

The 72—Kingdom Leadership Training

The Call—Finding Your Purpose

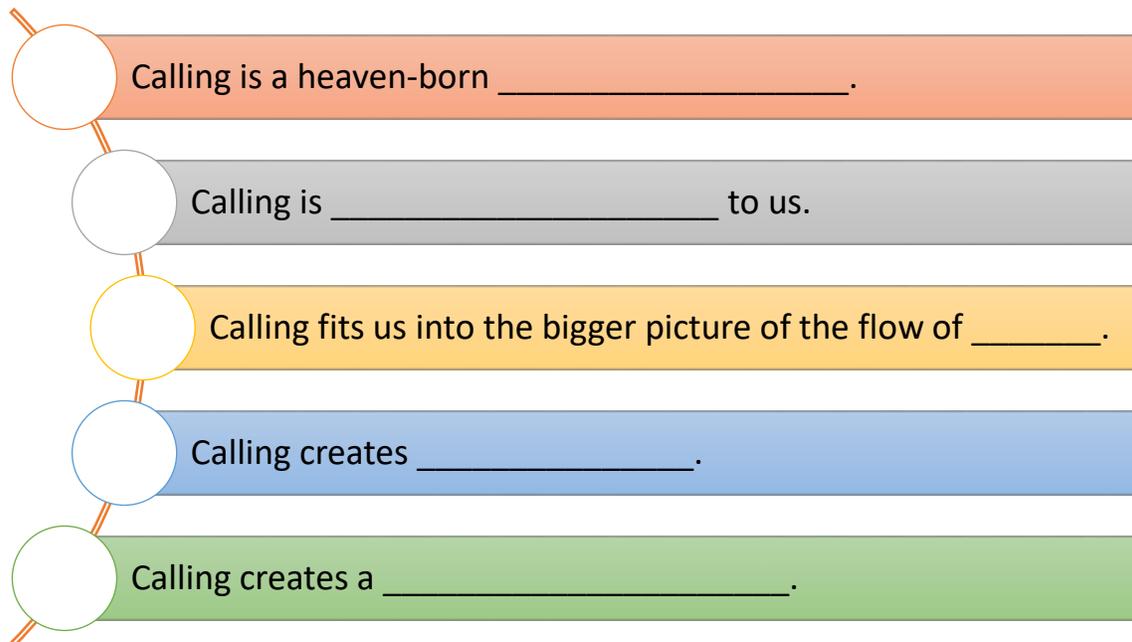
November 19th, 2019

1 Introduction to Calling

- Why is the discussion of calling so critical?
- Calling is more than your _____, gifting, or _____.
- Calling is a lifelong discovery of your _____ and _____ in life.

2 Defining Calling

- Calling is a term designating God's summons to a specific task or role and his special relationship to his people.¹



3 Giftings and Callings

- Although they may be intimately connected to one another, gifting and calling are not the same thing.

¹ Myers, A. C. (1987). In [The Eerdmans Bible dictionary](#) (p. 183). Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans.

- GIFTING is connected to a _____ or an _____. (Natural or supernatural)

- CALLING is connected to a _____ and a _____ that affects transformation in other's lives.

- GRACE = the unmerited favor of God.
 - **Ephesians 2:8–10 (ESV) — 8** For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, **9** not a result of works, so that no one may boast. **10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

 - ...causes joy, pleasure, gratification, favor, acceptance, for a kindness granted or desired, a benefit, thanks, gratitude. A favor done without expectation of return; the absolutely free expression of the loving kindness of God to men²

 - Grace describes all the gifts, callings, and _____ that God dispenses to humanity without them earning it.

- GIFTING as a Grace of God
 - **Romans 12:3–8 (ESV) — 3** For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. **4** For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, **5** so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. **6** Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; **7** if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; **8** the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

 - _____ manifests the grace of your gifting.

 - **Ephesians 4:7 (ESV) — 7** But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

² Zodhiates, S. (2000). [*The complete word study dictionary: New Testament*](#) (electronic ed.). Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers.

- **1 Peter 4:10–11 (ESV)** — **10** As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: **11** whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.
 - Giftings are measure of grace for _____.

- **CALLING as a Grace of God**
 - **Ephesians 3:7–8 (ESV)** — **7** Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. **8** To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,
 - _____ does not diminish God's grace in your call.
 - **Romans 1:1–2 (ESV)** — **1** Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, **2** which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures,
 - Read also **Romans 4:16-17**.
 - The call of God works through us to reveal and manifest what is currently unseen, _____ or _____.

- God's grace through our calling will always point to something greater than ourselves, especially in our weakness not our gifting.
 - **2 Corinthians 12:9–10 (ESV)** — **9** But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. **10** For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.
 - Your calling is propelled more by God's grace than your _____.
 - **1 Corinthians 15:8–11 (ESV)** — **8** Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. **9** For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. **10** But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. **11** Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

- **2 Corinthians 11:5–6 (ESV) — 5** Indeed, I consider that I am not in the least inferior to these super-apostles. **6** Even if I am unskilled in speaking, I am not so in knowledge; indeed, in every way we have made this plain to you in all things.
 - Read also **2 Corinthians 11:21-30**.
 - God will balance your _____ with whatever is necessary to promote His calling through you.

 - We will never _____ our calling.
- 4 **Other Examples of the Call of God for Encouragement**
- **Abraham**
 - **Genesis 12:1-3; 15:1-6; 17-1-8**

 - It's possible that you may never understand the full intent of God's call upon your life.

 - **Joseph**
 - **Genesis 37-50**

 - Your process may not appear to be your true calling.

 - **Samuel**
 - Review **1 Samuel 3:1-21**.
 - *"Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him."* (1 Samuel 3:7, ESV)

 - Your gifting and calling may surprise you.

 - **David vs. Solomon**
 - David was a man of war.
 - Desire is not enough for calling.

 - Solomon was a man of wisdom and diplomacy.
 - God used Solomon's creative ability and worldwide influence to bring in what was necessary to build the "House of God."

5 Connecting with Your Calling

Seek and develop a message/purpose greater than your gifting.

Use your gifting to connect others to your message/mission.

Devote yourself to making the sacrifices that come with your calling.

Grow and develop your gifting so as to increase the level of effectiveness of your calling.

Don't allow the lack of support for your gifting to rob you of your calling.

6 Supplemental Word

- Praying *for* someone vs. praying *into* someone.
- Witchcraft Prayers
 - *"So Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king.""* (1 Samuel 15:22–23, NKJV)
 - (See also [Deuteronomy 18:9-14](#); [Exodus 22:18](#); [Galatians 5:19-21](#).)
- Witchcraft prayers bring division in families and churches.
- There are more beings listening to our prayers than just God.

- Let's be careful how we pray because we don't want to be fighting the call of God in our lives or anybody else's.