

The Nurse's Calling: A Christian Spirituality of Caring for the Sick

Mary Elizabeth O'Brien

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In this caring, timely book veteran nurse researcher and nurse educator Mary Elizabeth O'Brien provides a
spiritual perspective on the professional nurse's vocation of caring, Grounding each chapter in scripture, she
beautifully explores the Christian nurse's call to love as Jesus loved: without discrimination, without reserve
and sometimes without reward. In sharing some thoughts on favorite scripture passages that might be
meaningful to nurses, O'Brien includes anecdotes derived from her clinical experience and the experiences of
other Christian nurses that interpret the scriptures as lived out in the nurse's calling. The chapters are built
around these key ideas, organized around a particular scriptural theme: Ch. 1: The nurse's vocation. Ch. 2:
Nursing as a ministry. Ch. 3: The nurse's role as healer. Ch. 4: Comfort for the nurse in difficult times. Ch. 5:
The source of the nurse's strength. Ch. 6: The rewards of nursing the sick. Ch. 7: Nursing's call to reverence
the sacredness of human life. Ch. 8: The spirituality of the nurse as a thing of grace and beauty. The Nurse's
Calling, which is conscious of the changing face of contemporary care and our health care system in crisis, is
unique in its blend of practicality with a strong spiritual dimension. Nurses and those in the health care
professions will find it to be a source of comfort, inspiration and growth.



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