

**Are You Obedient
to the Call Jesus
Has for Your Life?**

Excuses we have for avoiding God's call

I'm not hearing God's call

I'm not sure what my gift is

I'm not equipped

That person is better at it

I'm too busy

Use someone else please

Clarifying the Call

Not everyone is called to be a church leader, or evangelize crowds

Not everyone is called to be a missionary to a foreign land

Sometimes, like Moses, Jeremiah, or Paul, you're called to serve in an area that seems contrary to your nature

EVERY BELIEVER is called to serve Jesus with the gifts they've been given

Galatians 1:10-12 (ESV) ¹⁰ For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ. ¹¹ For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel. ¹² For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

Paul provides insight that if we truly desire to be a servant of Jesus, then we are not seeking the approval of others. Who do you seek to please the most?

Paul is confirming what's necessary to have apostolic authority from Jesus: He, like only a few others, was given the authority directly from Jesus.

When it comes to making decisions in your life, do you turn to the authority of God's word or some other source?

Galatians 1:13-17 (NKJV) ¹³For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and *tried to* destroy it. ¹⁴ And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. ¹⁵ But when it pleased God, who separated

When you read or hear biblical teaching...

do you read God's word to make sure the teaching is accurate?

did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, ¹⁷ nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those *who were* apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

Take note that God called a zealous Jewish Pharisee to bring the Gospel to the Gentile nations. God may be calling you to something unexpected.

When we seek to know God, Bible teachers and church leaders can be helpful, but it's even more important for personal prayer and time in the Word.

Galatians 1:18-24 (NASB) ¹⁸ Then three years later I went up to Jerusalem to become acquainted with Cephas, and stayed with him fifteen days. ¹⁹ But I did not see any other of the apostles except James, the Lord's brother. ²⁰ (Now in what I am writing to you, I

Perhaps you've been ignoring God's call like Paul initially did.

Are you willing to follow His call... whatever it may be?

churches of Judea which were in Christ; ²³ but only, they kept hearing, "He who once persecuted us is now preaching the faith which he once tried to destroy." ²⁴ And they were glorifying God because of me.

Paul spent time learning from God and served Jesus for multiple years before he even visited Peter and James (Jesus' brother).

It is, definitely, time for rejoicing when enemies of Jesus become His followers – serving Him!