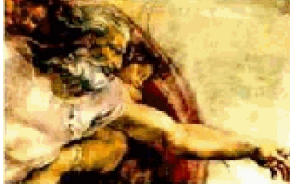


GOD'S CALL FOR YOUR LIFE



What is God's call for your life? That is the question many Christians wonder about and seek an answer to. Is it for full-time ministry or to be a missionary or a lay person? God's word offers some insight into His calling and His plans & will for His people. You need to prayerfully seek God and ask Him to help you to discern His special calling and plan for your life, and ask Him to give you the faith and courage to faithfully follow Him as He leads you. You will be happiest and full of joy when you are in the middle of God's will and plan.



1. GOD'S MAIN CALL IS FIRST TO A RESTORED RELATIONSHIP, THEN TO CLOSE & INTIMATE FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM:

* Only by accepting and receiving Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior will you ever be **reconciled to God** and be able to have a personal relationship with Him. (John 1:12, 14:6)

* **Eternal life** and being a Christian is not just about accepting Jesus as your Lord & Savior, then waiting around to go to heaven where you will live forever. It is about a **relationship with God**, and getting to know Him, and **servicing Him** and **obeying Him** because you love Him.

- "God, who has **called** you into **fellowship** ("koinania") with His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful." - **I Cor. 1:9**

- "Now this is eternal life: that they may **know** you the only true God and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent" - **John 17:3**

- "You are my friends if you do what I command." - **John 15:14**

"God's call is for you to be **His loyal friend**, for whatever purpose He has for your life."
- Oswald Chambers "My Utmost For His Highest"

2. GOD HAS A SPECIAL & UNIQUE PLAN AND CALLING FOR YOUR LIFE:

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." - **Jeremiah 29:11**

Jeremiah 29:11 tells us that God has special plans for our lives, plans to bless us and prosper us; The next two verses spell out the **necessary conditions** for us to receive the benefit of His plans, "Then when you call upon Me and come and **pray to Me**, I will hear you. When you **search for Me**, You will find Me; if you **seek Me with all your heart**" (Jeremiah 29:12-13)

"God will instruct him in the way chosen for him." - **Psalms 25:12**

"You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light."

- **I Peter 2:9**

"For we are God's workmanship ("valuable masterpiece"), created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." - **Ephesians 2:10**

3. GOD PLACES A DESIRE AND A PASSION IN OUR HEARTS TO DO THE THINGS HE CALLS US TO DO:

"For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose."

- **Philippians 2:13**

You will have a love & joy & passion for doing the things God has created you to do

4. GOD GIVES ALL CHRISTIANS SPIRITUAL GIFTS TO EQUIP YOU TO DO THE THINGS HE HAS CALLED YOU TO DO:

- **Romans 12:6-8** - **1 Corinthians 12:8-10,28** - **1 Corinthians 14:1-6**

5. GOD'S PRESENCE AND POWER WILL ALWAYS BE WITH YOU WHEN HE CALLS YOU:

"Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have **called** them." - **Acts 13:2**

The Greek word for **called** means that God "called them unto Himself", **first** to loving fellowship with God, and next to where **God's presence** and **His power** would be at work. We only need to respond in faith and obedience, and **God** will provide the power and whatever else is needed to get the job done. Moses being called to help lead God's people out of Egypt is another good example of God's call and how **God** provided everything (see **Exodus 3 & 4**)

6. THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT GOD CALLS ALL CHRISTIANS TO DO:

"Come follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." - **Matthew 4:19**

"The Jesus came to them and said "All authority in heaven and on earth have been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

- **Matthew 28:18-20**

You are not truly following Jesus unless you are being a fisher of men and an active witness for Jesus Christ, telling the lost about Him and sharing His plan of salvation with them. He also wants the church to teach and help others become fully devoted and passionate disciples (learners and followers) of Jesus Christ, so they will be fruitful witnesses and servants of His.

Someone once asked Dr. Bill Bright, founder of Campus Crusade For Christ, how did you know what God was calling you to do with your life? I keep waiting to find my purpose, but feel so lost. Dr. Bright said "the most important way to know God's will is to **totally surrender** to the Lordship of Christ. Ask Him to guide your steps. You are in God's will if you are surrendered to Him. The God who created everything guides our steps. All He wants is surrender and he'll tell us what he wants us to do. Don't give much thought to what you will do in the future ... Surrender to Him now and he will guide you in the rest. I live by Philippians 2:13 "for it is God who works in you both to will and to act according to His good purpose." So as I walk in the Spirit I can know that God will guide my steps. For example, in 1951 my wife and I decided we wanted to be total servants to Jesus. We wrote out a contract and fully surrendered everything we owned or would own to Jesus. Approximately 24 hours later God gave me the vision we called Campus Crusade For Christ. I'm sure if there had been no surrender and contract with God there would have been no vision. You can know God's will by **full surrender to Christ**, and by allowing the Holy Spirit to control you."

"To fulfill God's perfect design for you requires your **total surrender** - complete abandonment of yourself to Him."

- Oswald Chambers

