3 July 19 Working Blessedly 1 (Mission)

Day 4 July 20 Working Blessedly 2 (Spirituality)

Day 5 July 21 Working Blessedly Forever

REQUIRED TEXTS

Required Reading

Keith Loftin and Trey Dimsdale, eds. *Work: Theological Foundations and Practical Implications*. London: SCM Press, 2018. 260 pages

Stevens, R. Paul. *The Kingdom of God in Working Clothes: The Marketplace and the Reign of God*. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2022. 204 pages.

Looking for textbooks? Please [contact](#) the Regent Bookstore, or check out their [direct-fulfillment website, Aerio](#).

Note: Aerio prices are in USD.

Please Note: This Course Information Sheet is meant to assist in selecting courses. The official syllabus should be consulted for more detailed information. A full syllabus with drop deadlines, policies, and course assignment details is available on Moodle for registered students: moodle.regent-college.edu/login

