

Reflection Saturday Easter Week 4 - St Joseph the Worker 2021

Work is part of God's big picture. God created all things and invites us to sustain and develop it through our work. God's created order started in Eden and will be fulfilled in the New Jerusalem.

Our work matters to God, now and eternally. God has chosen to create us in His image to work and tend this created order for His glory and for the betterment of humankind. Work has intrinsic value.

God provides us with unique skills, gifts and talents, and calls us to particular roles and activities. Although the roles appear different in importance, our callings are equal. They are a spiritual calling. There are no second-class callings from God.

Quality, character, and ethics are foundational for our work. We are responsible not only for the quality of our work, but also for our faithfulness to God in the way we pursue that work, and for our own good character while working.

Our work is yoked with Christ and should be aligned with God's moral standards, always concerned with the fair treatment of others and with a clear expression of Christ's love for all people.

Our work should be centred on service to others. The products and services we provide should receive fair financial reward and provide opportunities for others to exercise their gifts and talents. Humility and gratitude should be the hallmark of our character. We should always acknowledge God in our work.

A rhythm of work and rest is essential to life. God invites us into a pattern of regular rest. These periods of rest are intended to be restorative and opportunities to take time to consider Christ and our relationship with Him.

The use of wealth and investment should be directed by God to the use of all that He has provided through our work for the betterment of others and the furthering of His kingdom.

God's work multiplies through relationships and through the local church: We need to be in relationship with others to provide support and accountability. We should commit to our local church and help bring the world of work into the church and the church into the world of work.

Work is a gift from God. We should always acknowledge that work is a gift from God. We look forward to the day when we will work together in perfect harmony in the presence of God in the New Jerusalem.

An employee is getting to know her new co-worker and asks why she left her last job.

"It was something my boss said," the co-worker replied.

The employee asked "Why? What did he say?". "You're fired." She said.

Having not come to work yesterday, when I got to work this morning, my boss stormed up to me and said, "You missed work yesterday, didn't you?" I said, "*No, not particularly.*"