

The Paradox of Ministry

Preview Sheet & Assignment

Pre-Reading

- 2 Corinthians 4:5-11 (The Paradox of the Ministry)
- Luke 5:1-11 (The Call of Simon the Fisherman)
- 1 John 4:7-21 (God's Love and Christian Life)

Assignment

In Catholic ministry, we often encounter a paradox: we are called to serve others as if we ourselves are Christ, yet we are also called to see Christ in those we serve. We give, but we also receive; we lead, but only by following; we speak, but only because we first listen.

Write a short reflection including these areas:

- How have you experienced both giving and receiving in your own service or ministry?
- In what ways does seeing Christ in others challenge or stretch your faith?
- Ministry often involves weakness as well as strength. How has God worked through your limitations?
- What does it mean for you personally to "lead by serving" in your faith community?