

GOD'S CALL

Psalm 100:3

Introduction: Ever call to your child that it's time to come in? Or "where are you?" Sometimes there is a call with the voice just a bit louder than normal, then there is the call that is a bit louder, then there is the "yell." Have you ever been "called?" Have you ever ignored somebody's call to you? Thinking about God's "call" to us we assign various meanings to "being called by God." One would be that of "being sent" by God, then there is "being led by God." "It was laid on my heart," is another "call" and one might say that "God was leading me." "I just felt God's presence and direction." Giving it some thought, everything about the Christian's life needs to be identified with a "purpose, a mission, an assignment" from God.

I. THE FIRST CALL HEARD FROM GOD IS TO BELIEVE IN HIS SON, JESUS

1. God's first call to a person is to bring that person into a personal relationship with Jesus, to bring that person into His family, into a life of repentance, faith and service.
2. **Luke 19:10** - Jesus came to earth for the purpose of getting involved in mankind's life, showing people what the Heavenly Father was like and how they should be living.
3. Summarizing the life of the person who believes in God's Son, that person must align his/her entire life with God's purpose for his/her life.
 - How much thought have YOU given concerning God's purpose for your life?
 - Are you willing to make whatever changes are necessary to follow God's plans for you?
4. **Matthew 28:19-20** - Jesus' purpose in coming is the Christian's purpose for living.
 - To bring people to Jesus Christ in belief.
 - To teach those who believe in Jesus about Jesus.
 - In responding to God's call to YOU, how can you become more involved in Jesus' mission?

II. GOD'S CALL TO US IS IN HARMONY WITH HIS WORK OF CREATION (*Psalm 100:3*)

1. God made us for a purpose, man didn't just happen as some would have the world believe.
2. God has a purpose for every single human being.
 - Not the same purpose, something different for each person.
 - Every human being is called to believe in Jesus and to serve and minister for Jesus.
3. Every Christian must fulfill his/her calling of God in whatever place he/she happens to be.
 - Is what you are doing reflect what Jesus wants you to be doing?
 - Are you using what you are doing to serve the Lord?

III. GOD'S CALL IS AN INWARD AND PERSONAL CALL

1. God requires a personal response from each person He calls.
 - It could be a sense of "ought-to-ness," or a feeling of being compelled, or something constantly on the mind or perhaps a burning heart."
2. God's call to a person can come through prayer, when reading God's Word, when at special events, or privately in conversation with someone, or through one's life experiences.
 - Ask yourself, "are you willing to listen to God's inner voice?" Are you willing to go to do whatever/wherever God wants you to?
3. Sometimes when God called a person, he/she had already been looking and was already committed to do whatever God wanted.
 - Some were already working in an area and heard God's call to continue there.
 - Some had an overwhelming "oughtness" to do this or that.
 - Some saw a need and felt they were already equipped and qualified and followed through.
 - Are you willing to be in the place where God wants you to be?
 - Are you willing to sacrifice, to give up, to change your plans, to do whatever God might direct you to do?
 - Right now, do you feel a call, a divine leadership to serve the Lord somewhere?

IV. GOD USES OTHER CHRISTIANS TO HELP SOME HEAR HIS CALL (*Acts 13:2*)

1. Others who have already heard God's call and are doing it, can help clarify God's call to YOU.
2. Others who are already serving God, can affirm our call.
3. Often others recognize God's call to us before we do.
 - Have you ever had anyone mention to you that he/she thought you should be doing this or that for the Lord?

CONCLUSION:

1. God calls a person to believe in His Son, Jesus.
2. God indwells that believer with His Holy Spirit.
3. God has something that only that "believer" is to do for Him. God has a plan for every single believer and it is essential to God's plans that every believer does what God has for him/her to do.
4. Are you doing what God has planned for you to do for Him? Have you heard God's call? Are you obedient to what you know you are to do for Him?