

## **A PRAYER FOR THIS SEASON OF JOB SEARCH**

### **Theology of Work Project Webinar**

Dear God, my provider,

I come to you seeking your provision, guidance and encouragement while I'm unemployed.

Thank you that you're always here to listen. There is nothing I can hide from you Lord.

You know the state of my inner most being. The place where you formed me. There is nowhere that I can go physically, emotionally, or spiritually... that you are not. You surround me and hem me in. Your hand is on my head, guiding me. Help me be aware of that.

My feelings vacillate between being OK and other times feeling rejected, angry, and confused.

I thank you that you assure me in the Bible that I can come to you with my lament. I can cast all my anxiety on You because you cares for me.

And so I confess...

I confess my anxiety over the need to pay bills and taking care of the people you have entrusted to me.

I confess my confusion over what to do next.

I confess my anger over any injustice I've experienced or old wounds of not being good enough.

I confess my pride in struggling to receive the ways you might be providing outside of my effort – through savings, credit cards, gifts from others, or government assistance and unemployment.

I confess my need for control, especially over how I think things should work out. Help me be content with you and you alone.

I need you.

I need new ways of thinking...that you are ever creating, ever redeeming, ever renewing, even on days when I don't feel it. Help me see with the eyes of my heart.

I need guidance right now. I claim the promise that if I lack wisdom, I can ask you and you will give it generously to me.

Help me learn how to take good care of my physical, emotional and spiritual health. Keep me close to good friends and engaged in worship, service and prayer.

Encourage me. Boost my confidence. Remind me of all the things that I have to offer employers. Show me my personal strengths, experience and skills.

Grant me favor. Connect me with good support groups, job networking groups, civic organizations and church fellowships.

And open my eyes to ways I can mentor and encourage someone else who is going through hard times, too.

Help me to manage my time wisely. Show me how to stay structured, focused and productive during unemployment. Help me explore new skills, research ideas and follow leads. And help me not be discouraged when doors aren't opening yet.

Expand my horizons and give me vision. Help me to explore different job sectors I might not have considered yet. Remind me of dreams and ideas I've had in the back of my mind that might lead to employment. Help me develop a personal mission statement and a vision for my life.

Keep my eyes on your helping presence and not on my circumstances until the door opens for new employment.

Remind me to pray throughout the day. Help the size of my prayers match the size of you God.

I thank you ahead of time for how you will provide a job. Thank you that the Holy Spirit prays for me, even when I don't have words.

I build alters on times you have provided in the past.

I choose to thank you and praise you, my good God. Even if my feelings don't match, I offer it as a sacrifice of worship. I believe. Help me with my unbelief.

In you, I live, move, and have my sense of being. I pray all these tangled thoughts and feelings in your name Jesus.

Amen.