

WHERE MINISTRY HAPPENS

In considering the noblest professions, people are inclined to think of those who offer a service, such as doctors, teachers or emergency services personnel.

Perhaps at the pinnacle of the service professions are those who are involved in full-time ministry – helping others in their spiritual lives in the name of the Lord. We tend to revere most highly those who make a commitment to serving God and others: pastors, priests, monks, missionaries, evangelists and Bible teachers.

Ministry, however, is not limited to those who earn their living by it. Ministry is the call and challenge of God to all Christians. Ministry is giving to others and living our lives “as unto the Lord.”

Ministry happens in the home, in the school, in a skilled nursing facility, in an assisted/independent living building, on the street, at the grocery store, in the board room, in the committee meeting and in the gym. It happens whenever and wherever someone, motivated by the love of Jesus Christ, performs an act of loving service for another person.



Someone once wrote:

*If when we plunge our hand into a bowl of water,
Or stir up the fire with the bellows,
Or tabulate interminable columns of figures on our bookkeeping table,
Or, burnt by the sun, we are plunged in the mud of the rice field,
Or, standing by the smelter's furnace,
We do not fulfill the same religious life as if in prayer in a monastery, the world will never
be saved.*

There is no ignoble work except that which is void of ministry. There is no lack of meaning in any job performed with God's love and “as unto the Lord.”

Whatever tasks you face today as you go about your responsibilities in Life Care and Century Park, perform them as if you were performing them for Jesus Himself, because ultimately you are.

And never forget: Your job is a real ministry, with everlasting consequences. Rejoice in that knowledge.

With good will render service, as to the Lord and not to men (Ephesians 6:7 NASB).

– Beecher Hunter