

The Value of Work

A man was once intrigued by the idea that living in “quiet contemplation away from human society” was the certain path to happiness. So, he wandered into the desert to become a hermit. After many days, he found a cave near a spring where he could obtain water and grow a few plants for food.

Feeling self-sufficient, he spent many idle hours in solitude. Eventually, the hours of the day seemed never to end. His loneliness oppressed him.

Now sensing himself to be more wretched than happy, he cried, “Father God, let me die. I am weary of this life.” Exhausted, he fell asleep and dreamed that an angel stood before him, saying, “Cut down the palm tree that grows near the spring and turn the fibers into a rope.”

The hermit awoke, and with great effort and many hours of toil, he felled the palm and made a coil of rope from its fibers.

Again the angel appeared to him, saying, “I have seen you smiling every day as you worked. I can tell you are no longer weary of life. Go back into the world with your rope and find employment with it. Let it remind you toil is sweet.”

Do you feel that way about your work in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home? Is your labor sweet? Are you happy and fulfilled in your occupation?

Work, you see, not only benefits the mind and the wallet or purse, but the body, emotions and the soul. Work keeps all parts of the human machine in order. Just as machinery rusts out faster than it wears out, so it is with people.

One thing you can learn by watching the clock is that it passes time by keeping its hands busy.

--Beecher Hunter