

Workplace Commissioning Liturgy

This liturgy has been adapted from several sources including the graduate ministry of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at Harvard and Church of the Savior in Washington, DC. Please feel free to adapt it to your tradition, culture, and situation.

Leader: The Lord appeared to Moses in a burning bush and called to him saying, “Put off your shoes from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” Now, by virtue of the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, every place we tread becomes holy.

Today, we come to affirm that the work you do each day takes place on holy ground, and as your spiritual leaders, to offer our support and prayers for you and the work to which God has called you.

(Those who wish to be commissioned move forward or stand.)

Leader: From the beginning of creation, we see God at work, laboring over His creation. Jesus Himself dignified the workplace by spending the larger part of His earthly life working as a carpenter. Paul affirmed work when he commanded it to be done “reverently, as unto the Lord.” He saw doing your work as an act of worship, as much as singing a hymn.

The Commissioning Questions (People respond *I do.*)

Leader: Brothers and sisters, are you, so far as you know your own heart, called by God to serve Him in the workplace?

Do you trust in Jesus Christ as your Savior, acknowledge Him as Lord of your daily work?

Do you accept the authority of the Scripture, and commit to do your daily work according to God’s commands, as you are enabled by the Holy Spirit?

Do you affirm that every ability, resource, opportunity, and success come from God’s hand, to be used for His glory?

Will you seek to serve as a faithful servant in your daily work, putting the interests of others before your own?

Do you accept the responsibility as God’s ambassador to your workplace, and hold yourself accountable to God and the body of Christ for your witness?

People Wishing to be Commissioned (Kneel together and speak as follows.)

Enabled by Christ’s indwelling strength, I will endeavor to make each day’s work an act of worship. I pray that servanthood, grace, and humility will replace any greed, selfishness, and pride that would taint my work and make it an unworthy offering to You. I pray that my work will be a fragrant aroma of Your presence and that those with whom I work will be attracted to You. And, when I fail, help me to receive Your grace, make restitution as I am able, and accept the forgiveness that is mine in Christ. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen

Leader: It is fitting that the dedication of your work to God be sealed with the support of your brothers and sisters in Christ. By placing our hands on your shoulders, we affirm your calling and pledge our support, encouragement, and affirmation in your work. Let us pray together.

Congregation: Lord Jesus, as these Your servants go out to do Your will, we pray that You will empower them, affirm them, and use them for Your glory. As the Body of Christ, we pledge our support, encouragement, and affirmation to these brothers and sister in Christ, in their successes and in their failures. We recognize them as Christ’s ambassadors and name as holy ground every place they tread. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.