

Christ the Worker

Sunday 1st May



Sunday Worship

Sermon Ideas

The lectionary Gospel for 1st May is the lakeside resurrection appearance John 21.1-19. How is God at work in the work of the fishermen? How does Jesus minister in the workplace? What does it take them to recognise Jesus? What difference might God make through us with those at work in our communities?

Alternative work-related readings:

Psalm 90; Ruth 2; Ecclesiastes 2:18-26; Isaiah 64.1-9; Colossians 3.12-17

Songs

- *All for you*
- *Be thou my vision*
- *In Christ alone*
- *Everything*
- *God in my living*
- *Lord, for the years*
- *Lord of all hopefulness*
- *Take my life*
- *Thou whose almighty word*

Intercessions

- *Invite people to share what they would value prayer for at work*
- *Include workplaces in the community*
- *Set up prayer station displays around local or national employment issues*
- *Remember those without work*
- *Pray for Kent Workplace Mission*

Other

- *Encourage working and retired members to bring something representing their work*
- *Commission working members for the living out of their faith at work*
- *Try a 'This Time Tomorrow' interview (licc.org.uk/resources/this-time-tomorrow/)*
- *Invite a local KWM Chaplain or Trustee to share in the service*
- *Distribute [blessing cards](#) for people to give out to workers during the following week*

Bible Study

Jesus learned a trade (Mark 6.3), met people at work, and often spoke about work too.

Consider these passages, and allow the questions to get you thinking or discussing:

Mark 1.16-20

Luke 6.46-49

Mark 2.13-14

Luke 12.16-21

Mark 4.26-29

Luke 16.1-15

Matthew 9.9

John 5.1-17

Matthew 20.1-16

John 6.26-28

Matthew 25.14-30

John 21.1-14

Why does Jesus do or say this - and to what effect?

How does the story connect with the world of work today?

Is there a prayer that comes to your heart in response to this passage?

Reflection

Articles from the last year about workplace issues

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2021/mar/14/great-britain-high-streets-lost-more-than-17500-chain-stores-in-2020-covid>

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/apr/16/workers-in-insecure-jobs-twice-as-likely-to-die-of-covid-tuc-research-finds>

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/oct/17/youre-betraying-your-quaker-roots-fury-at-clarks-fire-and-rehire-plan>

Quotations

It is in the simplicity of your ordinary work, in the monotonous details of each day, that you have to find the secret, hidden from so many, of something great and new: Love.

St Josemaria Escriva

My happiest days are those in which I do good work.

Charlie Chaplin

Without work, it is impossible to have fun.

St Thomas Aquinas

The Living Wage Foundation

<https://www.livingwage.org.uk/>

The Lord's Prayer at work

<https://licc.org.uk/app/uploads/2017/10/WPS-Lords-Prayer-at-Work.pdf>

LICC Workplace Sunday

<https://licc.org.uk/resources/workplace-sunday/>

Theology of Work Project

<https://www.theologyofwork.org/resources/jesus-and-your-job-video-series>