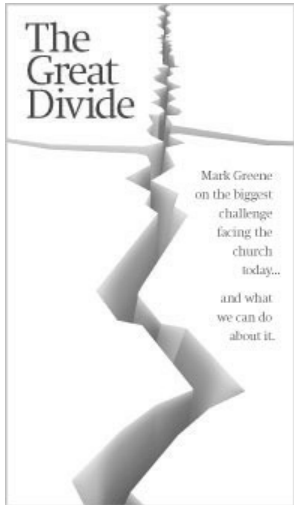


'Reflecting on the Great Divide'



**This week we want to reflect on the issues raised by the Great Divide and discuss ways of supporting one another in resisting the Sacred Secular Divide (SSD).**

1) Read Colossians 1. Reflect together on how many areas of life and existence are encompassed in these verses. Why does it sometimes feel as if God is not interested in 'all things'? Why do we tend to limit what that includes?

2) Mark identifies lots of areas that have been affected by SSD, which ones do you think are particularly relevant to you as individuals?

3) 'SSD pervades the whole church. And pretty much everyone I know has had it and is a carrier. I've had it. And I struggle against it all the time'. Why do you think SSD is something we need to struggle against? In what ways could you help one another struggle against it?

4) On pages 10-11, Mark lists places where the Bible directly or indirectly deals with the subject of work. What other biblical passages, characters or instructions come to mind in this regard?

5) Mark comments that our worship songs are often victims of SSD, perpetuating an abstract spirituality. How might our worship songs and services be different if they were whole-life orientated?

6) 'Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in my office, my school, my football club, my local council, my home...'

Share together where it is that you spend the majority of your time, and the challenges and opportunities that are there. Pray together that God's kingdom may come in those places, and that you each may join with him in his work there.

When you have prayed for each other, pray for Christians across the UK, that they may be released from SSD, into the 'epic purposes of God'.