



By [Glenn CJ Byer, MA SLD](#)

When God calls, it seems that we are often caught by surprise. Today, when God speaks to the prophet Isaiah or when Jesus calls his disciples, the reaction is one of unworthiness - as if God were unable to overcome our sinful selves and speak in spite of our weaknesses. Think of Moses who seems to have had trouble speaking (Exodus 4:10) or Jeremiah who thought that he was too young (Jeremiah 1:6); God never seems to worry about what we think of as insurmountable obstacles. To God these trifles can be overcome with a word or a gesture.

So, in this season of the call, the word of God is clear: we are being called to mission and in spite of the fears we may have, we need to hear the words Jesus, "Do not be afraid;" we must have courage and by our lives show what faith in God can do. The martyrology is filled with examples of people who were afraid, who seemed in the eyes of the world to be weak, but it is these same people, and Simon Peter above all, upon whom God rests his plan of salvation. And we are part of that plan. We are called to help in the work of the kingdom of God.

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