

QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

The full Worship Resource can be downloaded at:
www.explorecalling.org/called/downloads.

The full worship resource includes:

- Title Suggestions for Worship Services
- Liturgical Resources
- Sermon Starters
- Questions for Further Reflection
- Invite and Empower Witnesses

SUGGESTIONS FOR USING QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

Our worship services are typically planned for communities instead of individuals and many times the worship service experience ends after the benediction. The heavy lifting of spiritual growth happens outside of typical Sunday morning worship experience. We are providing some questions to guide worshippers through deeper and personal reflection upon the message throughout the week.

These questions can be incorporated into the worship service's bulletin as an **insert** worshippers can take home. Worshippers can be encouraged to place this insert in their Bible or devotion book to help guide daily reflection.

These questions can also be used to facilitate **small group discussions** during the week. Small groups can use these questions to guide group reflection on the worship service's message. These questions may also encourage participants to process and share their own experiences of call.

Be encouraged to change these questions or discard them and **write your own**. You know your community better than we do. Meet them where they are in their call discernment and challenge them to think a little bit deeper from there.

QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

- Write in a paragraph or two about your story or developing sense of call.
- Choose a biblical passage or passages here or elsewhere and write another paragraph or two exploring how it is that God seems to be summoning transformation and/or expressing God's faithfulness in the Bible.



- What happens when you put your autobiographical and biblical paragraphs into conversation? What are the points of convergence and divergence? Are there unexpected realizations that broaden your understanding of what discerning a call entails?
- What questions must be asked and what horizons must be considered beyond your story and the Bible to compel continual growth in understandings of call? Articulate and respond to those questions in another paragraph or two.
- Take the paragraphs written above and compose and rehearse a sermon that portrays the Holy Spirit calling us in “real life,” in the Bible, and into futures yet unknown.
- What role does the church play in determining a person’s career path? What role do you think it should play?
- Can the church help people ponder the question “What do you want to be when you grow up?” What has made a difference as you have pondered that question?
- How can you help in creating a culture of call?
- What pictures are we giving our people?
- Do you see yourself as a priest or pew sitter?
- How are we robbing people of their opportunity to live their call? What can we do this week/month/year to give them that opportunity back?
- Do you see your call as just personal or as communal?
- What type of living is your call pulling you towards?
- How can the spirit and life, hunger-for-joy-through-special-to-you-activities, given to you by God be life giving to others, spiritually *and* physically?
- As you reflect on your own call to ministry, where have you seen the Holy Spirit intentionally placing you in contexts that have nurtured and helped define your understanding of God’s cultivation of your particular gifts?
- How have you responded? What new understandings and insights have come as a result of your faithful response?
- Have you ever found yourself resisting God’s call? What has kept you from heeding God’s voice, and what was the outcome of your disobedience?