

Devotional Guide

June 15, 2016

Title: Don't Quit Your Day Job

Scripture: Mark 1: 16-20

Message:

The term "calling" is usually reserved for ministry, for those who follow Jesus' call, leaving their old life behind. After all, that's what we see the disciples do, leaving their boats and families on the shoreline to follow Jesus. But I don't think Jesus wants all of us to leave our jobs and our families. Jesus calls each of us to use the gifts and talents of our vocations to build the Kingdom. We can do that right where we are, no matter what our "day job" is.

I've know many people whose calling or ministry is reflected in their "day job." Nurses who care for hospice patients and their families, providing a ministry of presence along with their clinical skills. Teachers who spend countless hours creating lessons that help their students learn. Real estate agents who help families find affordable homes and navigate the process of buying a first home. Grocery clerks who carry bags out to customer's cars. No matter what you do for work, it can be a form of ministry when your intention is to serve God by showing love and concern for your neighbor.

Frederick Buechner is quoted as saying "Vocation is the place where our deep gladness meets the world's deep need." Just as Jesus invited the fishermen to reimagine themselves as fishers of people, Jesus invites each of us to reach out to others through our work, meeting the world's deep need with the good news of the gospel. So, don't quit your day job just yet, it may be where you can do the most good.

Closing Question: How is Jesus calling you to use your "day job" to build the Kingdom?

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