

Where Work Belongs

Do you find yourself so caught up in day-to-day tasks that you never give a second thought to work's place in your life? Our culture often encourages us to view work as a means to an end—a paycheck, a free weekend, security for our family. While money, leisure, and security are important, work is about much more.

The theologian Augustine said we should treasure achievement in the tasks we do “if that achievement is right and helpful.” In other words, your daily work should have meaning and dignity whether you are sweeping floors, managing a household, or running a multibillion-dollar corporation.

As a charitable organization based on biblical principles of social justice, the CLAC Foundation asks that you use this Labour Day weekend to reflect on what you do. At your job this week—or wherever you are putting your talents to use—say a prayer of thanks for work and for the peace and prosperity that you experience in Canada, for this is a gift of God. Ask for forgiveness when your labour and achievement seem to spring from envy of another. Take time to think about those for whom work is demeaning and a yoke of oppression.

Many workers around the world experience conditions that are harmful to their well-being: slavery, violence, exploitation, unjust wages, unsafe working conditions, limitations on basic human rights. Pray in hope for those bound by the chains of injustice. Work should be a dignified and meaningful part of life—no matter where you live.

Improving Lives at Home and around the World

In Canada, many unemployed and underemployed workers need minimal skills and safety training to enter rewarding careers. But this training is often financially out of reach. Abroad, oppressed workers in developing nations need support as they fight to gain the rights and working conditions that we enjoy here in Canada.

The CLAC Foundation helps struggling workers in Canada and in developing countries improve their lives through meaningful, safe work. We partner with organizations to provide training and employment aid, and to promote and protect workers' rights.

In Canada, we break down barriers to meaningful employment for marginalized workers—especially newcomers and those at risk of homelessness.

Internationally, we support collective worker action that advances worker rights and justice in the workplace.

To make a donation, visit us at clacfoundation.ca.

About the CLAC Foundation

The CLAC Foundation is an independent, registered charity that is operated by a board of volunteers. It was founded in 2011 by CLAC to aid struggling workers who are not part of the union and to transform the world of work. Through the foundation, anyone can get involved in this important work, whether they are connected to the union or not.

CELEBRATING LABOUR DAY

A man can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in his work. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment?

[Ecclesiastes 2:24-25](#)

