

Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

Missions - Call Of God

DALE STEPHENSON

Introduction

God knew us and called us even before He formed us in the womb. It is a profound thing to live confidently in the call of God, and each of us the opportunity to do so. God also created us with free will. Pastor Dale teaches that God created humanity with a will so that love can be fully expressed. Without it we would be mere robots. The call of God is often in tension with the will of humanity. Jonah, for an example, heard the call of God but ran in the opposite direction (Jonah 1:1-4). Living confidently in God's will requires us to both hear, and faithfully obey, His call on our lives.

Read Jeremiah 1:1-9

Discuss

1. Share a couple of things (hobbies, activities, etc.) that you are confident undertaking. What made you confident in those areas? What are some things that you are not confident in and why?
2. In our reading, why do you think Jeremiah was so hesitant to answer God's call? If you could audibly hear the word of God and His calling for you, how different might your reaction be compared to Jeremiah's?
3. Pastor Dale teaches that by taking small steps of obedience, we can be confident that we are living in God's calling. How does taking a small step of obedience help us know we are living in God's calling?
4. Read Jeremiah 1:4-5 and Galatians 1:15-16. Can you identify a similarity between God's calling for Jeremiah and Paul? Did Jeremiah and Paul each earn their calling?

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5. Read Ephesians 2:8-9. Nothing we can do will be enough to earn God's grace. Therefore, Pastor Dale teaches us to be in the 'receive-it' zone rather than the 'earn-it' zone. Why do some people get stuck in the 'earn-it' zone?
6. Unlike Jeremiah, who clearly heard the word of the Lord, we must be able to discern God's calling for us. If you are confident you are living in His calling, how did you discern it? If you are yet to be confident, which of these five modes of God's guidance do you practise or pay more attention to?
 - Compelling Spirit: the conviction of the Holy Spirit.
 - Commanding Scriptures: God has already revealed what you need to do in the Bible. His guidance will be consistent with what Scripture tells you.
 - Counsel of Saints: consultation with people within your community.
 - Common Sense.
 - Circumstantial Setting: God speaks to us through our circumstances. He may open doors and close doors.

Respond

There is an individual calling upon every life. Before God formed you in the womb, He knew you and called you. The challenge is that you need to get over self-disqualifications and step into the calling. You can start by embracing God's love and receiving His grace upon you. Seek His word and the Holy Spirit. Take a small step of obedience, keep the faith, and be ready to find out what He is calling you into.