

*As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.*

1 Peter 4:10 KJV

Cathy Hardy shares: “Years ago a pastor’s wife friend of mine gave me this poem when I was worried about taking my turn to lead our group’s Bible study.”

# A Time to Serve

## Here I Am — I Will Try

Lord, you have called me to minister in a way I never have before.

I feel so inadequate for this task.

My qualifications are few, and my reasons to say “no” are many.

Are you sure you have connected with the right person?

Maybe you need to talk with a more likely candidate.

Lord, you have called me to minister in a way I never have before.

I feel afraid and unsure of what to expect or what I am to do.

What if I do not like the job I am involved with? What if I am a failure?

What if? What if? What if?

Lord, it is not too late to say “no,” is it?

Lord, you have called me to minister in a way I never have before,

I am overwhelmed by the mere thought of what you have asked me to do.

It requires considerable time and effort to walk on unfamiliar ground.

How about letting me choose something else I can do

to help you that feels more comfortable?

Lord, you have called me to minister in a way I never have before.

You say you will be with me each step of the way.

You ask me to remember Moses and countless others

who thought they were the wrong person to serve.

You remind me that I am the one you want in spite of all my excuses.

Lord, you have called me to minister in a way I never have before.

Hesitantly, I take that first step of faith.

Here I am, Lord. I will try. Amen.

(Author unknown)



*Cathy Hardy is a retired nurse from Belleville, Michigan, who spends her time volunteering in many ministries of her congregation.*