

“DIFFERENT: OUR CALLING IN A DARK WORLD”

THREE CALLINGS

1. AN ETERNAL CALL TO CHRIST.
2. A TEMPORARY CALL TO AN ASSIGNMENT.
3. A DAILY CALL TO A DIFFERENT STANDARD.

A. GOD WILL CALL YOU TO A WHO BEFORE A DO!

MEMORY VERSE

...for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. (1 Peter 2:9 NLT)

¹¹ Dear friends, I warn you as “temporary residents and foreigners” to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls.¹² Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbors. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world. (1 Peter 2:11-12)

B. DON'T ARGUE YOUR DIFFERENCE ... LIVE IT

It is God's will that your honorable lives should silence those ignorant people who make foolish accusations against you. (1Peter 2:15 NLT)

*For God **called you** to do good, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example, and you must follow in his steps. He never sinned, nor ever deceived anyone. He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly. He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right....(1Peter 2:21-24 NLT)*

C. RESPOND DIFFERENTLY

*Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has **called you to do**, and he will grant you his blessing. (1Peter 3:9 NLT)*

³⁸“You have heard the law that says the punishment must match the injury: ‘An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.’ ³⁹But I say, do not resist an evil person! If someone slaps you on the right cheek, offer the other cheek also. ⁴⁰If you are sued in court and your shirt is taken from you, give your coat, too. ⁴¹If a soldier demands that you carry his gear for a mile, carry it two miles. ⁴²Give to those who ask, and don't turn away from those who want to borrow.” (Matthew 5:38-42)

⁴³“You have heard the law that says, ‘Love your neighbor’ and hate your enemy.⁴⁴But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! ⁴⁶If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. ⁴⁷If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that. ⁴⁸But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.” (Matthew 5:43-44,46-48)

D. I AM ON CALL TO LOVE, SERVE, GIVE, AND BLESS.

GOING DEEPER

1. Pastor Jason said the *who* comes before the *do*. Why do you think this is so important?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:9-12. What message does my life, as-is, send to people around me?
3. Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.
God, You've given us an incredible identity. We are chosen by You to be holy, part of Your royal family of priests. You called us to be good and to do good. So, we're asking You to give us the opportunities and the bravery to live out our callings this week. Amen.
4. Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.
 - Commit to live like you're "on call" this week.
 - What's one thing you'll follow through with tomorrow in order to show God's love?