

God-Given

Our Callings in life are better understood as God-Given rather than self-chosen. (J. Leininger)

Christ Our Savior


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Decisions

As we mature, choices, and decisions become bigger, more significant and anxiety typically increases as well.

- Marriage, job, family and friend decisions increase in difficulty as they like the tendrils of a vine they encompass and sometimes suffocate our lives.
- Often our focus deals with the constraints of money and time and as time goes on, health as well.

How do you respond?



**What decisions are you currently
considering and concerned about?**

What decisions are you currently considering and concerned about?

Continue to share answering whether you have any choice in the decisions you are facing

Callings

- Plural, faces, places, spaces, now in the present, ordinary, dramatic
- Hebrews 3:1
 “Therefore brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling”.
- Everyone has callings
- Tasks, Ourselves, and Others
- Everyone is a calling. **Really?**



How does the thought of God placing people in your life whether momentary or in intimate relationships trike you?

Understanding that they are God Given callingS, will you change the way you react to others to let His light shine more brightly?

CallingS, Good Works, Service

- “God does not need your good works, your neighbor does.”
(Gustaf Wingren)
- Service is not a pathway to greatness, service is greatness.”
(Alistair Begg)

[Galatians 2:20](#)

[2 Corinthians 5:20](#)

By faith, we do good works affirming our faith. He lives in us and as “gloves” He works through us. Even for extraverts, this may ramp up anxiety levels. But there is good news. Leininger continues that the Spirit gives us gifts, 4 sacred gifts to help us. **V**alue, **S**trength, **G**race, and **J**oy.

Sacred Gift - Value

[Psalm 145:16](#)

[1 John 2:2](#)

[John 3:16-17](#)

[1 John 3:16](#)

These verses tell us to how we should see and respond to others. They tell us that Jesus came and died for all; He cares for everyone. Just as the rain falls on everyone, He feeds and clothes all RH and LH kingdom people. He shed His blood for them too, they have **Value**. God places them into our lives, His choice not ours. Our callingS to serve them come from Him. CallingS aren't always easy and so He gives us **Strength** to approach and complete them.

Sacred Gift - Strength

[Isaiah 12:2](#)

[Isaiah 43:1-3](#)

[Matthew 28:20](#)

[John 16:33](#)

- He gives us everything we need for every calling.
- What didn't God promise and what did He promise?
- Burdens teach us to trust Him and how to relate to others who experience the same challenges.
- Cross bearing is intended to make us stronger. Olympians work out for their competition; our workouts prepares us for tougher challenging times, a different kind of race. He wants us to come to Him for **Strength**.

Sacred Gift - Strength

[Matthew 11:28-30](#)

His invitation is for us to be closer to Him so that He can give us His strength. You don't get help lifting from someone across the room, but by being shoulder to shoulder. That's Jesus yoked with us to carry the burden. He is the Almighty, His burden is light, nothing can overcome him.

Choose to lay your pride aside, that you can go at it alone, and through prayer, give Jesus the task of heavy lifting.

Sacred Gift - Grace

His grace is always ready to address our propensity as sinners to make a mess of things. Everything we do is tainted. As you consider that every relationship is a calling, imagine the opportunities to fail!

Imagine the times you have failed to lovingly respond to your neighbor, coworker, spouse or child. These are just the people we know! Along with the number of callings which He assigned to us, our failures just **mushroomed!**

Sacred Gift - Grace

[Ephesians 1:7-10](#)

[2 Peter 3:9](#)

Thank God He loves dirt! Jesus “lavishes” grace on us.

- Paul says that He came to “unite all things in Him”. He doesn’t abandon us when times get tough, when we are face to face with adversity, no matter if it is big, small, or life changing.
- Even when He has given us everything we need to properly and completely answer His callingS, like an earthly father, our Father showers grace on us by being patient waiting for us, by encouraging us as we face challenges, and forgiving our failures.

Sacred Gift - Joy

Hebrews 12:1-2

Just like Jesus, who looked past the cross to eternal joy with us “the redeemed”, so should we look past the present challenges to eternal joy with Him. Focus on eternity while dealing with our present callingS.


We are those John in his first chapter said “who believe in His name”, who live by faith, whose callingS testify to their God given, God breathed faith, who by the Spirit believe that we will live eternally with Him and are already enjoying the first throes of eternity.

Sacred Gift - Joy

Romans 5:1-5

With Joy we Praise Him when:

- We approach every calling as “gloves” though which He works
- Others understand, like pharaoh who realized Joseph’s interpretation came from God, that it’s God working through us, His action, not ours
- We with God Pleasing Motivation, a Cheerful Mood, Confident and Trusting Manner and a Mission to our Neighbor, approach, execute, and complete the callingS He has given us.
- By His grace, He forgives us, the “dirty”, when we make a mess of the callingS He gives us.



**Share a calling where you
experienced Value, Strength, Grace,
and Joy.**

Take My Life And Let It Be

1 Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee.

3 Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from thee.

4 Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use
Every power as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is thine own;
It shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee.