

# PRIESTLY LIBERTY

## *Calling Christians to be priests to each other*

All people of God, collectively and individually, are called as priests. This means that we are to care for each other. It means that we are to be instruments of God's love to each other. It means that Baptists have a level playing field when it comes to individual ministries. All ministries are called of God.

"Every individual has a responsibility to be concerned about himself enough to discover what he is made for. After he discovers his calling he should set out to do it with all the strength and power in his being. He should do it as if God Almighty called him at this particular moment in history to do it... No matter how small one thinks his life's work is..., he must realize that it has cosmic significance if he is serving humanity and doing the will of God." -- *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Pastors are not called to monopolize ministry. They are called to equip all the saints of God for ministry.

"The church has to get out of the 'house' with millions of priests, laypersons devoted to the redemption of the world." -- *Carlyle Marney*



Helen Barrett Montgomery fought for women's rights and against injustice. In 1921, she became the first woman to be president of the ABC-USA and the first woman to translate the New Testament in English. She was never a pastor and never had formal theological training, but Helen stood as a leader before others and before God.

