

The Heavenly Calling

1 Corinthians 1:25-27

25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

26 Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were CALLED. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth.

27 But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

Ephesians 4:1 - As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the CALLING you have received.

2 Thessalonians 1:11 - With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his CALLING, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith.

Hebrews 3:1 - Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly CALLING, fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest.

2 Peter 1:3 - His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who CALLED us by his own glory and goodness.

2 Peter 1:10

10 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your CALLING and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble,

11 and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

"How can I know what my calling is?"

"What am I supposed to be doing as a Christian?"

Church = (Ecclesia) called out ones, consecrated and set apart unto God.

John 21:13-23

13 Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

14 This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

16 Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

17 The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

18 Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go."

19 Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"

20 Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is going to betray you?")

21 When Peter saw him, he asked, "Lord, what about him?"

22 Jesus answered, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me."

23 Because of this, the rumor spread among the believers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die; he only said, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?"

I. You will have to fight with your flesh over your calling!

Eph. 5:16 - making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

Col. 4:5 - Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.

II. You will have to tussle with the temptation to compare your calling!

1 Corinthians 7:20 - Each person should remain in the situation they were in when God called them.

1 Corinthians 7:24 - Brothers and sisters, each person, as responsible to God, should remain in the situation they were in when God called them.

III. You will have to accept God's direction for your calling!

Called to Belong

Romans 1:6 - And you also are among those Gentiles who are CALLED to belong to Jesus Christ.

Called to Humility

Mark 9:35

Sitting down, Jesus CALLED the Twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all."

Called to Holiness

1 Corinthians 1:2 - To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and CALLED to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours:

1 Peter 1:15 - But just as he who CALLED you is holy, so be holy in all you do;

1 Peter 2:9 - But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who CALLED you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

2 Timothy 1:9 - He has saved us and CALLED us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time,

1 Thessalonians 4:7 - For God has not CALLED us for impurity, but in holiness.

Called into Fellowship

1 Corinthians 1:9 - God is faithful, who has CALLED you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Called to Peace

Colossians 3:15 - Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were CALLED to peace. And be thankful.

Called to faith

1 Corinthians 7:22 - For the one who was a slave when CALLED to faith in the Lord is the Lord's freed person; similarly, the one who was free when CALLED is Christ's slave.

Called to Hope

Ephesians 1:18 - I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has CALLED you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,

Ephesians 4:4 - There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were CALLED to one hope when you were called;

Called to Love

Matt. 22:37-40

37 Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'

38 This is the first and greatest commandment.

39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Called to Freedom

Galatians 5:13 - You, my brothers and sisters, were CALLED to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.

Hebrews 9:15 - For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are CALLED may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

Called to walk in Christ's Authority and Power

Matthew 10:1- Jesus CALLED his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

Called to Unjust Suffering

1 Peter 2:19-21

19 For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God.

20 But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.

21 To this you were CALLED, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

Called to Bless even your Enemies

1 Peter 3:9 - Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were CALLED, that you may obtain a blessing.

Called to Divine Purpose

Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been CALLED according to his purpose.

Called to Eternal Life

1 Timothy 6:12 - Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

Called to Give an Account for our lives

Luke 19:15 - When he returned, having received the kingdom, he ordered these servants to whom he had given the money to be called to him, that he might know what they had gained by doing business.