

Did You Get The Call?

God's Call On Our Lives

Introduction

- A. How many of you got the call?
- B. I am a Dodger Fan!
- C. Jesus said, "You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed (called) you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name." John 15:16

I. The Primary "Call" for Christians is to be in Relationship with Jesus Christ.

- A. This comes first and then your ministry flows from that commitment. Author Os Guinness notes in his book, "The Call", that this is the "primary Call" and that everything else we do for God in the church and our community is a "calling".
- B. While we can find a key calling on our lives, it's important to remember that the greatest call is to know Jesus Christ.
- C. The greatest call on our life is to be like Christ, and the only way to be like Christ is to know Him, intimately.

II. Start with your God-Given Desires

- A. What is it that God has put in your heart to do? What is the work you feel drawn and compelled most to do? What are your gifts and skills?
- B. In other words, what are your areas of irresistible interest in life? Pay close attention to those.

III. Listen to the Advice of Wise Counsel

- A. God has placed people in the church and in our lives to help us learn more about Him, His ways and His plan for our lives.
 - Ask great questions of them and you will gain great insights for today...and tomorrow.
- B. Don't be a "Lone Ranger" in trying to figure out your calling in ministry.
- C. Often it is the people with whom you minister that will see and affirm your ministry gifts and abilities.

IV. Embrace our Church Community and Stay Active

Our church is not only the "House of God" and the "Body of Christ", but it is the **incubator** of ministry callings.

- A. As you are involved in ministry here God will grow you and your calling.
- B. Avoid trying to be a carbon copy of other ministry leaders that you know.

V. Hang on to Your Heart for God and Other People

- A. It's your unique passion. Others may not share it or understand it.
- B. Pour your heart into serving others in Jesus' name.
- C. Avoid the assumption that your "personal dream" is synonymous with God's call on your life.

VI. Have a Heart of Obedience and a Passionate Response to God's Call on Your Life to Serve Others

- A. A life of ministry is one powered by a love for God and others.
- B. Don't worry or be anxious over our calling.

VII. A Few Examples of Some Village People Living out Their Calling:

VIII. Conclusion

- A. The Last Conversation with My Dad
- B. "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witness in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." Acts 1:8