

## **Summary**

This thesis deals with the term layman in the church background, especially in the Protestant one. It searches for roots of understanding of laicism in Bible, in the history of the church and in the present Protestant environment of Czech Republic. It defines the term layman in relation to its church counterpart, which is usually considered clergy. It observes, what kind of activities are within the authority of laymen and what kind of activities are beyond their power.

It investigates proper ecclesiological models, that allow laymen to be used in the biblical way according to their charisma. It proposes a change of terminology and a new point of view on the role of laymen in the church practices.

## **Keywords**

Layman, general priesthood, ordination, hierarchy, laos