

Sunday School

4-26-2020

Isaiah 43:1(New American Standard Bible) “But now , thus says the Lord, your Creator, O Jacob, And He who Formed you, O Israel, “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have **called** you by name; you are MINE!”

*now-at the time, in particular of the present time, describing a present state

*thus-here, now

Isaiah 49:1(NASB) “Listen to Me, O islands, and pay attention, you peoples from afar (of time). The LORD **called** Me from the womb; from the body of My mother He named Me.”

*Hebrew word for called- qara(kaw-raw’)- to call, to call aloud, utter in a loud voice, to invite, to name, call by name, to give some name to one, call his name, to be called, to bear a name or title

John 10:3(NASB) “To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice, and he **calls** his own sheep by name and leads them out.”

*Greek word for calls-pho`neo`(fo-neh`-o)-to call out, to cry aloud, to invite, call by name

*Think about the feeling you get when someone you love and are close with (husband, children, parents, grandparents, and friends) calls your name. You know their voice; you normally can distinguish who is calling your name. When they call your name what do you do? For the Hebrews, the name was closely associated with the person and his presence. Thus, to call on someone’s name was to seek his presence.

*People in the Word of God whose names were called and their response. If God calls your name twice He most likely wants to get your attention!!

1. Samuel

1 Samuel 3:1-10 Samuel’s response- “Speak Your servant is listening”

2. Abraham

Genesis 22:1-3, 10-11 Abraham's response-"Yes. Here I am.", Abraham obeyed God's instructions even though he most likely did not understand, Abraham trusted God to fulfill the promise (Genesis 21:12(NLT) "But God told Abraham, "Do not be upset over the boy and your servant. Do whatever Sarah tells you, for Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted."")

3. Moses

Exodus 3:1-4 Moses' response was "Here I am".

*Note: After God tells Moses what He wants him to do, in verse 11 Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

Know that when God calls you to do something He has not messed up. He is the Creator of the Universe, the Great I AM has sent you. TRUST Him and have FAITH that He WILL equip you, your job is to obey and move.

4. Saul (Paul)

Acts 9:3-6 Saul's response was "Lord, what do You want me to do?" and he did what God told him.

5. Ananias

Acts 9:10 "Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord."

6. Martha

Luke 10:40-42 Sometimes God needs to direct our attention back on Him.

7. Mary Magdalene

John 20:14-16 Mary knew it was Jesus in how He said her name

Why?

*Because we are special to Him.

*Reveal Himself to us (I am with you)

*To draw us to Him so He can show us who He truly is

*To give us instructions

COVID19 is a storm that we are in. Life is different, it may seem that God is not in control, anxiety is up, fears are high, we may hear voices telling us that we are a failure because we did not have victory over the fears/anxiety, that we are not enough because our best effort missed the mark, God can't/won't use us because of past sins. As a child of God we do not have to live by those names. Those names are a lie from Satan to keep us bound. We can break free by tuning our ears to the truth of Scripture, to the truth of the names God speaks over us.

GOD says that you are:

- Fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14)
- Valuable (Matthew 10:31)
- A new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- An ambassador (2 Corinthians 5:20)
- Redeemed (Galatians 3:13, Isaiah 43:1)
- God's friend (John 15:15)
- Free (Romans 8:2)
- Chosen (John 15:16, Ephesians 1:4, 1 Peter 2:9)
- A masterpiece (God's handiwork) (Ephesians 2:10)
- A Conqueror (Romans 8:37)
- Royalty (1 Peter 2:9)
- Called (Romans 8:28, Isaiah 43:1)

*Will you recognize His voice? Spend time in God's Word, allow Him to speak His Word to you, learn His character, lean in close to Him and listen.

*How are you going to respond when God calls your name?

