

Title: Personal Revival: The Calling on God's People. Scripture: Various Date: 04162023 Bible Version: NKJV

Our purpose is to glorify God. How we do this is our calling.

There is more to life than daily activities that keep us busy with personal goals.

BOTTOM LINE: God has designed you for purpose and with a calling.

Thoughts on God's Calling On Your Life: 1. Remember that it is God's calling for you, not your calling for yourself.

1 Peter 5:6-7

Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God - Peter encourages us to humble ourselves before God. Ultimately, we need to be submitted to God.

If you are willing to be nothing, God will make something of you. - Charles Spurgeon

True humility is not thinking less of yourself. It is thinking of yourself less. - C.S. Lewis

God not only gives us purpose, but a calling as well.

That He may exalt you in due time. - We have to remember that God is sovereign and that He will exalt the believer in His time.

God will never lift anyone up if they lack humility.- DL Moody

Casting all your care upon Him - Peter knows that the church will soon face great difficulty. He would now encourage them to cast their care upon God. The idea of casting means to energetically throw it away from you.

For He cares for you - Peter encourages us to cast our cares upon God because he knows God cares for us.

Christianity is different from other religions in that we know God cares for us, other religions must earn favor.

Even as you cast your care upon God, know the Enemy is out to destroy you. - Jon Courson

2. You have not given yourself gifts and talents, God has.1 Peter 4:10

Each one has received a gift, - The scripture tells us that we have received a gift. We have not created it.

Minister it to one another, - We are given instructions to minister to one another. So our gifts are not necessarily for us. They are for service to others.

We can love others by ministering to their needs.

As good stewards of the manifold grace of God- Peter says we should minister to one another in a way that models the manifold grace of God.

3. Don't let fear keep you from pursuing your calling. Isaiah 41:10

Fear not, for I am with you, - This is both a command and a promise that we can believe in. We should not fear the future or anything else because God is with us.

I will strengthen you, - The creator of the universe will strengthen us.

Most of us stop pursuing our calling because we have fear of what the next step may or may not be.

4. Jesus is central in you knowing your calling. Psalm 37:4

Delight yourself also in the Lord, - David encourages men and women of God to simply delight in the Lord. Delighting in God takes effort and focus.

Only a believer can say that their delight is rooted in a deep relationship with the Lord, and not their circumstance.

He shall give you the desires of your heart , - When we delight in the Lord, His desires become our desires. Our heart aligns to His heart.

The one who truly delights in the Lord will find his heart and desires changed, steadily aligning with God's own good desires for his life. - David Guzik

If you want happiness and satisfaction, simply delight in the Lord.

5. Your calling requires tenacity 1 Peter 1:13-16

Therefore, Gird up the loins of your mind- The idea here is similar to rolling up your sleeves to start a job. As Christians, we need to get rid of our sloppy thinking. We are to use the Word of God as our guide in order to keep our thoughts under control.

Becoming a Christian is a call to action. - Tony Evans

We need to roll up our sleeves every day and be prepared to get to work as followers of Christ.

Be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace...- We are called to be alert and be sober.

We need to walk alertly in the hope of Christ in our everyday lives.

As obedient children- This is Hebraism. It's a call for readers of this letter to be children of obedience.

Not conforming yourselves to the former lusts - Peter warns this audience (and us as well) to not return to the former lusts which sprang from ignorance (of the Gospel). When we became believers, we had a spiritual break from our old lifestyle.

If we are going to fulfill God's call to be 'obedient children' then we have to separate ourselves from our former lifestyle, we have to be different.

True devotion to God is expressed in holy living. - D.L. Moody

As He who called you is holy, You also be holy in all your conduct-Peter reminds his audience that God is holy. This means God is separate or set apart. He is free of sin, unblemished and righteous. He calls us to be holy in our conduct.

Holiness is not so much something we possess as it is something that possesses us. - David Guzik

We have to be committed to a life of holiness. You can live a life that is set apart from this world while still living in this world.

God calls his people to pursue holiness by seeking to please Him in every dimension of their lives. - Tony Evans

Pursuing your calling will require you to pursue holiness. This will require great tenacity.

6. Your calling is nourished by the Word of God.

Isaiah 55:11

It shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please-The Word of God has an impact on us. His Word changes us. It does not return back void.

The Word of God accomplishes the will of the Father in the heart of a pursuing believer.

Four Ways to Confidently Know God's Calling On Your Life:

- 1. Get In The Word
- 2. Be Faithful
- 3. Get In Community
- 4. Put Your Faith In Jesus

5 Day focused devotional:

https://www.bible.com/en/reading-plans/19613



DO.

Dig Deeper

BOTTOM LINE: God has designed you for purpose and with a calling.

DIG DEEPER

- 1. What does this study reveal to you about God?
- 2. What does this study reveal to you about yourself?
- 3. Based on this, what changes do you need to make?
- 4. What is your prayer for today?

DISCUSS.

- 1. What are your thoughts on the topics presented in this block of scripture?
- 2. What are things that prevent/inhibit us from pursuing our calling from God?
- 3. What are some ways you can apply this scripture to your daily life?

DO.

Anytime you read God's word you have to put things into perspective. You also have to realize that the terms, not words, have meanings. As a group re-read the scriptures that was studied. Try a the Amplified Version and compare that to the NJKV, NIV, ESV, or NASB. Pick a few words and have a group member look that word up on <u>blueletterbible.com</u> or with their app.

