

Responsibilities of a Person Feeling Called

How does God want me to use the gifts I have been given? All Christians wrestle with this sense of vocation. One of the primary roles of the church is to help people explore and answer this question. Some may feel a calling to the Teaching Ministry.

If you are such a person it is most helpful if:

- you take responsibility and initiative for exploring this sense of call no matter what part of the process in which you find yourself.

- seek the help and guidance of others, including your minister and session.

- understand the process set up by the church to help you with this discernment and call.

The Five initial areas below are designed to help you reflect and explore your sense of call:

1. *Education for Ministry*, which includes evaluation of the individual's academic potential and progress, and reflection on their educational experiences in relation to their preparation for ordered ministry as a teaching elder.

2. *Spiritual Development*, which provides a framework in which individuals can reflect on their personal faith journey and their spiritual practices to discern the will of God in their lives.

3. *Interpersonal Relations*, which provide opportunities to reflect on how one relates to others, one's leadership style, and what they mean in terms of the functions and responsibilities of the ministry of the Word and Sacrament.

4. *Personal Growth*, through which persons reflect on who they are, what areas they need to develop, how to understand their call, and how to develop personal stewardship.

5. *Professional Development*, to help persons develop specific skills that will enhance their effectiveness as teaching elders and as presbyters, especially in the areas of understanding one's ministry context and the ability to deal with conflict that may emerge in ministry settings where one serves. Advisory Handbook pg 31

Resources

[Book of Order](#) : G: 2.06
[Advisory Handbook](#)