

Scripture Passages for the Doubting Discerner

Many people discount the possibility of a professional vocation in the Church because they do not believe they possess the gifts or abilities or they truly believe they are unworthy. The Scriptural references listed below address some of the feelings of inadequacy that can stymie vocational discernment. These were borrowed from on-line resources posted by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston Office of Vocations for Priesthood and Religious life.

Scripture for Particular Circumstances

I'm not holy enough

Isaiah 6:1-9; Luke 5:1-11

I'm afraid I will fail

Exodus 14: 10-31; Luke 15

I've made mistakes and I'm a sinner

John 21:15-23; Matthew 9:9-13; Luke 7:36-50

I'm too young

1 Samuel 3:1-18; 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Luke 1:26-38

I'm not talented enough

1 Samuel 17:32-51; Luke 1: 26-38

I want the good life

Mark 10:17-31; 1 Corinthians 2:9; Matthew 13:44-46; John 10:10; Matthew 16:24-27

I'm afraid of making a permanent commitment

Ruth 1:15-17; Matthew 28:16-20; 1 Corinthians 12:5-10

I'm afraid of public speaking

Exodus 4:10-17; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Jeremiah 1: 9-10

I'm not smart enough

2 Corinthians 4:7-18; Exodus 4:10-17

I'm afraid of being alone

Exodus 3:4-22; Luke 1:28-38; Matthew 28:20

I want to be happy

Psalms 37:4; Matthew 5: 1-12; John 10:10; Mark 10:28-31; 1 Corinthians 2:9