

A Word from Our Preaching Pastor:

Sunday, June 21, 2009

Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches.

1 Corinthians 7:17

We have been *called* by God into a new kind of life that glorifies Him. Each one of us, in fact, has been given an assignment by God we're meant to fulfill! The Reformers referred to this as one's "*vocation*." It's from a Latin word, "vocatio" which means "a call" or "summons," as when you hear someone call your name, or the judge summons you to court. Either way, you go. There is something you need to do. Thus the Reformers understood that in this way God calls each of us to do something with our lives.

Now, I know, when we hear the word "vocation" we tend to think about a career choice. "*What is your vocation?*" "*Oh, I drive a truck for a living.*" But that's not what they had in mind. When they talked about a Christian's vocation, they meant something a lot bigger than a job. They meant that the whole of your life is to be lived in service to God and others!

In fact, next to the ***Doctrine of Justification by Faith Alone*** – which we treasure in this church – , the Doctrine of "Vocation" may be one of the most important truths to come out of the Reformation. And yet I'm fairly certain most Christians today would not be able to tell you what it means.

So what does it mean? At its heart, the Doctrine of "Vocation" tells me that God really is interested in the "everyday" parts of my life. Not just the "spiritual things" like Bible study and prayer, but everything! God cares how I go to work, and how I treat my wife. He cares how I conduct my business with other people, and whether or not I'm faithful in the "small things." He cares, because the whole of my life is meant to be lived as a service to Him as I serve and love others in His Name. That's what the doctrine of vocation is all about.

"Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men"

Colossians 3:23

Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31

Pray with me as we hear God's word this morning, and learn the importance of faithfulness in our various callings (vocations) in life.

Soli Deo Gloria (To God alone be the glory),

Pastor Scott