

# WORK

"We are under an obligation to work, and to work conscientiously, with a sense of responsibility, with love and perseverance, without any shirking or frivolity. Because work is a command from God, and God is to be obeyed, as the Psalmist says, *in laetitia, joyfully!*" (St. Josemaria, *The Forge*, no. 681).

Thank you, Lord, for my work. It's not perfect, and sometimes I get frustrated with my colleagues or myself or the work itself... But it's a way for me to collaborate with you in making the world better, and that's amazing. You made the world and let me work with you on it; you saved the world and let me participate in your mission.

That's true of all work, but I want to tell you about mine. These are my dreams for it...

This is what I think we bring to society...

What am I looking for when I work or study: excitement, self-satisfaction, praise, perfection...? Do I measure myself by the things I do? How foolish, when I know that I'm your child and you're never going to stop loving me.

But... When I work, am I loving you? That's what I want to do, Lord, but when did I last offer my work to you? Do I ask you for help and thank you for things? When things are difficult, do I embrace the challenge for love of you?

And how do I work? I am your child, called to greatness, and that means acting greatly. How could I work better?

Will you increase my desire to make the world better? Will you help me take care of the people I serve and work with more directly?

I don't always have to end my prayer with a resolution, but today I want to. I just examined my conscience about work. Which of the lights that you've shown me do you want me to hold on to most? What one thing can I do to love you more through my work over the next few days?