



Series: Beyond Babel week 3

Sermon Title: Your Calling In Life

Date: 7/14/2024

### Genesis 14

Be transformed from a person bent on self-preservation to a person walking by trust in God's ways.

Big idea: **Follow God's Call to you.**

3 ways we are called:

#### **CALLED TO ACTION**

### Genesis 14:14-16

Abram is called to action by the news of Lot's capture. Abram decides to chase down five powerful, victorious kings with their armies, and Abram decides he is going to do this with only 318 mighty men who are trained and ready. And by the way, to do this, they are going about 150 miles one way – here to Albany, NY, or Carlisle, PA. On top of that, Abram breaks a primary rule of military engagement and divides his already small force – and the only outcome we have recorded is he: “defeated them and pursued them.”

Many times God calls us to godly actions – even if the chances for success seem less than favorable. You are living a call to action right now. Will you be part of the massive victory for the Kingdom of God?

#### **CALLED TO A BLESSING**

### Genesis 14:17-20

Abram, with his 318 men, has defeated the five kings and rescued Lot, the King of Sodom, and many others. Notice that the king of Sodom tries to meet with Abram, but he is interrupted by Melchizedek.

Melchizedek (meaning Righteous King), the king of Salem (meaning peace), is the righteous King of Peace, serving bread and wine. Blessing the servant (Abram) and Blessing the Father (God Most High).

The writer of Hebrews wrestles with Melchizedek as a Christophany - a

pre-incarnate representation of Jesus (**Hebrews 7:3**).

The blessing Abram receives isn't physical or monetary; rather, it is how Abram is given the opportunity to spend intimate time with the Righteous King of Peace. Abram is given the opportunity to show his own gratitude to the King for his friendship and the verbal message of encouragement Abram received. The king of peace comes to him, and all Abram can do is worship him by giving the King 10% of what Abram has.

All we have belongs to God, and returning a portion of wealth to him is a form of worship because giving is a tangible recognition of a blessing you have already received from God.

## **CALLED TO GIVE GOD THE GLORY**

**Genesis 14:21-24**

Abram won this great victory, but unbeknownst to us, at some point, he had promised God (lifted his hand) not to take anything from the other Kings. The earthly kings will not get any credit for blessing Abram! Abram, in his heart, wants God to get ALL the credit, ALL the fame, ALL the glory.

Because of His intimate relationship and RELIANCE on God, Abram wants God to be the one taking the victory lap. No one but God can be credited for making Abram successful. Even if Abram plus 318 men defeated the five kings and all their men!

Giving God ALL the glory requires Humility and Intentionality.

Humility - because we COULD claim success for ourselves, or we COULD credit God for our success.

Also, Intentionality - because in the face of all other options, no matter if it feels foreign at first, we can say.

**“No Credit to me – all Credit to God my Father.”**  
**Don't let Satan convince you those are corny words to speak!**

**Will you give God the glory for all of the victories in your life?**  
**Will you recognize your blessings from God and give back to his work, a portion of what he has entrusted to you?**

### Discussion Questions:

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **Does God ever change a person's calling? Are there any biblical examples?**
- **Where or when in your life has God said – well done, my daughter or my son?**
- **What is something God called you to do? How are you certain of this calling?**
- **Describe a time when God called you to action even though the circumstances seemed less than favorable.**