

Layman's Place in the Ministry

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I. Introduction.

II. Layman from a biblical and historical perspective.

- A. Layman were their own priests until Exodus, which made the priesthood professional.
- B. The cross set the priesthood free for believers.
- C. The church suppressed the priesthood of the believer for centuries.
- D. The Reformation released the priesthood again.
- E. The modern missionary movement was started by laymen.
- F. What we are supposed to do has as much to do with what it looks like as where it came from. Whatever we look at as secular is spiritual if we are giving our lives to change that which is eternal. (John 3:6)

IV. What laymen are supposed to be doing.

- A. God created us for his glory. (Isaiah 43:7)
- B. God wants every believer to be complete in Christ. (Romans 8:29; Ephesians 4:13)
- C. Our objective is to seek and save the lost. (Luke 19:10)

V. How laymen can do what they are supposed to be doing.

- A. We must realize that every day we are investing our lives. Everybody serves someone in some way. We choose where. (Isaiah 40:8; 2 Peter 3)
- B. We must be found faithful. (1 Corinthians 4:2)

Application questions:

1. How would you explain the role of the layman in the ministry?

2. What do you need to do to enhance your ministry as a layman?

3. What hindrances have kept you from layman ministry? What will you do to overcome these?
