

You Are Called To Become
Live Your Calling: What On Earth Am I Here For? – Part 4
03/24/2019

Psalm 119:35 (NIV) "Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight"

- Your calling isn't your vocation
- Your vocation can change but your calling will be carried with you in every season of life
- The Calling to be Loved
- The Calling to Belong.
- Called to Become

Romans 8:28-29 (NLT) And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

My third calling in life is to become like **CHRIST**.

Hebrews 12:1-4 (TLB) 1 Since we have such a huge crowd of men of faith watching us from the grandstands, let us strip off anything that slows us down or holds us back, and especially those sins that wrap themselves so tightly around our feet and trip us up; and let us run with patience the particular race that God has set before us. 2 Keep your eyes on Jesus, our leader and instructor. He was willing to die a shameful death on the cross because of the joy he knew would be his afterwards; and now he sits in the place of honor by the throne of God. 3 If you want to keep from becoming fainthearted and weary, think about his patience as sinful men did such terrible things to him. 4 After all, you have never yet struggled against sin and temptation until you sweat great drops of blood.

The Marathon To Maturity:

1st) **SIMPLIFY** My Life.

Hebrews 12:1a (TLB) Since we have such a huge crowd of men of faith watching us from the grandstands, let us strip off anything that slows us down or holds us back,

- It is the race of life
- Life is like a marathon
- Your goal is to become the man or woman God wants you to be
- I have to cut out and clean out and discard all the junk that's holding me back from becoming the person God wants me to become
- You have to live intentionally
- How is it possible to do everything to the glory of God?
- By doing everything *as if you were doing it for Jesus* and by carrying on a continual conversation with Him while you do it.

Romans 12:1 (MSG) So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering.

2nd) Don't Get In A **HURRY**.

Hebrews 12:1c (TLB) and let us run with patience the particular race that God has set before us.

- “Particular Race”
- God has a particular race for your life and only you can run it
- Everybody wants you to run their race.
- Whose race am I going to run in life?
- As you seek to know Jesus you'll get proper instruction on your race
- I can run the race that God created me to run
- “With Patience”
- This race is going to take your entire life
- Life with Jesus is a journey not a destination

3rd) Focus On Your **FRIENDSHIP** With Jesus.

Heb. 12:2a (NLT) Keep your eyes on Jesus, our leader and instructor.

- Find you “A Place”

Psalms 91:1 (NKJV) He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

- Sit quietly before the Lord

Mark 1:35 (NIV) Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

- Lord is there anything you want to say to me today?

Is. 6:8a (NIV) Then I heard the voice of the Lord

Psalms 119:18 (NIV) Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

Psalms 139:23 (NIV) Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

- Then you go about your day

4th) When it gets hard, remember the **REWARD!**

Hebrews 12:2-3 (TLB) He was willing to die a shameful death on the cross because of the joy he knew would be his afterwards; and now he sits in the place of honor by the throne of God.

- He's going to take you through some of the things that Jesus went through.
- God does not promise an easy life here on earth
- He does promise reward in heaven for simply hanging on
- The reward of heaven is...
- Heaven
- This isn't heaven
- Everything on this planet is broken
- As a general rule *life is hard.*

Romans 8:17-18 (NIV) Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

- You need to realize that God wants to use it to build your attitude.
- To build your character.
- God wants to use it to make you like Christ.
- Instead of asking *Why*, you need to say *What*
- What do you want me to learn from this situation?
- *“We can ignore even pleasure. But pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: it is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world.”*

1 Peter 5:10 (NCV) And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

Romans 8:28 (NIV) “In all things God works for the good of those who love him, who’ve been called according to his purpose.”

- Remember God is holding me at every stage.