



the Source

Let anyone who is thirsty come to me...

According to my Life Application Bible, Psalm 90 is a prayer of Moses, making it the oldest of all the psalms. It contains the concept that God's timing is different from our timing. *"For a thousand years in Your sight are like a day that has just gone by or like a watch in the night."* Man can not fathom God's eternal nature fully, but we do understand that our time on earth is limited. Therefore, should make the most of it.

In the psalm, Moses asks God to *"teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."* If we count each day as worthy, thanking God for our blessings and dedicating our efforts to God's good purpose, then surely that brings God glory. If we can see God's deeds in our work, then indeed *"the favor of the Lord [will] rest upon us."*

That is the trick—to see God working through us in our daily tasks and in the relationships we form in the workplace. People can be difficult, especially in stressful situations. But the Holy Spirit can fill us with compassion and guide our treatment of our colleagues, our superiors, and those we direct or serve.

As Christians we carry great responsibility to live out our faith in the workplace.

As a high school English teacher, I kept this motto on my podium: *"If a mistake is to be made, let it be on the side of mercy."* As I stood before my students each day faced with these words, I was reminded of God's mercy toward me and my goal to be merciful to others. Upon my retirement, one of the most meaningful letters that I received was one that recounted a time that I had been patient and kind to a fellow classmate who often received rough treatment from other teachers.

The harder and more stressful the job, the more we need the Holy Spirit to intercede for us. If we rely on our own efforts, the flesh—our egos and pride—will only cause problems for us as we relate to others. We need to pray as Moses prayed, *"Establish the work of our hands for us, O Lord; affirm the work that we do!"*

— Paula Holmes, First Church member

A Family Affair

As a family, read Luke 4:18. The Bible verse may be recognizable as it is the one children in Sunday School practiced each week during our Healing Miracles rotation in January. The classes learned that Jesus performed many miracles during his time on earth. People came from near and far to seek help from Jesus.

We may not be able to perform miracles such as healing, but did you know we can still follow in Jesus' footsteps by helping others? Read Matthew 25:44-45 together. Talk about the ways you help each other as a family. How do you help your friends and neighbors? What are some ways you can be helpful to others in your community?

This week, think about how each person will take steps to help someone. Using one piece of paper per family member, trace each person's foot. Using a marker or pen, write how that person will walk in Jesus' footsteps this week by helping someone. As the week goes on, continue to write on your paper foot when you have helped someone.

Dear Lord, thank you for the guidance you provide us in your Word, the Bible. Please help us find opportunities to help others as we follow you. Amen.

— Tammy Parks, Elementary Coordinator

Monday: Psalm 90:10,12

Because our days on earth are limited and pass quickly, we need God to teach us to make each day count!

- How can I better make use of my time on this earth?
- Is there some talent I have that I could use for God's glory? If so, how can I identify it and put it to God's good purpose?

Tuesday: Psalm 90:13-15

Sometimes life seems filled with drudgery. Keeping our focus on God can change our attitude and bring satisfaction, love, joy, and gladness.

- Which of my attitudes needs adjusting?
- What area of my life am I withholding from God's use and purpose?
- Are there relationships in my life that need healing? What can I do today to begin the healing process?

Wednesday: Psalm 90:16-17

Moses prays and asks God to show him and the Israelites the deeds and splendor of God. We know that prayer was answered! Moses also prays for God to establish the work of his hands.

- Do my prayers include asking God to show Himself in my work? If not, let me begin today to pray for God to reveal His glory through my work.
- Is there some aspect of my daily efforts that I could alter to honor God better?
- What is my work legacy?

Thursday: Ecclesiastes 3:11-13

Though mysterious to us in this life, God has given each of us a sense of His being in our hearts. For that reason, only God can satisfy us fully. Our life and work are gifts from God and ones that we can use to glorify God if we honor Him in all we do.

- How can I better gratefully acknowledge God's gifts of life and work?
- How can I better honor God through my relationships at work?

Friday: Colossians 3:23-24, Matthew 25:34, 40

In all we do, we serve our Lord, Jesus Christ. He sees the motivation of our hearts, and the way we treat others reflects our love for Him.

- What is the inheritance for which you are working?
- Are you working for the Lord or for human masters?
- What changes can you make to serve God rather than man?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, guide our study of Your word and the motivation of our hearts. Help us to see Your glory in the work that we do and the relationships that we nurture. Bless our efforts, Lord, and keep our focus on You and Your promises for our eternal inheritance. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.