



Repentance Tabernacle Church

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Help to Understand God's Call

Focus Verses: 1 Samuel 10:6-7 -⁶And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man. ⁷And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as occasion serve thee; for God is with thee.

Lesson Text: 1 Samuel 10:1-24

Truth About God: God will speak into our lives and provide confirmation.

Truth For My Life: I will counsel with godly leaders to help me understand God's call.

As we journey through life, some of us may have difficulty finding our calling. We may feel a twinge of envy when we hear others testify that they absolutely knew what God wanted them to do as a teenager or even a tween. We may wonder why we remain unsure about our spiritual future even though the Bible tells us to walk worthy of our calling (Ephesians 4:1). We may also face the very real possibility that God has already revealed our calling, but we have yet realized it. We all sometimes need help to understand God's call.

Both Samuel's and Saul's stories reveal the importance of having godly ministers and spiritual advisors to help us make sense of God's call. The word of the Lord was rare in those days, so young Samuel had no point of reference. Young Samuel relied on the wisdom of Eli to help him understand God called him to be a prophet. Samuel did not fully comprehend the voice of God, but Eli told him to talk with God. When Samuel presented himself, God called him to be a prophet (1 Samuel 3:1-14).

Samuel used his prophetic gifts to pave the way for Saul to become king. At first, Saul was reluctant to accept the mantle of king, but the Lord helped him overcome his inadequacies. Saul started out well, but he should have paid more attention to the words of Samuel and allowed Samuel to mentor him.

While prayer is always a good place to start to understand the call of God, we also need men and women of God who can speak words of life to help us gain the understanding we need. Those raised in church may look at their upbringing and wonder why they have difficulty understanding God's call despite their knowledge. Those not raised in godly homes may wonder if they missed out on something that would help them hear and understand God's call. In both cases, we should not focus on our inadequacies; we should focus on hearing the call of God. We should make time to talk with godly leaders and spiritual advisors to correctly respond to the call of God.

Even though we all have gifts that make us useful in the kingdom of God, we need something more than our own skills and abilities. We need to allow the Spirit of God to move in our lives to make us who we were truly meant to be. Like Saul, we must be open to becoming a different person. The New Testament speaks of putting off the old nature through baptism (Romans 6). Baptism by water and baptism of the Holy Spirit help us take on a godly nature (Galatians 3:27).

Whenever we read of individuals being called in the Bible, we often see their reluctance. Moses told the Lord he had difficulty speaking (Exodus 4:10). Isaiah wondered how he could declare the Word of God as a man of unclean lips dwelling among a people of unclean lips (Isaiah 6:5). Jeremiah felt like his youth disqualified him (Jeremiah 1:6).

We may all feel inadequate like Saul, Moses, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and many others. Humility is good when it comes to calling. Surprisingly, humility and exaltation are tied together in Scripture. In speaking to the ministry, 1 Peter 5:6 provides us with a promise: "*Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.*" Many people believe humility is not the path to promotion. That might be true on some level in the natural world, but humility is a spiritual requirement in the kingdom of God.

So, let us answer God's call with enthusiasm. Let us rejoice even if our calling presents us with ordinary situations that may seem pointless to us at the time. If we are faithful, someday God will turn the ordinary into the extraordinary.