

Psalm 1 Responsive Reading for Labor Day 2010

Leader: Blessed is the person who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit at the seat of mockers. (v. 1)

All: But blessed is the one who delights in the law of the Lord, and meditates on it day and night. (v. 2)

Leader: On Labor Day weekend, we lift up employers who follow God's law to treat all employees justly and fairly.

All: We lift up workers who follow God's law to be fair and just with their employers.

Leader: The blessed one is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season (v. 3a)

All: And whose leaf does not wither. Whatever that one does prospers. (v. 3b)

Leader: The ethical employer is like a tree planted by water,

All: Whose branches will yield fruit in season.

Leader: Not so the wicked! (v. 4a)

All: They are like chaff that the wind blows away. (v. 4b)

Leader: This Labor Day, we know there are unjust employers who would exploit workers by not paying them for all their work and not protecting their health.

All: We pray they repent or be like chaff that the wind blows away.

Leader: Therefore, the wicked will not stand in the judgment (v. 5a)

All: Nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous. (v. 5b)

Leader: God watches over all who would labor.

All: God knows those who treat their employees fairly and justly.

Leader: God also knows those who exploit and take advantage of workers.

All: And in these economic times, God knows and offers strength to those who want work but cannot find it.

Leader: For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, (v. 6a)

All: But the way of the wicked will perish. Amen. (v. 6b)