

## CHAT WITH THE CHAPLAIN

What do you say we hash over the word “Calling” for awhile? I’m not talking about calling your uncle Frank to borrow the tractor for the weekend. I’m talking about God’s ‘calling’ on your life. Or, put another way, what do you believe that God has called you to do with your life? Or, do you think that most folks are exempt and “being called” is just for preachers and pastors and the like? Well, here’s a newsflash, everyone who has trusted Christ as their Savior is being ‘called’. One definition of a ‘calling’ would be, ‘A divine mission which God has ordained for you to do, equipped you to do, and burned into your heart, to bring Him glory and advance His Kingdom’ ( Dr. Tony Evans). I’d say that’s pretty plain and straight ahead. Check out 2 Timothy 1;9 where it says “ God, who has saved us, and called us ( that’s you and me ) with a Holy Calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and Grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity.....”. Another scripture would be from Romans 8:30 where it says “ .....and whom He predestined, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.” There’s a lot going on here so we’ll try to stay focused on the subject of ‘calling’. If you are a believer, then like it or not, there is a Holy Calling on your life. Do you remember the days before cell phones, caller ID, and voice mail? That box on the wall actually had bells in it that would ring, and keep ringing until either you answered or the caller ran out of patience and cut the call short. The difference here is that God keeps calling and never runs out of patience. As far as I can tell, there is no requirement for any of us to answer. But, if we choose not to pick up the call, not only are we missing out on what God has in store for us, but as one man has put it, “ We’re cheating the world, and eternity as well”. We’ve got our ‘fire insurance’, and we become ‘hitchhiking Christians’, where someone else is doing the driving and buying the gas.

God is operating His creation by what has been called His “ Kingdom Agenda “. As believers, we have become members of His Kingdom, and our assignment, if we choose to accept it, is to ‘log on’ to that Agenda and get tied into God’s Spiritual Superhighway. It sounds great, but I believe that there’s a process involved. We might think in terms of a Person, a Program, and a Purpose. In order to know the Purpose God has for your life, you must first come to know the Program ( Calling ), and before you’ll really know your God ordained Program, you will need to have an encounter ( relationship ) with the Person ( God ). If you want to know what your ‘Calling’ is, don’t go ‘Calling – looking’, go God – looking first, and the calling for your life will be discovered through your relationship with Him. It will still be up

to you to pick up the phone. In Luke 10: 38 – 42 it gives us an example of a relationship with the ' Person '. Martha and Mary are with Jesus, and while Mary sits at Jesus' feet and gets to know Him, Martha is cooking up a kicker of a casserole and letting Jesus know in no uncertain terms that she's all wadded up because Mary's not helping out. Jesus says," Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things; but only a few things are necessary, really only one, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her". It's something to think about. What Mary has done is something I think we all struggle with, especially in these times where everything is on fast forward and is vying for our attention. She slowed down enough to spend some quality time with the One Who holds the universe together. Easy to talk about and hard to do.

--- Consider the Person – Get to know Him and love Him

--- Consider the Program ( your Calling ) --- Get to know and love your part in the Kingdom agenda

--- Consider your purpose --- Get to know your God ordained purpose as a member of God's Kingdom.

When you have prayed and decided to answer that call, things begin to get shakin' in the spiritual realm that are beyond our physical reckoning, and God will manifest Himself in your life in ways you never could have imagined. It might be a little scary at times but as they say, God is in control. I remember as a kid that when I picked up that side-by-side 12 ga. Shotgun and cocked the triggers, that pretty soon something mighty was going to happen, and I wasn't disappointed. As a part of God's Agenda, you won't be disappointed either.

Wanted : More Bikers in heaven!!

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