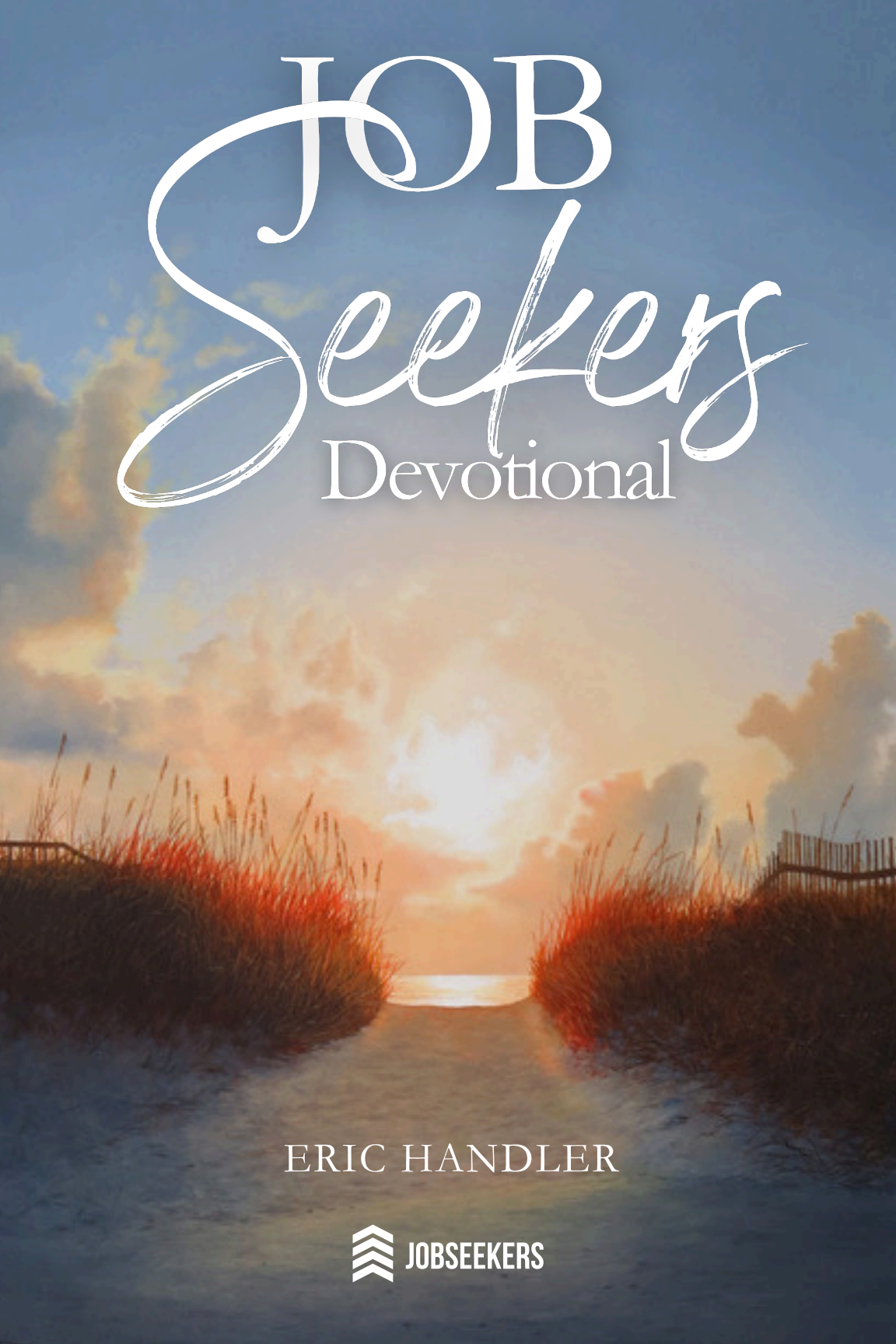




# JOB *Seekers* Devotional

ERIC HANDLER



JOBSEEKERS



TO

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FROM

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Thanks to the volunteers and attendees  
of JobSeekers for making this devotional come to life.

**Visit us at [jobseekers.org](http://jobseekers.org)**



JOB  
*Seekers*  
Devotional

ERIC HANDLER



# "Leveraging Professional Transition for Personal Transformation"

Cover art graciously provided by Simon Kenevan

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## *How to Use This Devotional*

Reading a daily devotional offers an opportunity to connect deeply with yourself and your Heavenly Father. To help you get the most out of this experience, we've provided some advice to consider as you embark on what could be some of the most important days of your life.

***Block Daily Time:*** Find a quiet place in your home, preferably in the morning, and dedicate 30 minutes to the devotional material. Here's a suggested routine:

### **5 minutes: *Relax***

With pen and paper nearby, allow your thoughts to wander. Take a deep breath, relax, and reflect while sipping your morning tea or coffee, giving yourself permission to simply do nothing. This is your time. If you think of something you need to do or an idea you want to capture, jot it down and move on, allowing your mind to be free. Toward the end of this time, close your eyes, slow your breathing, and prepare your mind to focus on the content for the day.

### **5 minutes: *Read***

Read the verse of the day and the accompanying devotional with an open heart and attentive ear. Listen to the words, aiming to understand and comprehend. If your mind wanders, read it again, fully absorbing the text. Although each day's content is brief, its meaning can be transformative if you allow it to shape you.

### **5 minutes: *Reflect***

Use the ending question to reflect on your response. Ask God what He thinks and how He would answer it for you. Listen to the promptings of your heart and reflect on your thoughts. Pay attention to any tension the question may present. If you feel tension, it may be God wanting to speak with you and direct your path. It may require courage to follow His guidance, but take heart, for He is with you and for you.

Here's a question to get you started on your journey. This question is crucial because if your 'why' is strong enough, the 'how' becomes easy. In other words, if you lack motivation to read this devotional, you likely won't. However, if you believe this devotional is vital to the success of your job search and your personal transformation, you'll have a greater chance of completing it.

*Why do you want to spend time alone in reflection reading this devotional?*



## Let God Guide You

*Be guided by a power beyond your control  
and understanding.*

### **Go to God for guidance in your job search:**

"Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the  
discerning get guidance."

— *Proverbs 1:5*

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Consider these questions: Have you ever just “let go” of something and allowed it to take its own direction without your control? Have you ever stepped into something with faith? What could it look like if we let ourselves be guided by God in our job search instead of trying to control and force an outcome?

Let's face it, many of us did not plan on being in this job search. You may not have chosen to leave your job, and it wasn't part of your plan, but it happened anyway. Even if you did plan to leave, you likely didn't anticipate a cultural shift, your boss leaving, or a company merger. The reality is that much of what happens in our lives is beyond our control, so don't try to control your job search.

This doesn't mean you have no role to play. You can still influence outcomes and take steps to ensure positive things occur. However, you cannot fully control or guarantee the results.

*Question for Reflection:*

What would it look like for me to be guided by God by asking Him for guidance and wisdom in my job search?

## He Will Provide

*Despite the length or turbulence you experience in your job search,  
God will provide.*

“Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that  
he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him  
because he cares for you.”

— 1 Peter 5:6-7

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Throughout your life, God has always taken care of you, and this will remain true during your job search journey. You may wonder if you’ll be okay, how you will get through, and what the end result will be. One thing is certain: God will make a way and provide for you.

Reflect on the challenges you’ve faced before. Have you lost a loved one or dealt with a health problem? Recall previous trials and tribulations; it may have been hard to get through, but you did, and you became stronger as a result. You gained tremendous wisdom and developed your character in ways that have equipped you for situations like this.

Think of your job search as just one chapter in your personal book of life. There was a chapter before this, and there will most certainly be a chapter after. You are stronger and more resilient than you think. Sometimes, knowing that this too will end can give us the confidence to push through. Rest today, knowing that you are safe and secure under God. Lean into His strength, knowing that He will provide and care for you during this time.

**Question for Reflection:**

What did I learn about myself from the previous difficult experiences I've gone through, and how can I apply those lessons to my job search?

## Have Faith

*Take the next step to let His plan unfold.*

“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”

— *Hebrews 11:1*

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Read the remaining verses of Hebrews 11 for more examples of people living by faith. In many aspects of life, seeing the next step or result doesn't require much faith. For instance, you go to the grocery store, buy food, follow a recipe, and eat a meal. You can be nearly 100% certain of the outcome: the cost of the food won't vary, and the recipe will work every time. This process requires almost no faith.

However, a job search is not as predictable as preparing your next meal and requires faith due to the limited certainty in the next step. Unlike following a recipe, we cannot predict the results based on our actions, thus requiring more faith. Most things in our lives have a high degree of certainty. Yet, now you find yourself in a job search where certainty has been replaced by complete uncertainty.

Uncertainty can be frightening, but how we respond and where we place our hope matters. Taking steps forward without knowing the outcome requires courage. When a deer sees headlights, it freezes, uncertain of what will happen next. Don't be a deer in your job search.

**Question for Reflection:**

What does it look like for me to demonstrate faith in my job search?

## You Are Not Alone

*The job search may feel lonely, but you are not alone.*

“Do you now believe?” Jesus replied. “A time is coming and in fact has come when you will be scattered, each to your own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me. I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

— *John 16:31-33*

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You may feel alone in your job search, but if you look around, you'll realize you aren't truly alone. It's easier than you think to feel the presence of others. Pay attention today as you drive to the local store or coffee shop. Notice the other cars on the road, all heading somewhere too. Even though we may feel alone, like when we're driving, others are around us, paying attention to what we are doing.

Though the job search may feel isolating, you are not alone. Just look around—your support network is closer than you think. Reach out, reconnect, and reestablish relationships with those who care about you and want to help you during this time.

**Question for Reflection:**

How does my job search feel like a lonely process, and how can I change that?

## You Have Significant Worth

*Your value to God and those close to you is worth more than any job.*

“Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?”

— *Matthew 6:26*

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How much are you worth? Often, we confuse self-worth with net worth, but they are very different. Your true value has nothing to do with your valuables. When you view yourself through a different lens, it can change your entire mindset about personal value and worth.

You are invaluable in God's eyes, and the world depends on you. You are unique and bring special gifts to this world. Your value comes from God, not from your job or financial status. Don't fall into the trap of thinking that just because you don't have a job “right now,” you don't have worth.

In case you are still focused on financial worth, here are some facts: If you live in America and made more than \$30,000/year in your last role, you are already in the top 10% of wealth in the world. According to an article in the *Journal of Hospital Practice*, an average-sized person is worth over six million dollars in biological terms. Consider a different scale for determining your worth rather than just money.

**Question for Reflection:**

What factors can you use to value your worth that would be more beneficial other than money or a job?

## Don't Go It Alone

*We are meant to be in community.*

“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.

But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.”

— *Ecclesiastes 4:9-10*

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Life is meant to be lived in community. Your community today may include family, friends, neighbors, or others with whom you share common interests. If you've ever been part of a church group or a sports team, you know the value of shared experiences. The journey is always more rewarding when it's shared with others.

So, why not invite a few people into your job search journey? Meet with them regularly and let them be part of your process. Not only will it make the experience more enjoyable, but it will also provide additional benefits. Doing your job search in community creates an environment of shared experiences, where you can learn and grow through the process. Sometimes, all we need is a bit of extra encouragement, which is another great advantage of having a supportive community during your job search.

**Question for Reflection:**

Who can you invite to join you on your job search journey?

## Keep Working At It

*Refuel to keep running the race until the finish line.*

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will  
reap a harvest if we do not give up."

— Galatians 6:9

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Don't give up. Keep pushing forward with your job search, one day and one step at a time. Remember the story of the tortoise and the hare: consistent effort, even if slow, will lead to progress. By taking small, steady actions each day, you'll be able to look back and see how far you've come. Persistence is key in this journey.

Pay attention to the activities that replenish your energy and enthusiasm. Often, we neglect the things that bring us joy, yet these are the very things that fuel our perseverance. Engaging in activities that make you happy can provide the energy you need to tackle the parts of your job search that might feel draining.

When was the last time you went for a hike, enjoyed a good book, or had a meaningful conversation with a loved one? If you've lost touch with what gives you energy because you've been focused on other things, now is the time to rediscover it. Reconnect with your passions and purpose—they are vital for maintaining your motivation and stamina.

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## Forgive

*Moving forward requires forgiveness.*

"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First, go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."

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— Matthew 5:23-24

Forgive those who may have played a role in your job loss.

As a child, apologizing for mistakes and seeking forgiveness was challenging, and as a parent, you encourage your children to do the same because it's the right thing to do. Yet, as adults, we sometimes overlook the power of forgiveness and the freedom it can bring.

You might be facing this situation due to something you did or perhaps due to circumstances beyond your control. Regardless, carrying resentment or grudges can hold you back from moving forward. Forgiveness—both giving and receiving—can be uncomfortable and may seem unfair, but it is essential for freeing yourself from past burdens. It allows you to let go of pride and open your heart to new possibilities.

Even if you never fully understand the reasons behind your job loss, offering forgiveness can lead to personal liberation and enable you to become the best version of yourself.

**Question for Reflection:**

Is there someone in your life whom you need to forgive?

## No Stinkin' Thinkin'

*Be mindful: your thoughts shape your outcomes.*

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble,  
whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely,  
whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent  
or praiseworthy—think about such things."

— *Philippians 4:8*

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Consider the most confident person you know. Their mindset likely influences their success and well-being. During your job search, it's crucial to be aware of your self-talk and to assess whether your thoughts are constructive or detrimental. Positive thinking can propel you forward, while negative thinking can hold you back. Though it may seem straightforward, changing your internal dialogue can be challenging.

Your thoughts not only affect your own attitude but also impact those around you. You might have encountered people with a pessimistic outlook or eternal optimists. Their inner dialogues shape their experiences and interactions. By becoming aware of your own self-talk and striving to shift it toward positivity, you can enhance your outlook and potentially influence your results in a beneficial way.

**Question for Reflection:**

How can you transform negative thoughts into a more positive narrative?

## Be Content

*Joy is within you; let it shine.*

“I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.”

— *Philippians 4:12-13*

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It's easy to feel disheartened during a job search. But remember, you don't have to stay in that place of discouragement. Instead, you can shift your perspective to one of contentment, which benefits both you and those around you, and can positively influence your job search.

Begin today with a heart full of gratitude. Practicing thankfulness can transform feelings of despair into a sense of joy and fulfillment. If gratitude isn't something you naturally lean into, now is a perfect time to start. Take a moment to appreciate the simple blessings: your ability to see and read, the independence to start your day, and the comforts you often take for granted.

Recognizing what you have rather than focusing on what you lack can change how you experience and respond to life. Embrace a mindset of gratitude today, and let it influence every aspect of your job search journey.

**Question for Reflection:**

What are you grateful for today?

## Things Happen

*Go with the flow, release control, and let God guide your path.*

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.”

— *Proverbs 3:5-6*

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Letting go of control can be incredibly challenging, especially when your livelihood is at stake. However, surrendering your job search to God is an act of profound obedience and faith. By entrusting your journey to Him, you embrace the assurance that He will guide you where you need to go.

When you release control and allow God to lead, you are placing your trust in His wisdom and love. This submission can relieve you of the burdens, pressures, and anxiety that often accompany unemployment. Remember, God’s guidance is always for your benefit, and He will never lead you astray.

Embrace the freedom that comes from letting go and letting God take the reins of your job search. Trust in His plan and find peace in the knowledge that He has your best interests at heart.

**Question for Reflection:**

How can I release control of my job search and trust God to guide me?

## Be Confident

*Tap into your inner strength and be bold.*

“Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence,  
so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us  
in our time of need.”

— *Hebrews 4:16*

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A job search can sometimes erode our confidence, but remember: being out of work doesn’t diminish your value. Reflect on the impactful projects and achievements from your past roles—your experience is both impressive and valuable.

Carry this experience with you and approach the job market with confidence. You have a crucial role in showcasing your strengths and what you can offer to potential employers. Each interaction is an opportunity to highlight your worth.

Step out in faith and boldness, even if it feels uncomfortable. If you’re not challenging yourself and pushing beyond your usual efforts, you might miss out on the opportunities God has in store for you.

**Question for Reflection:**

What new actions can you take today that might advance your job search and open new opportunities?

## Professional Persistence

*Keep following up, even when faced with radio silence.*

“Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said: ‘In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, “Grant me justice against my adversary.” For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, “Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!”

— Luke 18:1-5

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The story from Luke teaches us a vital lesson in persistence. Just as children persistently ask for what they want, you too must be relentless in your job search. Persistence in pursuing a job is crucial, and it can set you apart from other candidates.

Apply this persistence in your job search by staying committed to companies and positions you’re interested in. Professional persistence means following up with potential employers and continuing to express your interest, even if you don’t receive immediate responses.

Your follow-up actions can demonstrate your enthusiasm and dedication. In a competitive job market, thoughtful and consistent follow-ups can significantly enhance your chances of getting noticed. Stay proactive, do your research, and don’t be disheartened by delays.

**Question for Reflection:**

In which areas of my job search could increased persistence make the biggest impact?

## Celebrate the Small Successes

*Cherish every milestone and express gratitude  
throughout your journey.*

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all  
circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

— 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

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In the journey of a job search, it’s easy to overlook the small wins while focusing solely on the end goal. However, celebrating these small successes is crucial. Each step forward, each new connection, and every accomplishment along the way deserves recognition.

Reflect on the small victories: reaching out to a former colleague, sending a thoughtful thank-you note after a meeting, or leaving that important voicemail you’ve been putting off. These actions, while seemingly minor, are significant milestones in your journey.

Celebrating these moments not only keeps you motivated but also fosters a positive mindset. Recognize and appreciate these small successes, as they build up and contribute to your overall progress and ultimate goal.

**Question for Reflection:**

What small successes in your job search can you celebrate today?

## Focus on the Process

*Create a plan, execute it, and let God guide you along the way.*

“In his heart a man plans his course, but the  
Lord determines his steps.”  
— *Proverbs 16:9*

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Do you have a strategy for your job search? If not, you're not alone—this is not an everyday task for most people. Starting a job search requires both a plan and a process. A well-crafted plan helps you stay focused on your goals, outlines the necessary steps, and ensures that your efforts are productive.

Developing a plan involves identifying key activities that will propel you forward and creating tools to support your progress. With a solid plan in place, you build confidence in your approach and yourself.

However, don't forget the crucial element: inviting God into your plan. Seek His guidance and be open to His direction. Allowing Him to shape your decisions not only brings divine wisdom into your process but also aligns your efforts with a greater purpose. Surrendering control can be challenging, but doing so will ultimately lead to a more fulfilling journey.

For additional support, consider checking out [jobseekers.org](https://www.jobseekers.org) for a job search workbook that offers valuable resources and insights.

What is your job search plan, and how are you inviting God to guide you through it?

## It's Hard for a Reason

*Anything worth achieving takes time and a bit of struggle.*

"Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope."

— *Romans 5:3-4*

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The job search is a journey of growth. When tackling something new or different, it takes time to learn the ropes, and this learning process fosters personal development. Job searching requires new skills or, at the very least, revisiting old ones. Be patient with yourself and embrace the learning curve. Stick with it and persist through discomfort until it becomes comfortable.

Even if you're not a marketer or a salesperson, job searching involves marketing and selling your skills and capabilities. Be proud of your achievements—they are unique to you. What seems ordinary to you may be extraordinary to others.

Allow the challenges of your job search to stretch you. Embrace the process and let it transform you positively. If it feels painful or uncomfortable, you're likely in the "growth zone." Remember, if you're not being stretched, you're probably not making much progress. Embrace the job search process and the growth it brings. God has you exactly where He wants you!

**Question for Reflection:**

What part of your job search is most uncomfortable, and what are you learning about yourself through this experience?

## Do Not Doubt

*Trust the process.*

"But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do."

— *James 1:6-8*

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It can be challenging to navigate an unfamiliar path. Think about the last time you visited a new destination. The streets, houses, stores, and intersections were different, and you might have wondered if you were heading in the right direction. We often face new experiences and travel down unfamiliar roads. When was the last time you had a networking call or compiled a list of all the people you know? The job search can feel like venturing into uncharted territory. Yet, as you move forward, it's crucial to trust the process to reach your destination.

Just as your GPS app guides you, so does the job search process. The Career Handler workbook from [jobseekers.org](http://jobseekers.org) offers a step-by-step guide to a successful search. By following this framework and trusting the process, you will ultimately reach your goal. Your journey to your next job won't be a straight line. You'll likely learn new skills and take unexpected turns before getting back on track. Give yourself grace—you're navigating a new path, and much of it looks unfamiliar.

**Question for Reflection:**

What aspects of your job search validate that you are on the right road to success?

## There Is A Plan For You

*You are exactly where you need to be.*

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD,  
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give  
you hope and a future."

— *Jeremiah 29:11*

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You Are Here! We all recognize the "You Are Here" mark on a mall map when looking for a particular store. This map shows us where we are and where we need to go, making it easy to navigate to our destination. We're confident in the plan because it clearly outlines the steps required to reach our goal.

How can we achieve this same certainty in our job search? First, we must accept the reality of our current situation. Embrace where you are today, even if it comes with concern, doubt, anger, disappointment, or frustration. Acknowledge these feelings, but don't let them cloud your vision of the path forward.

Once you are comfortable and confident with your current position, you can take the next steps. While the entire journey to your new job may not be clear, focus on taking one step at a time. Surrender your job search to God, and He will guide you. Trust that He will provide the next steps and the confidence needed to move toward your destination.

**Question for Reflection:**

Have you fully surrendered your job search to God? If not, why not?

If so, what are you learning through the process?

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## Find Rest

*Take a breath, relax, and allow God to hold you in His hands.*

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those  
who are crushed in spirit."

— *Psalm 34:18*

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Are you feeling weary or exhausted? Are you tired of the rejection that often accompanies a job search? Take a deep breath and let God take you by the hand so you can find rest in His presence. By relinquishing control and allowing God to be your safety net, you let Him hold you exactly where you are, while remaining true to who you are.

Rest your mind and body, and allow God to direct your path. Lay all your burdens, worries, and concerns on the Lord's shoulders, and return to your job search unburdened. Free yourself from your own desires and focus on the desires God has for you. Finding rest for your soul in this way can relieve today's stress, knowing that your purpose is much greater than your daily activities. Give yourself permission to relax, and this rest will open you up to God's plan as you seek His wisdom and honor His direction.

*Question for Reflection:*

What worries and concerns do you need to hand over to God  
and let Him carry the burden?

## Help Others

*Serve with the expectation of nothing in return.*

“May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

— *Romans 15:5-6*

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"I need a job!" That's understandable, but I want to challenge you to consider what your job search could look like if you serve others with no expectation of anything in return. What if, for a moment, you placed your personal needs aside and focused on helping someone else? When was the last time you went out of your way to help someone, taking real time and effort? Maybe it was a ride to the airport, a grocery run, delivering a meal, or an unexpected gesture of appreciation. It feels amazing to help others, and it's good for the soul. After all, it is better to give than to receive.

Adopting an “others-focused” mindset during your job search can profoundly impact you and those around you. Helping others not only feels great, but it also meets real needs. Consider sending a job opening to a fellow job seeker or referring a candidate in your network to a hiring manager. Serving others without expecting anything in return changes the game. It shifts you from being a taker to a giver, and the benefits you feel are fantastic.

**Question for Reflection:**

Who can you serve today that needs your help?

## Be Molded

*Learn and grow from the job search.*

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

—James 1:2-4

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"An old dog can't learn new tricks." What?! I'm not buying that line, and neither should you. All leaders are lifelong learners, and continual learning is part of their personal leadership journey. Are you a leader? Of course you are! Step into your true self, be confident, and be willing to learn something new as you navigate your job search. For many, the lessons learned during this time are new, so embrace the opportunity and allow yourself to grow from this experience.

Decide today to come out of your job search as a better, new, and improved version of yourself. Give yourself permission and the courage to try new things, recognizing that failing forward is part of the process. Enjoy the journey and embrace where you are in your life at this moment. The people around you are watching how you behave, listening to the words you speak, and following the actions you take. Be the best version of yourself, learn, grow, and embrace the journey of a job search. You got this!

**Question for Reflection:**

What are you learning, and how is it making you a better version of yourself?

## Be Bright

*Let your light shine so others may see.*

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl.

Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your

Father in heaven."

— *Matthew 5:14-16*

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"How do you let your light shine when your batteries are running low? Let's face it, a job search can be draining. Everything you do takes energy and intention, and often yields little immediate fruit. You email, you call, you apply, and you get nowhere. If that's not draining, I don't know what is. You are called to do things in your job search that are out of your comfort zone and require new skills and competencies. All of this takes energy and enthusiasm. So, what do you do?

You call upon the source that will fill you up when you are empty. When our phone dies, we plug it in. When our TV remote stops working, we replace the old batteries. But what do you do when you're tired and weary, and your light no longer shines? You go to the source and get reenergized and refueled. Jesus will fill you up, energize your soul, and allow you to do things you never thought were possible. So, the next time you are tired, worn out, and just need a break, go to God, read His Word, and allow your spirit to get refreshed and reenergized so your light shines bright again for the world to see.

[illegible]

## Don't Wait

*Do more, think less.*

“I will hasten and not delay to obey your commands.”

— *Psalms 119:60*

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In the job search, you can sometimes feel as if you're not progressing toward your goal of finding a job. Perhaps you're frozen by the fear of trying something new because you don't have the courage yet or you don't feel confident in your abilities. Give yourself some grace and recognize that you're not a job search expert and you won't be perfect in everything you do—ever!

A progressing job search is full of positive activity and forward momentum that generates conversations, new connections, and creates confidence. Are you creating this in your search? Chances are strong that you know what to do, but may not be willing to do it because of what you think someone else may think of you. Whatever activity you need to do to make progress in your search, do not wait, do not procrastinate, but instead do it now. Subscribe to the tagline of Nike: “Just Do It.” When you get into action, it minimizes your fears and maximizes your momentum.

**Question for Reflection:**

What should you start doing right now, that perhaps you've been procrastinating about, to get some momentum in your job search?

## Listen

*Let active listening transform your life.*

“My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this:  
Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak  
and slow to become angry.”

— *James 1:19*

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Practice active listening. When you are focused on listening rather than thinking about what you should say next in a conversation, it has the potential to radically change your behavior. Listening to learn, instead of listening to talk, will make you “others-focused” by creating new opportunities to serve those you are in relationship with.

When you listen intently, you will empathize with the other person, gain a stronger appreciation for their situation, and be drawn further into a connection with that person. A focus on others first will open up doors, create fresh and vibrant relationships, and allow positive outcomes that may have been otherwise unachievable. Don’t be quick to talk or respond; instead, enjoy the opportunity to listen. Learn with an ear to truly understand and seek opportunities to serve.

**“Don’t fool yourself into thinking that you are a listener when you are anything but, letting the Word go in one ear and out the other. Act on what you hear! Those who hear and don’t act are like those who glance in the mirror, walk away, and two minutes later have no idea who they are, what they look like.” — James 1:22-24 (MSG)**

Active listening is a game changer and is the secret sauce to human connection.

**Question for Reflection:**

What can you do differently to become a better listener?

## Volunteer

*Give yourself away to something or someone else.*

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

— 1 Peter 4:10

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The job search has an amazing way of humbling oneself. Yet, while being humbled, you risk losing who you are and the confidence you should carry as a loving, caring person on this planet. You have incredible gifts and now have an awesome opportunity to give that gift of yourself away to others by serving and volunteering.

When you serve with the expectation of nothing in return, you are living in a way that honors God and those around you. Would you consider picking your favorite charity and volunteering by giving of your time? Since you have a little extra time, let’s put your skills, time, and energy to use. The simple gift of service and time allows for incredible things to happen in your soul as your spirit rejoices. Selfishly speaking, when you serve others, it feels good and your confidence grows. Feeling good is a hot commodity in the job search.

*Question for Reflection:*

What action can you take today to volunteer your time and serve others in need?

## Value Yourself From The Inside

*Your value is not from a paycheck.*

“Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God’s sight.”

— 1 Peter 3:3-4

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Who you are is not defined by what you do. It’s easy to tie your worth to your job, your salary, or the opinions of others. While these things may feel significant, they don’t determine your true value. After all, does your family or God love you any less because you’ve lost your job? Your real worth is not found in your profession or the hours you work.

You are a child of God, and your value is inherent in His eyes. True worth is not measured by your job title, salary, or external achievements. It is determined by your Creator, who sees your intrinsic value beyond worldly measures. Remember, a high salary or prestigious title doesn’t equate to personal worth. Be mindful not to let your sense of value be influenced by external factors.

**Question for Reflection:**

What brings you lasting joy in this life?

## Application Not Intention

*Learn, Decide, Do*

“Remember, it is sin to know what you ought  
to do and then not do it.”

—*James 4:17*

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The job search offers a wealth of opportunities to learn about yourself, others, and the marketplace. As you delve into new industries or explore unfamiliar companies, you may find a sense of excitement and possibility. The relationships you build and the knowledge you gain can be incredibly enriching.

However, it's important to avoid getting lost in the sea of information. It's easy to fall into the trap of over-researching or procrastinating out of fear, leading to days of inactivity. Instead, embrace a mindset of learn, decide, do. When you learn something new, quickly decide how to apply it and take action. Even if you stumble, you're learning and progressing.

By applying your knowledge and making decisions, you'll move forward more effectively. This proactive approach will help you reach your goals faster and more efficiently.

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***Question for Reflection:***

What have I learned recently that I haven't acted upon  
because I'm unsure if it will work?

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## You're Here For A Reason and A Season

*You're Exactly Where You Need to Be*

“For we are God’s handiwork,  
created in Christ Jesus to do good works,  
which God prepared in advance  
for us to do.”  
— *Ephesians 2:10*

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You are exactly where you need to be. It may seem difficult to understand why God has led you out of a job and into this uncertain phase, but embracing His direction allows you to learn and grow from your experiences. Recognize that God is in control of every aspect of your life, including your job search, and trust that there is purpose in your current situation.

In your previous job, you had a set routine with clear responsibilities and tasks. With that routine now behind you, use this time to reflect on your life and take stock of your experiences—the good, the bad, and the ugly.

This period of transition is a gift. To fully appreciate it, you must engage with it thoughtfully. Reflect on what you’ve learned from past experiences and consider how these insights can guide you in the future. Participate actively with God in this journey, appreciating the path He has set before you.

**Question for Reflection:**

Why am I here, and what am I learning about myself during this time?

## Gratitude In The Valley

*Being Grateful Through to the End*

“Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found. So they began to celebrate.”

— *Luke 15:23-24*

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In the midst of your job search, it can be challenging to maintain a sense of gratitude, especially when the process feels overwhelming. However, even when your focus is on finding a job, it's crucial to celebrate and appreciate the good things happening in your life.

Think of your job search as a journey, much like a baseball game. When a player hits a home run and takes the lead, it's a moment of success to celebrate, even though the game isn't over. Similarly, in your job search, recognize and be thankful for the small victories and progress along the way.

Being grateful for these moments, even when your overall outlook might be uncertain, allows you to experience joy and renewal. It enhances your confidence and provides a fresh perspective. Embrace the journey and believe that every step, even the challenging ones, is shaping you into a better version of yourself.

**Question for Reflection:**

What are 50 things you are grateful for today?

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## Created By Your Creator

*Embrace the Role You Are to Play Now and Forever*

“So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”

— *Genesis 1:27*

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You were intentionally crafted by God to be exactly who you are. As His workmanship, you have a purpose and a role in His grand design. Reflecting on your past, consider the experiences that have shaped you and the roles you’ve played—both personally and professionally. Your impact on others and theirs on you is part of a greater plan.

Embracing your identity as created by God highlights the significance of your role in life. Whether as a son, daughter, father, or mother, your unique contributions are irreplaceable. While losing a job might strip away a title, it does not diminish your intrinsic worth or the value you bring to your family and God’s plan. You possess special gifts and perspectives that remain vital, regardless of your current job status.

***Question for Reflection:***

What role have you been playing in God's plan for your life?  
If you're unsure, spend time reflecting on how you've positively  
impacted the lives of others.

## Keep Connecting

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

— *Galatians 6:9*

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Whether you’ve secured your next job or are still in the search, keep connecting. Investing in your relationships means listening to others’ stories, empathizing with their challenges, and celebrating their successes. We were created for connection, and maintaining your network adds lasting value to both you and your friends. Make relationships a priority. If you’ve allowed some connections to grow distant in the past, take this opportunity to rekindle them. By investing consistently in your network, you build a supportive community for guidance, wisdom, and encouragement throughout your life.

Recognize that the true worth in life is not measured by financial success but by the quality and depth of your relationships. This starts with your relationship with God. Invest time in seeking a meaningful relationship with Him, nurturing it through prayer, Bible study, and fellowship with other believers. This will help you mature in your faith and character.

*Question for Reflection:*

What can I continue doing tomorrow to help me grow in my faith for the years to come?

*In Closing:*  
**Embracing a New Identity in the Job Search**

“For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:

The old has gone, the new is here!”

*- 2 Corinthians 5:14-17*



As you navigate the complexities of a job search, it can be easy to feel defined by the uncertainty, rejection, or frustration that comes with it. But this passage reminds us that our identity and worth are not defined by our job status or career accomplishments. Instead, we are called to embrace our new identity in Christ.

Christ's love compels us to live beyond ourselves, to move from self-reliance to a dependence on Him. In this season of seeking employment, remember that you are a new creation in Him. The old ways of measuring your worth and success are gone. The new identity you have in Christ is rooted in His love and purpose for your life.

You are not merely seeking a job; you are fulfilling a role as Christ's ambassador. Even in the midst of job searching, you have the opportunity to reflect God's love and grace. Your actions, your responses to challenges, and your interactions with others can be a testament to the new creation you are in Christ. Your worth and purpose are secured in Him, not in your job title or salary.

In this time, embrace the ministry of reconciliation that God has entrusted to you. Let your search be a testimony to your faith in God's provision and timing. Use this opportunity to connect with others, offer support, and be a beacon of hope and grace.

### *Prayer:*

Lord, thank You for making me a new creation in Christ. Help me to see myself and my job search through the lens of Your love and grace. Empower me to reflect Your truth and act as Your ambassador, even in this season of waiting. May my actions and attitude honor You and offer hope to those around me. Amen.













In the challenging journey of job searching, it's easy to feel isolated, uncertain, and overwhelmed. But you're not alone. This devotional offers daily encouragement to keep you grounded, uplifted, and focused on the path God has set for you—even when the way forward seems unclear.

This job seekers devotional invites you to shift your perspective from anxiety to trust, from striving to surrender, and from self-reliance to faith. Each page speaks to the unique trials of job seekers, delivering messages of hope, perseverance, and resilience. Whether you're navigating the disappointments of rejection, the uncertainty of waiting, or the challenge of trusting God's timing, this devotional is a companion in faith for every step.

***Let the job search journey grow your faith, strengthen your resolve, and remind you that God's plan is way better than our own!***



Eric Handler is the CEO of Handler, a steward of [jobseekers.org](https://www.jobseekers.org), and a trusted mentor to job seekers and professionals navigating their career journey. With a passion for helping others, Eric draws from his own journey of faith and work to offer practical insights and encouragement. This devotional speaks to the heart of those searching for their next opportunity, reminding them to seek first the kingdom of God.

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