

Batch 13 — Daily Prayer Rhythms

Prayer 2: Before I Begin My Work — A Prayer of Stewardship, Excellence & Purpose

Category: Daily Prayer Rhythms

Primary Scripture Foundation (KJV): Genesis 2:15; Proverbs 10:4; Proverbs 16:3; Proverbs 22:29; Ecclesiastes 9:10; Matthew 5:16; Matthew 25:14–30; Colossians 3:17, 22–24; 1 Thessalonians 4:11–12

This prayer is for the moment between **waking up and getting to work**.

And “work” here means more than employment.

It may be a job, business, school, ministry, creative work, caring for children, managing a household, serving someone, searching for employment, or building something that has not yet produced income.

Work existed before the fall in Genesis. The fall made labor painful, but work itself was part of humanity's original assignment.

So we do not pray merely:

“Lord, get me through another workday.”

We pray:

“Father, teach me to steward today's assignment faithfully.”

FULL PRAYER — KINGDOM STRUCTURE

1. RELATIONAL ACCESS — I AM YOUR CHILD BEFORE I AM A WORKER

Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, I come before You.

Before I begin today's work—

I remember who I am.

I am Your child before I am an employee.

Your child before I am an employer.

Your child before I am a pastor.

Your child before I am a student.

Your child before I am a parent.

Your child before I am a creator.

Your child before I am productive.

My value is not determined by how much I accomplish today.

My paycheck does not establish my worth.

My title does not establish my worth.

My productivity does not establish my worth.

My success does not establish my worth.

My identity begins with belonging to You.

Now, from that place—

I am ready to work.

2. WORSHIP / HONOR — WORK AS STEWARDSHIP

Father, thank You for the ability to contribute.

For hands that can work.

A mind that can learn.

Ideas that can develop.

Skills that can grow.

Strength that can be used.

And opportunities that can be stewarded.

Whatever legitimate work is before me today—

I receive it as stewardship.

Your Word says:

“And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.”

So today I work **unto You**.

Even if nobody notices.

Even if nobody applauds.

Even if the task feels small.

Even if the work is repetitive.

Even if this is not where I ultimately want to remain.

I can still be faithful here.

3. KINGDOM ALIGNMENT — COMMITTING MY WORK TO GOD

Father, Your Word says:

“Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.”

So I commit today's work to You.

My schedule.

My appointments.

My assignments.

My projects.

My customers.

My coworkers.

My employees.

My studies.

My ministry.

My creative ideas.

My household responsibilities.

Father, govern them.

Where my ambition is healthy—

discipline it.

Where ambition becomes pride—

correct it.

Where I am chasing success merely to prove myself—

heal that.

Where comparison has made me dissatisfied with my assignment—

restore perspective.

I do not need somebody else's assignment.

I need grace to steward **mine**.

4. PETITION — WISDOM FOR THE WORK

Father, give me wisdom.

When a problem appears—

help me think clearly.

When I do not know something—

give me humility to ask.

When I make a mistake—

help me correct it.

When I receive criticism—

give me discernment to separate useful correction from unnecessary offense.

When priorities compete—

show me what matters first.

When I need to learn—

make me teachable.

When I need to delegate—

give me wisdom.

When I need to say no—

give me courage.

When I need to finish something instead of endlessly improving it—

give me discipline.

Father, make me better at what You have placed in my hands.

5. EXCELLENCE — “WHATSOEVER THY HAND FINDETH TO DO”

Your Word says:

“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might...”

Father, deliver me from laziness.

From procrastination.

From careless work.

From doing just enough to avoid correction.

Give me excellence.

But protect me from perfectionism.

Excellence says:

“I will faithfully give my best.”

Perfectionism says:

“Nothing I do is ever enough.”

Teach me the difference.

Let excellence honor You without becoming an idol that destroys my peace.

Help me finish.

Help me follow through.

Help me keep commitments.

Help me arrive prepared.

Help me respect other people's time.

Help me communicate clearly.

Let my work demonstrate integrity.

6. RELATIONSHIPS — HOW I TREAT PEOPLE IS PART OF THE WORK

Father, my assignment includes more than tasks.

It includes people.

So help me treat people correctly.

Coworkers.

Employees.

Supervisors.

Customers.

Students.

Clients.

Congregants.

Vendors.

Family members.

People who are easy to work with.

And people who are difficult.

Keep frustration from making me disrespectful.

Keep authority from making me arrogant.

Keep disagreement from making me cruel.

Give me patience.

Let me listen before assuming.

Let me communicate expectations clearly.

If conflict happens—

give me maturity.

And if I am wrong—

give me enough humility to say:

“I was wrong.”

7. FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP — WORK IS NOT MY PROVIDER

Father, thank You for the provision that can come through work.

But keep me from confusing the **channel** with the **Source**.

A job may be a channel.

A business may be a channel.

A customer may be a channel.

A contract may be a channel.

But Father—

You are my Source.

So I will work faithfully without worshiping work.

Give me wisdom with income.

Help me pay obligations responsibly.

Help me save wisely.

Help me give generously.

Protect me from greed.

Protect me from dishonest gain.

Protect me from compromising integrity for money.

No amount of money is worth damaging my character.

8. PROTECTION — KEEP WORK FROM BECOMING MY GOD

Father, protect me from work becoming an idol.

There will always be another email.

Another task.

Another idea.

Another opportunity.

Another problem.

Another dollar that could be made.

So teach me when to stop.

Work has a place.

But work is not God.

Protect my family from receiving only what is left of me after work consumes everything else.

Protect my body from unnecessary neglect.

Protect my relationship with You from being crowded out by productivity.

Give me boundaries.

Give me Sabbath.

Give me rest.

Let me work hard—

and know when the workday is over.

9. DECLARATION — I WILL STEWARD WHAT IS IN MY HAND

Father, I declare:

I will not despise today's assignment because I am dreaming about tomorrow's.

I will steward what is in my hand.

If today's assignment is small—

I will be faithful.

If it is large—

I will remain humble.

If nobody sees—

I will still have integrity.

If someone else receives recognition—

I will not become jealous.

If opportunity comes—

I will prepare.

If opportunity delays—

I will keep developing.

If a door closes—

I will learn.

If a door opens—

I will enter with wisdom.

I will work as unto the Lord.

10. SEAL — LET MY WORK BECOME WORSHIP

Father, I place my hands before You.

Use them.

I place my mind before You.

Guide it.

I place my creativity before You.

Direct it.

I place my skills before You.

Develop them.

I place my opportunities before You.

Govern them.

I place my income before You.

Teach me to steward it.

I place my ambition before You.

Purify it.

And when today's work is complete—

help me release it.

There will always be more to do.

But I am finite.

And that is not failure.

Father, let the work of my hands become worship.

Not because every task feels spiritual—

but because **everything can be done under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.**

So today—

I will show up.

I will learn.

I will serve.

I will work.

I will create.

I will steward.

I will rest when it is time to rest.

And whatever I do—

I will do it heartily,

as to the Lord.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

QUICK PRAYER — BEFORE I BEGIN MY WORK

Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, before I begin my work, I remember:

I am Your child before I am a worker.

My productivity does not determine my worth.

Thank You for the ability to work, learn, create, serve, and contribute.

Your Word says:

“Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord.”

So I commit today's work to You.

Give me wisdom.

Help me solve problems clearly.

Make me teachable.

Give me humility when I make mistakes.

Give me discipline to finish what I begin.

Deliver me from laziness and procrastination.

Give me excellence without perfectionism.

Help me respect people's time, communicate clearly, and keep my commitments.

And Father, help me treat people correctly.

Keep stress from making me disrespectful.

Keep authority from making me arrogant.

Keep disagreement from making me cruel.

Thank You for provision that comes through work, but remind me:

Work is a channel. You are my Source.

Protect me from dishonest gain, greed, and making work my god.

Teach me when to work—

and when to stop.

Today I will steward what is in my hand.

If it is small, I will be faithful.

If it is large, I will remain humble.

If nobody sees, I will still have integrity.

Father, let the work of my hands become worship.

Whatever I do today—

I will do it heartily,

as to the Lord.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.