

REFLECTION TOOL #3

CALL TO MINISTRY

Write about your call to ministry as a way of clarifying for yourself any ambiguous issues. Reflect on, and respond to, each of the questions below. Discuss this with your mentor and significant friends.

1. Read about some of the leaders in Biblical history* who were called of God for special ministry. Note the various ways in which God revealed His summons to these people - visions, angelic messenger, miracles, audible voice, inner desire. Are there any ways in which your experience parallels the experience of any of these biblical characters? How do you compare your sense of call to theirs?
2. For you, how does a call to specific ministry as a Christian leader differ from the call of God to all Christians to engage in works of love and mercy (cf. II Corinthians 5:17-20)?
3. Reflect on the first time you sensed that God may be calling you to special service. What were your feelings and reactions then? Now?
4. What kind of connection do you see between a call to ministry and gifts for ministry (either already evident or potentially available)? What do you see as your gifts for ministry? How have these gifts been used in ministry already? In what ways are you seeking to develop latent gifts?
5. Comment on the reasons why you feel called to ministry. Cite the support and response from significant people in your life for this decision. If you are uncertain of a call, what are you doing in an active way to clarify for yourself what you should do?
6. In fulfilling the call of God in your life, what are you most excited about and also fearful of?

***Biblical Examples - Moses: Ex. 3:1-4:17; Gideon: Judges 6:11-24; Deborah: Judges 4; Samuel: 1 Sam. 3:1-21; Esther: Esth. 4:6-17; Isaiah: Isa. 6:1-13; Jeremiah: Jer. 1:4-10; Amos: Amos 7:10-17; The 12 Apostles: Mt. 4:18-20, Mk. 3:13-19; Paul: Acts 9:1-20, Gal. 1:1, I Cor. 1:1, Acts 16:6-10, 18:9-10, 22:17-21, 23:11; Peter: Acts 10:17-20, 12:7-8; Philip: Acts 8:26; Priscilla & Aquila: Rom. Acts 18:26 & Rom. 16:3.**

Suggested length: 2-3 pages.

Please attach to completed Reflection Tool Cover Sheet.