

Introduction

Journey through the Gospel of Luke

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. "Called to Something Greater" – Luke 5:1-11 | Calling of 4 fisherman to follow Jesus |
| 2. "Proven Power" – Luke 5:12-26 | Jesus Authority Cleanse Disease / Forgives Sins
Calling of Levi |
| 3. "Practice Questions" – Luke 5:27-39 | Authority and methods of Jesus Challenged |
| 4. "Right Pursuit" – Luke 6:1-19 | Seek / Follow God, God's Way
Calling of the 12 Apostles |

God is speaking to this congregation about "Calling"

1. Ecclesia (The Church) – "Called out ones"
2. Called Out of the domain of darkness, and into the Kingdom of His Son
3. Called out of darkness and into the light
4. Called into fellowship with Jesus
5. Called out from the world and the things of the world to follow Him
6. Called to be crucified with Him and share in His resurrection Life

Message Title: The High Privilege of a High Calling

1 Corinthians 3:5-17

1. The Opportunity of our Calling
2. The Right Pursuit of our Calling
3. The Empowering of our Calling
4. The HOLINESS OF OUR CALLING

Body

(Background of disunity of 1 Corinthians)

1. The Opportunity of our Calling

1 Corinthians 3:5

Read Verse 5

V5 - "What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? **Servants** through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave **opportunity** to each one." NASB

1. Minister / Servants
2. The Lord gives opportunity
 - a. **Privilege** – God doesn't need us but chooses to use us

Point #1 – Treasure the Opportunities that the LORD gives you

- b. **Don't fear opportunities that are beyond yourself and your resources**
 - i. Example Youth Group

2 Corinthians 3:5-6 "5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as *being* from ourselves, but our sufficiency *is* from God, 6who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life."
- c. **Don't think insignificant the "small" opportunities**
 - i. Example At the Gym (kids wearing Christian T-shirts)
- d. **Don't be angry or discouraged if an opportunity comes with a great cost**

TWO Visual Analogies of Opportunity – Farming and Building a Home

Read Verses 6-8

Farming

1. Hard Work, Work just as hard for a plentiful harvest or scarce harvest
2. Different roles (sowing, watering, increase, harvesting)
3. **Reliance on God** to bring the increase
 - a. Faith for Gods provision of plentiful harvest or in a scarce harvest
 - b. Freedom we are not responsible for the results
4. Each one rewarded for their FAITHFULNESS in labor, not for results

Read Verses 9-10

House Building

1. “fellow workers” – laborers (not foreman, project managers)
2. Undergirded by God’s Grace
3. “wise master builder” – Done according to God’s Wisdom (not the worlds wisdom)
4. “each one take heed how he builds on it”

Point #2 – God’s Work must be done God’s way.

2. The Right Pursuit of our Calling

1 Corinthians 3:11-15

Read Verses 11-12

1. Jesus is the only Foundation

- a. The Cross
- b. The Incarnation, Death, Resurrection, Ascension, Return
- c. Saved by Grace through Faith

2. Build on the Foundation

- a. “Wood, hay, stubble”
 - i. The failed attempts of trying to do God’s work and trying to grow in Christlikeness by man’s efforts and the Flesh.
 - 1. **Romans 7** – failed attempt by the Flesh
- b. “Gold, silver, precious stones”
 - i. Embracing the Sanctification process by the way of the Spirit
 - 1. **John 15** – Abide in Christ the Vine and produce fruit as branches
 - a. **Galatians 5** – Fruit of the Spirit
 - 2. **Romans 8** – Walk in the Spirit
 - 3. **Ephesians 2:10** “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”
 - 4. **Titus 2:10b** “...adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.”
- c. **Galatians 3:3** “Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit are you now being perfected in the flesh?”

Read Verses 13-15

Point #3 – The Work of our Calling will be tested by fire.

1 Corinthians 15:9-10 “⁹For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But **by the grace of God I am what I am**, and His grace toward me was **not in vain**; but **I labored more** abundantly than they all, **yet not I, but the grace of God** *which was with me.*”

Colossians 1:28-29 “²⁸Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. ²⁹To this *end* **I also labor**, striving **according to His working which works in me mightily.**”

(This Section of Scripture is a) **Picture of Salvation**

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Christ – the Foundation | JUSTIFICATION |
| 2. Building on the Foundation | SANCTIFICATION |
| 3. Reward or loss | GLORIFICATION |

3. The Empowering of our Calling

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

Read Verses 16-17

1. The Spirit of God dwells in you

- a. **OT** – Holy Spirit came upon certain individuals, at certain times, for certain reasons.
- b. **NT** – the Church is continually and perpetually indwelt by the Holy Spirit
 - i. **Ephesians** - Sealed with the Holy Spirit OWNERSHIP
 - ii. **Romans 8** – Spirit of Adoption Sons & Daughters
 - iii. **Galatians 5** – Fruit of the Holy Spirit CHRISTLIKENESS
 - iv. **Acts 1:8** – Power to be His Witnesses EMPOWERED / GIFTED

2. You are the Temple of God

- a. **Holy of Holies** SPIRIT

Discuss Temple Worship

- 1. Priest wash hand in bronze lavers (mirrored) Self-examination
- 2. Make sacrifice at the Bronze altar Atonement for Sin
- 3. Wash in the Bronze Laver Baptism
- 4. At the Porch – put on NEW WHITE LINENS Sanctification
- 5. Enter Holy Place
 - a. Lampstand Light of His Word / Spirit
 - b. Table of Showbread Communion / Fellowship
 - c. Alter of Incense Prayer
- 6. 1x per year - Enter Holy of Holies Presence of God
 - a. Sitting on the Mercy Seat
 - i. Overlooking the Tablets of the Law

7. **We are the Holy of Holies**

Point #4 - We are PRIVILEGED and EMPOWERED TO A HOLY CALLING

Closing

Recap

Message Title: The High Privilege of a High Calling

1 Corinthians 3:5-17

1. The Opportunity of our Calling – **Treasure the Opportunities that the LORD gives you**
2. The Right Pursuit of our Calling – **God's Work must be done God's way.**
3. The Empowering of our Calling – **The Work of our Calling will be tested by fire.**
4. **The HOLINESS OF OUR CALLING** – **We are PRIVILEGED and EMPOWERED TO A HOLY HOLY CALLING**

Take it Home!!!

¹⁷"If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For **the temple of God is holy**, which *temple* you are."

Read this over the Congregation

2 Peter 1:5-11

⁵But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, ⁶to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, ⁷to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. ⁸For if these things are yours and abound, *you* will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

¹⁰Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; ¹¹for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:5-17

5 Who then is Paul, and who *is* Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one?

6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. **7** So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. **8** Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, *you are* God's building. **10** According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it.

11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,

13 each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. **14** If anyone's work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. **15** If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? **17** If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which *temple* you are.