Deepening the Call to Ministry through Narrative Spiritual Practice

Suzanne M. Coyle

ABSTRACT

Through exploring literature on spiritual practice and narrative practice, this article lifts up the discovery that, to the contrary, telling one's story of call is challenging, difficult, and often tied to multiple stories. Through the narrative persons can explore their stories of their call and deepen their call through sharing.

KEYWORDS

formation, supervision, narrative

FULL TEXT:

PDF

REFBACKS

There are currently no refbacks.

The call to the ministry, then, is to be found, like the call of every other duty, in the teachings of God’s revealed word. The Holy Spirit has ceased to give direct revelations. He speaks to no rational adult now through any other medium than his word, applied by his gracious light to the understanding and conscience. To look for anything else from him is superstition. While the call of prophets and apostles was by special revelation, that of the gospel minister may be termed a scriptural call. What, then, is a call to the gospel ministry? We answer, it is an expression of the divine will that Don’t call the dog if you want the cat, and don’t call for sickness and disease if you want to be healed. Use your authority and command your body to be healed in the Name of Jesus. When Kenneth Copeland was first starting out in ministry, he was under the mentorship of Oral Roberts. One night, in the healing room after the service, they came to a woman who had cancer of the stomach. She was just the picture of death. Kenneth Copeland Ministries is dedicated to building up believers' faith and deepening their walk with Christ, so they can live the victorious life God promised. About Kenneth Copeland Ministries Privacy Policy | Terms of Use. Select a Region.

LINKS. Deepening the call to ministry through narrative spiritual practice. RECOMMENDED BOOKS. Bidwell, D. (2013). Empowering couples: A narrative approach to spiritual care. Minneapolis: Fortress Press. Hester, R. and K. Walker-Jones (2009). Know your story and lead with it: The power of narrative in clergy leadership. Herndon, VA: Alban Institute. Golemon, L., ed. Fundamentally, spiritual practice is about bringing your surface mind, your social personal mind—the mind that has been formed and created by your social conditioning, by your family and by your experiences in the world—to bring this mind into contact with the power and the presence of Knowledge within yourself. Here the answer is not merely an idea, or an image, or even a vision. The answer is a door that opens, through which you must pass, a journey to take now—not a journey that is governed by your intellect and your assumptions or the traditional beliefs of society, but a journey that is guided by Knowledge. For only Knowledge knows how to bring you to Knowledge, and only Knowledge knows how to bring you to the Power and Presence of God in your life.