



# The Anonymous Nobodies

July 15, 2018 | Wonderful Mercy Church



“You don’t understand. I coulda had class. I coulda been a contender. I coulda been somebody...” — Marlon Brando in *On the Waterfront*

# Not the Life I Was Looking For

- **Amos 7:14-15** NIV

Amos answered Amaziah, “I was neither a prophet nor a prophet’s son, but I was a shepherd, and I also took care of sycamore-fig trees. <sup>15</sup> But the LORD took me from tending the flock and said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

- Amos said, in essence, “This is not the life I was looking for.”

# God Loves Calling Anonymous Nobodies

- He doesn't do it off the cuff or on a whim
- **Ephesians 1:4a** NIV  
“For he chose us in him before the creation of the world...”
- **Jeremiah 1:5** NIV  
“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you.”
- **Ephesians 2:10b** PASSION  
“Even before we were born, God planned in advance our destiny and the good works we would do to fulfill it!”



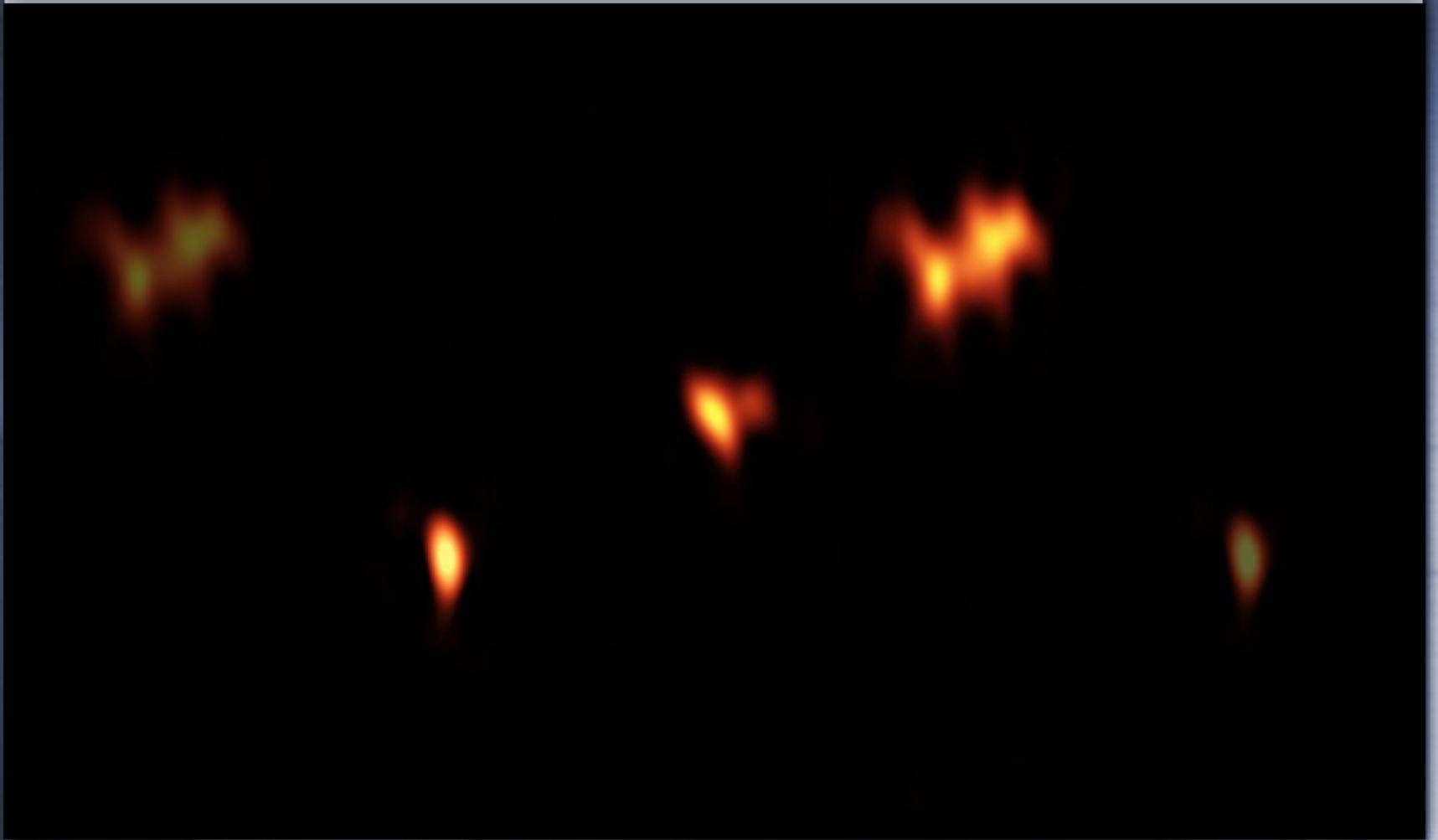
# God Loves Calling Anonymous Nobodies

- Maybe this—the life you’ve been called in to with God—isn’t the life you wanted, but...
- “Any other assignment offered by the world will always be a step down!” (Henry Blackaby, *The Power of the Call* [Nashville: Broadman & Holman, ©1997], p. 28.)



# Quasar P352-15

the brightest object in the universe from the dawn of time



# God Loves Calling Anonymous Nobodies

- The anonymous nobodies of the world are the ones God goes after as he seeks out a people who will rise to the occasion of his heart for world
- I wouldn't do it that way. Neither would you.
- It's also true none of us can create and reveal a quasar nearly 13 billion light-years from Earth
- To our surprise (but rarely our satisfaction), we, the anonymous nobodies, are God's plan A and B and C

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- **Luke 10:2-3** NIV

He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. <sup>3</sup> Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.”

- What’s the answer to their prayer? They are.
- The point: the solution will not come apart from their participation



# God Loves Calling Anonymous Nobodies

- **Psalm 121:1-2** NIV

“I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from? <sup>2</sup> My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.”

- God isn't going to magically resolve everything while we sit back and coach him on how best to bring our deliverance
- We're going to get our hands dirty. And our hearts broken

# How Will We Respond to God's Call?

- **Jeremiah 1:6** NLT

“O Sovereign Lord,” I said, “I can’t speak for you! I’m too young!”

- **Exodus 4:1** MESSAGE

Moses objected, “They won’t trust me. They won’t listen to a word I say. They’re going to say, ‘God? Appear to him? Hardly!’”

- **2 Corinthians 2:16b** NLT

“And who is adequate for such a task as this?”

# How Will We Respond to God's Call?

- No matter our rationale for objecting—fear, insecurity, disinterest—if God has determined to have us, have us He will
- He'll take us the easiest way we'll go, so the question is: which way will we go?
- Don't confuse your reluctance, your "lack of peace" with an indication that it must not be God
- Pray a counter-intuitive affirmation: "I'm the one God's going to use to bring breakthrough. For WMC. For my family. It's what he does and who he is."



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