

A Liturgy for One who is Employed

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O Christ who supplies my every need,
I praise You for all provisions
and for the means by which they are provided.
For my current employment,
in this season of life, I give You thanks.
By it, may I meet my own needs,
and contribute to the needs of others.

Let me work and serve in this position
with mindfulness, creativity, and kindness,
loving You well by loving
all whom I encounter here.

Jesus, be ever present as mediator
between me and my employer,
between me and my supervisors and co-workers,
and in all my dealings with others in this work,
reminding me that my treatment of them
is the strongest evidence of my affection for You.

Grant me therefore the patience
to listen to others,
the humility to learn from them,
the compassion to consider their needs
as my own,
and the grace to wear well in this place
the name of my Lord,
remembering that I arrive here each day
as an emissary of Your Kingdom.

Let me be an asset
to my employer and superiors,
working for their flourishing
without resentment.

Let me be a support
to my peers,
contributing to their advancement
without jealousy.

Let me be an encouragement
to any I train or lead,
affirming and equipping them
without disdain.

May the days of my employment here
be meaningful. Use this chapter in my life
to accomplish Your ends,
whatever they may be.

May my presence here
daily suggest
Your presence here.

And may the outworking of the gospel
be always evident in this my work,
that my service as an employee
might be ever reckoned and received
as service first rendered unto You, O Christ.

Amen.

A Liturgy for those who Employ Others

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What a gift, O Lord, to be so blessed
that I might extend this bounty to others
in the form of honest employment,
whereby they might also bless and provide
for those who depend upon them.

Teach me each day the way of Christ--
how better to serve those I would lead.

Give me wisdom and mercy
in my dealings with those I hire.
May I be patient, and gracious,
and slow to anger, recognizing always
your image within those I employ.

May I trust first in you as my provision,
that I might relate to others
not as tools and commodities,
but as fellow pilgrims and fellow beggars,
desperate for divine love.

Teach me to seek the eternal good of
my employees, even over my own profits.
Let me relate to each of these,
your unique creations, in light of the priorities,
not of the kingdoms of this world,
but of the better kingdom of Heaven.

And may I,
by the graciousness of my interactions
with these employees,
establish a tone and a culture
of kindness and grace
that will permeate every room and
corridor and hall of this building
like a sweet perfume,
like the aroma of Christ.

May those who labor here do so with
a sense of peace
and purpose
and calm,

with a sense that they are valued
and respected and appreciated,
and may my dealings with them be
a steady witness and invitation,
beckoning each to respond more fully
to the call of your Spirit.

O Lord, be present in this place.
Be at work in our work.
Be at your labors in this place of our labor.

Amen.