First Baptist Church - Odessa

Pastor Byron McWilliams

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"I Expect Them to be Called"

"12 Expectations of Your Pastoral Leadership" - Pt. 1

Luke 5:1-11; Ephesians 4:1 & Selected

3 Types of Ministerial "Call" Experiences:

1. There is a universal call to Christian service.

"I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called." Ephesians 4:1

2. There is a general call to ministry leadership.

"And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry."

Ephesians 4:11-12a

3. There is a unique call to a ministry assignment.

"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. 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."

Ephesians 3:7-8

The "Call of God" for pastoral leadership is the overpowering sense that He has set me apart to serve Him in whatever ministry capacity He chooses and it demands I leave the known and go with God for life!

The Call of Peter – Luke 15:1-11

The "Call of God" Is Like...

1. A sovereign summons which can't be ignored!

"And Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.' And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him." Luke 5:10b-11

"And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was." Hebrews 5:4

2. A mysterious thriller that can't be put down!

See Luke 5:4-8

3. A tight binding from which you can't be loosed!

"But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than men." Acts 5:29

See also Acts 5:40-42

"For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable." Romans 11:29

4. A burning flame that can't be put out!

"Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel!" 1 Corinthians 9:16

"And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here I am! Send me.'" Isaiah 6:8

5. A heavy anchor that can't be moved!

"But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls." Hebrews 10:39