

# A Celebration of Labor

Monday is Labor Day. Beginning today and culminating on the evening of Sept. 5, media accounts and special events across the nation will pay tribute to those who work for a living, and that is a majority of Americans.

A large portion of our lives involves labor. Solomon, a very wise man, stressed the importance of giving our best in all our efforts.

In Ecclesiastes 9:10, Solomon wrote: *Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the grave, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.*

Pretty straight talk, agreed?

The Hebrew word for work is used in the Old Testament of a person's occupation or particular acts of labor. The phrase, *whatever your hand finds to do*, refers to all legitimate work. Certainly in Life Care and Century Park, our career choice is among the highest of callings, for we are caring for God's precious children.



Solomon saw sacredness in human labor that is done for the glory of God. The Apostle Paul emphasized the same principle in Colossians 3:23-25. He encouraged slaves who were believers to be superlative in their tasks, regardless of the worthiness of their earthly masters.

Christians should be committed to excellence in their jobs because all human effort should be done for the honor of, and praise to, our Lord, and particularly as it relates to what we do that enriches the lives of others or contributes to their well-being. Our earthly labor is a service to God. As Solomon points out, we should work hard and give our best because work ceases when we die.

Life Care's mission statement declares our commitment to be a premier provider of long-term health care, and the facility of choice in every community where we serve. We believe our associates are our most valuable resource in delivering care to our residents. Century Park's vision is to provide "a rewarding work environment for our valued associates ... where relationships of trust, leadership and personal ethics are not only valued, but expected of our employees."

If all our associates, in every center across the country, follow Solomon's instruction, these goals are easily attained and maintained.

Happy Labor Day, associates! Thank you for your professionalism, your compassion and the demonstration of your dedication to our residents.

– Beecher Hunter