



Essay of Personal Life, Call & Ministry

Submit an essay (10-12 pages) which covers two areas: 1. Your life, family and faith journey, and 2. Your personal and spiritual gifting and call to ordained ministry.

This essay must be signed and dated and should include the following information for each area covered:

Your Life, Family, and Faith Journey

- Describe your life and background, including your relationship with your parents, siblings, spouse and children (if applicable).
- Describe the family pattern of religious affiliation during your growing-up years.
- Describe how you first came to living faith in Jesus Christ and how have you grown in following Him.
- What obstacles, trials or failures have you faced which have challenged your faith? How did you respond in these situations?
- Describe where you see the Lord working in your life right now, especially in your spiritual life and disciplines.
- Describe a time when you struggled with your faith and/or felt far from God. How did you respond to this?
- Describe any mission trips (foreign or domestic) you have taken.
- What social and recreational organizations are you a member of and briefly describe your participation? (If a member of a masonic organization, please list.)

Your Personal and Spiritual Gifting & Call to Ordained Ministry

- Describe your strengths and growth areas and how they have been affirmed by others.
- How does your present ministry and/or work context draw on your God-given personality and strengths?
- Describe a circumstance where you faced conflict, how you reacted, what you might have done differently, and what you learned about how you react to conflict.
- Describe your usual reaction to stress.
- Describe your Spiritual gifts and how you have used your gifts in ministry.
- Describe your sense of call to ordained ministry as a vocation and the events and people who influenced and affirmed your call.