

## Is God Calling You? – Rapid Leader Development

*For additional information: watch the “05 – Your Ministry Calling” video segment in Section 06 - What Tribulation Saints Need to Know folder.*

Studying biblical characters can provide insight for those considering whether or not God is calling them into special service. This could include a call to teach, evangelize, preach, mentor, sacrificially use your resources to support God’s work, be a Watchman, etc.

Studying the call of key biblical characters reveals that God calls young and old, male, and female, the trained and the untrained. God’s reasons are mysterious, and sometimes, at first appear (to humans) to be a mistake. Luke, for example, was a trained physician, but was not called to start a medical center or write medical journals, but rather, to be a missionary and write the books of Luke and Acts. And it must have seemed strange to many for God to call Jeremiah to be a prophet or David to face Goliath on the battlefield – both were just teens. And the Apostle Paul, once a highly trained Pharisee, was not called to be an evangelist to the Jews, but more than not, a missionary to the Gentiles.

We see in Scripture that success in ministry for the Lord is not directly tied to education or corporate experience. The fishermen that Jesus chose to be His disciples, for example, were tremendously effective in ministering for the Lord, not because they were well educated, but because they were abundantly anointed and equipped by the Holy Spirit.

Note that God often (indirectly) matches our life experiences with a corresponding calling. For example, Moses was trained to be a Prince of Egypt – God used that experience to help him be a strong leader for His people. Also, after fleeing Egypt (Exod. 2), Moses worked as a Shepherd (for about 40 years), and God used that experience to help him not just lead, but patiently shepherd His people. Moses’ early life experiences found higher meaning and purpose late in life. Consider how your life experience may be used for His glory. Be mindful of 2 Cor. 1:3-4, which notes that God desires to use our past to help others have a good future.

Moses was about 80 years old when he encountered the burning bush (Exod. 3) and received a new calling from God. Early that morning when Moses awoke, he probably thought that the best part of his life, and the best opportunities to do anything significant in his life, were years behind him. God had other (and better) plans.

Moses initially resisted God’s call. Exodus 3:10-22 reveals an almost humorous conversation between God and Moses. Many excuses and concerns are shared but God is undeterred, simply saying, I will be with you.

What God promised Moses can be claimed by those who follow the Lord’s leading today. There is wisdom in focusing more on what God wants to do through you than on what you don’t think you’ll be able to do for God. 2 Corinthians 4:6 notes that our calling to serve the Lord comes

from the “God who called light to break forth from the darkness.” There is awesome power backing we, the often and untrained and always unworthy, who boldly step out by faith and give a best effort to accomplish what God calls us to do.

This is a new day – a unique time in history. There is not time to earn a degree or accrue years of training or experience before you accept God’s invitation to serve Him with “all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind” (Matt. 22:37).

Scripture notes that, “If today you hear His voice, harden not your heart” (Hebrews 3:17a). Accept and embrace His invitation to serve Him. Believe that God will always help you to do what He calls you to do.

There is a need for newer, fully committed believers to quickly grow in faith and serve Him faithfully. Live well. Finish well. Great will be your reward.