

CALLING

“Faith is deliberate confidence in the character of God whose ways you may not understand at the time.” — Oswald Chambers

If someone asked you what a “calling from the Lord is,” what would you say?

Types of Callings:

- The fundamental call or vocation to be a Christian (Eph. 1:18)
- A specific or unique call on our lives, or our purpose for being (1 Cor. 7:17)
- Daily duties/responsibilities to which we are called to, or our immediate priorities (Col. 3:23)

How Does Calling Come?

- **Prayer**-talking to God (Jer. 29:13)
- **God’s Word**-regular study of the Bible that informs of His will (Ps. 119:97)
- **Holy Spirit**-living in tune with things of the Spirit (Rom. 8:5)
- **People**-Christian community that affirms and encourages your calling (Paul recruiting Timothy-Acts 16:3)
- **Your gifts**-your God-given, natural talents that point to how you were wonderfully made to serve a unique purpose (Psalm 139:14; Eph. 1:10)
- **Providential Circumstances**-EX: Nehemiah discovered how poorly Jerusalem and Judah were faring in the 5th century BC, and he experienced a growing inner conviction that God was leading him to serve in Jerusalem.
- **Miraculous Encounters**-Moses and the burning bush-Ex.3; Saul on the road to Damascus-Acts 9

ACTIVITY: In your group, discuss your gifts and abilities (Rom. 12:6-8). What is the deepest desire of your heart (Psalm 37:4), and where do you personally sense the needs and brokenness of the world (Is. 61:1)? Talk about your personality type and how it can be used in ministry (indicators such as Myers-Briggs and the DISC profile can be helpful here).

Discuss this question in your group: How are you being called to serve today?

APPLY: “This week, I will _____.”

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