

*What Does "Lutheran" Mean?* with Pastor Ruud  
Session 4 Study Guide  
April 2021 - Mount Olivet Adult Education

**Vocation: What to do... and what God does with you... now that there's nothing to do... sometimes whether you like it or not.**

**Pastor Ruud's Intro:** I so hope you found some kernels on which to chew throughout the class. Much thanks for all of you who participated, and for those of you who sent questions along the way. A joy to discuss and discern the depths of God's love and grace in Jesus.

**Key Texts/Points:**

1. [Galatians 5:13-14](#)
2. [Luke 10:25-37](#) "The Parable of the Good Samaritan"
3. Martin Luther's "Freedom of a Christian" (1520)

A Christian is perfectly free lord of all, subject to none.  
A Christian is perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all.

**Questions for Discussion:**

1. What vocations do you generally think to be "higher" callings? What do you think makes a vocation a higher calling?
2. People often think of vocation as the job by which a person earns income. Luther understood vocation to be any relationship in which one is able to serve the needs of a neighbor, most notably in the family, church, and civic society. It brought God's work to be seen in the everyday ordinary interactions of all of life. What vocations in your life are heightened by this articulation?
3. What have been your most blessed and joyful vocations in life?
4. The Apostle Paul writes, "for you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence." In your own words, what is Paul trying to say here?
5. Are we truly able to love all people perfectly? If so, how? If not, why not? How do we get better at loving others? Why would we want to get better at loving others?