



## Blessing and Service

**“I therefore, a prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Ephesians 4:1-3).**

Oh, the vocations you have! In the medieval church, the term *vocation* was used to describe the calling of a monk, nun, or priest. People during that time were pressured to pursue these vocations as the way to achieve salvation and earn God’s grace.

Martin Luther restored the Biblical teaching of vocation and taught that all callings are God-given vocations. Your occupation, relationships, situations, contexts, and involvements are callings, vocations given to you by God for the purpose of living out your faith-active-in-love. God promises that even through your most mundane tasks and responsibilities, you are a “mask” of God, as God works in you and through you to be a blessing to others. Thus, all of your serving and giving has inherent value because you are Christ’s mouth, hands, and feet as you serve your neighbor in love. In other words, right where God has placed you, He gives you the opportunity to walk worthy of your calling (Ephesians 4:2-3).

In all of your callings, God works through you to be an ambassador for LIFE, as the Holy Spirit empowers you to be light and life in a world of darkness and death. God speaks through you when you share His Word of life, hope, and restoration that flows from the cross of Christ. In the same way, God places people in your life who are Christ’s hands, feet, and voice of compassion, mercy, forgiveness, and grace for you as you struggle with sin, suffering, guilt, and sorrow. In addition, being a Lutherans For Life ministry partner is living out your baptismal calling, as your generosity enables others to be equipped to be Gospel-motivated voices for life.

All of your daily callings are the result of God calling you to faith by the work of the Holy Spirit. Redeemed by Christ crucified and risen and called by the Spirit through the waters of Baptism, all of your vocations have meaning and purpose, for God works through you to be an ambassador For Life in loving service toward others.

Pray: Heavenly Father, thank You for creating me, redeeming me through the death and resurrection of Your Son, and calling me to faith through the Holy Spirit. Grant me the ability to see my earthly vocations as opportunities to convey my faith and love for my neighbor.