
...Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name. You are Mine. (Isaiah 43:1)

I. **God Is Calling**

- a. **Calling-** is the initiative taken by God, who chooses people to serve a divine purpose.
- b. God calls to invite His greatest creation (people) to join in His mission on earth. (2 Chronicles 16:9).
- c. God's call is personal, intentional. He plans with the end in mind. It is never a mistake and always intentional. Does God call everyone in the same way?
- d. **God continues to call**
 1. All the people of God have been called to be stewards of His grace.
 2. We have all been *called* to serve God by first looking after on another
 3. "Moreover, it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful" (1 Corinthians 4:2)
 4. "When the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8b)
- e. **God calls the church** [*ecclesia* - the "called out"] **to a life of faith.** (1 Peter 2:9-10)
- f. His people exhibit the power in His Word. God "calls into existence the things that do not exist." (Romans 4:17).
- g. How is this power exhibited? Lives are saved, changed, delivered, healed, restored empowered.
- h. The fact that God called, you listened and responded are part of a dynamic miracle.
 1. Think about where you were, who you were and what you were doing when God called.

II. **Who Does God Call?**

- a. Not the outwardly "special" but the inwardly "special." (1 Samuel 13:14, 1 Samuel 16:5-13)
 1. To us the call is seen as what *could* be, but to God the call is what *will* be. (Romans 11:29)
- b. The *elect* is distinguished by their faith in God.
- c. We are called to demonstrate (witness) the character of God in the world.
- d. A willing vessel is a *clay pot* not a perfect vessel, because God's call involves humble response, submission, listening, change, sacrifice, and duty to action.

III. **What Does God Call Us To?**

- a. God calls us to action! To be *anointed* or *ordained* is to be called to something (purpose).
- b. A "holy purpose" requires righteous living.
- c. God calls us to *righteousness* so that His holy purposes can be fulfilled by His people.
 1. This is *not* a greater level of righteousness, but the person is elevated to be a greater witness of God's righteousness to the people.
- d. God calls us to deeper relationship with Him and His people.

IV. **Practical Application**

- a. Do you desire the Ministry?