

SCHEDULE

1. Introduction	January 18, 2012
2. God and Nature	January 25, 2012
2. History and Jesus Christ	February 1, 2012
3. The Holy Spirit and the Church	February 8, 2012
4. Prayer, Worship, and the Bible	February 15, 2012
5. The Lord's Supper and Dreams	February 22, 2012
6. Work and Service	February 29, 2012
7. Friendship and Suffering	March 7, 2012

WORK AND SERVICE

11. WORK

OPENING HYMN: (#438, Charles Wesley)

Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go, my daily labor to pursue;
thee, only thee, resolved to know in all I think or speak or do.

The task thy wisdom hath assigned, O let me cheerfully fulfill;
in all my works thy presence find, and prove thy good and perfect will.

Thee may I set at my right hand, whose eyes mine inmost substance see,
and labor on at thy command, and offer all my works to thee.

For thee delightfully employ what e'er thy bounteous grace hath given,
and run my course with even joy, and closely walk with thee to heaven.

OPENING PRAYER:

O God, you have bound us together in this life.

Give us grace to understand how our lives depend
on the courage, the industry, the honesty,
and the integrity of all who labor.

May we be mindful of their needs, grateful for their faithfulness,
and faithful in our responsibilities to them;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Reinhold Niebuhr)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Are there jobs in which it is impossible to sense the presence of God?
2. What are John R. W. Scott's three purposes of work? Do you agree, or would add some more?
3. How important is the Sabbath to you?



We who mystically represent the Cherubim,
and sing to the life-giving Trinity the thrice-holy hymn,
let us now lay aside all earthly care:
that we may receive the King of all,
who comes invisibly upborne by the Angelic Hosts.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Amen



12: SERVICE

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you think anyone will pass the final test? Give reasons for your answer.
2. What are you doing? Are you at the top of the cliff directing traffic, building barriers to keep people from falling over the cliff, or are you operating an ambulance at the bottom of the cliff? Can you name someone serving in each one of the places described above?
3. What is the highest form of service a person can perform?

CLOSING HYMN: (Number 399)

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee. Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise. Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King. Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee. Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thing; it shall be no longer mind. Take my heart, it is thine own,
it shall be thy royal throne. Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

CLOSING PRAYER: Make us worthy, Lord, to serve those throughout the world who live and die in poverty or hunger. Give them through our hands, this day their daily bread; and by our understanding love, give peace and joy. (Mother Teresa)