

## The Most Important Job in the World - Yours

"I am a preschool teacher." (Elementary and directors count too.)

You have to decide who determines the value of "importance." We know better than to ascribe importance to dollars, prestige, power, celebrity, fame or any other measure, but we are human and living in a world where all of those things constitute success. We may be forgiven if our focus is distracted by the glitter. We need to remind ourselves (and each other) what is eternally important because that is what ultimately counts.

Our first reminder is that we are "called." We are called to Christ. We are called to His life. We are called to serve. And we are called to our vocation.

Second, our calling doesn't confer prestige, power or a big purse. It confers a call to faithfulness.

Third, faithfulness is measured by Him who calls us to be faithful.

There is an amazing story in the book of Acts that serves as an encouragement.

**In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews<sup>[a]</sup> among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.<sup>2</sup> So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables.<sup>3</sup> Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them<sup>4</sup> and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."<sup>5</sup> This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism.<sup>6</sup> They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.**

Waiting tables? Tying shoes (until they learn themselves.) Lunch and playground.

Practical life and math and more. Waiting tables.  
Then we have verse 8.

**<sup>8</sup> Now Stephen, a man full of God’s grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people.**

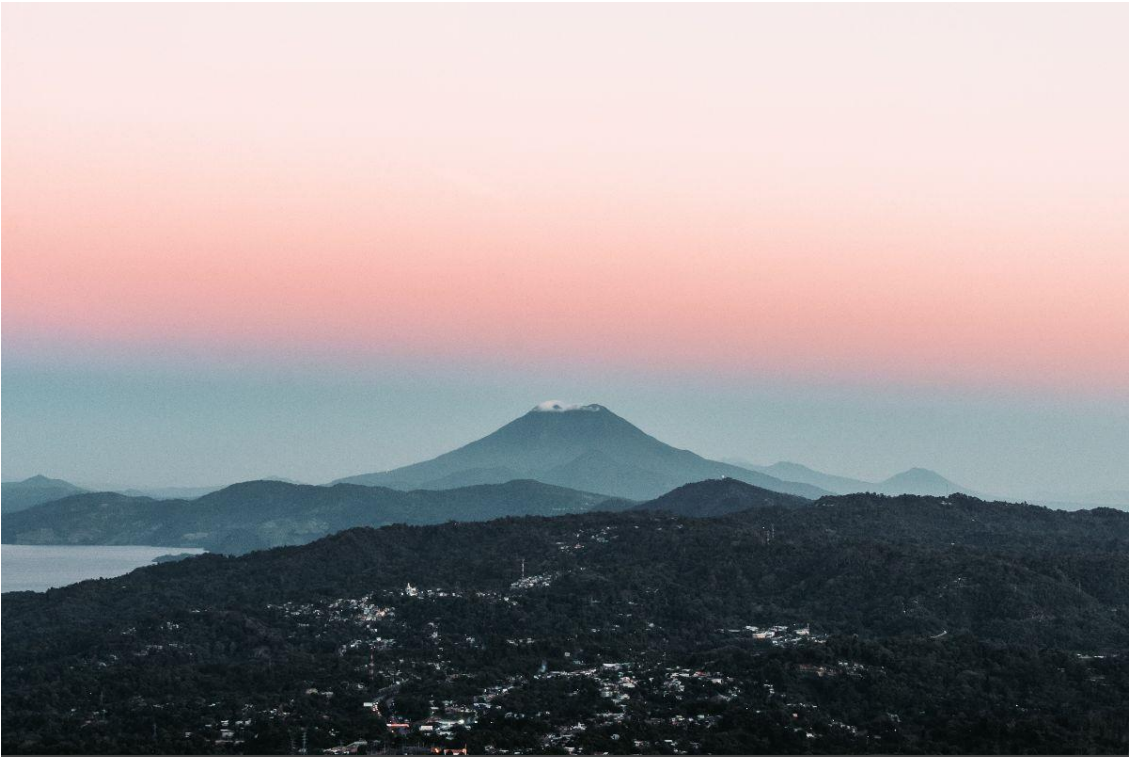
But he was “just” waiting tables. Yet Stephen performed great wonders and signs – as a table waiter. And you perform great signs and wonders while you are “waiting tables.”

And Stephen also gave one of the great sermons of the New Testament – a table waiter.

And at the hour of his death it is recorded:

**<sup>55</sup> But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> “Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”**

Our lives may not be as dramatic as Stephen’s but our encouragement comes when we look up (from our botany lessons or sensorial or math) and the Heavens are opened all around us in our environment and we see the glory of God. We see God’s smile. We feel His approval. We sense His “Well done, good and faithful servant.” And we remember there is no higher calling for us than - table waiter.



Pray for El Salvador

