

# Wartburg Theological Seminary

CONSIDER YOUR CALL:  
A DISCERNMENT JOURNAL

*I will be with you...*

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When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.

ISAIAH 43:2





**FROM PASTRIX BY NADIA BOLZ-WEBER**

Never once did Jesus scan the room for the best example of holy living and send that person out to tell others about him. He always sent stumblers and sinners. I find that comforting.



**HAVE YOU EVER FELT LIKE YOU'RE NOT ENOUGH?**

Have you looked around the room and wondered how you fit with those around you? You have heard it before, but it's true: *you are not alone*. Rev. Dr. Troy Troftgruben, WTS Professor shared, "On any given day, even I can talk my self out of my call if I try hard enough." How do these thoughts from Nadia and Troy fit into how you understand your call? Who are the individuals or systems in your life that help you feel connected and not alone?



“ **FROM LEARNING TO WALK IN THE DARK BY BARBARA BROWN TAYLOR**  
The only real difference between Anxiety and Excitement was my willingness to let go of Fear.

? **WHY IS IT SO HARD TO LET GO OF FEAR?**  
Letting go of fear is hard! But why? Fear doesn't mean wrong or bad, it simply means you're afraid! Has fear every held you back? Have you ever taken the next step, despite your fear?  
How did it feel?





**FROM ON THE FREEDOM OF A CHRISTIAN BY MARTIN LUTHER**

God is hidden in vocation. Christ is hidden in our neighbors.



**WHERE DO VOCATION, FAITH, AND MY NEIGHBOR MEET?**

Merriam-Webster defines vocation as “a summons or strong inclination to a particular state or course of action.” With that in mind, describe a time when you’ve felt a sense of vocation. How did it feel? How did it connect to your sense of faith or understanding of God?

Recall your notes from the Nadia Bolz-Weber quote, “[Jesus] always sent stumblers and sinners”. Now think about what it means to see Christ in our neighbors. Do you think there is a reason why something so simple as “neighbors” is where we see Christ? How does this fit with your understanding of vocation?



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