

The Call Of God

It's a great privilege to hear the voice of God. And the words "here am I" are always appropriate. But usually whenever God calls, it seems we instantly come up with a flood of excuses. We're too young, we're too old, we're still in school, we're too poor, it's too soon, it's too late. Jeremiah was no different.

The word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." "Ah, Sovereign LORD," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am only a child." But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the LORD. Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, "Now, I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant."

Jesus said yes. Let's worship the author and finisher of our faith.

Here I Am To Worship

Remember how Moses was tending his father-in-law's sheep in the desert, when suddenly he was in front of a bush that was burning but not consumed.. Moses came closer.

God called out, **"Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am."**

"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."

Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob."

At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God. The LORD said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey...."

And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt."

But Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" And God said, "I will be with you."

How Firm A Foundation

OFFERING

The angel of the LORD came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, "The LORD is with you, mighty warrior."

"But sir," Gideon replied, "if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our fathers told us about when they said, 'Did not the LORD bring us up out of Egypt?' But now the LORD has abandoned us and put us into the hand of Midian."

The LORD turned to him and said, "Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?"

"But Lord," Gideon asked, "how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family."

The LORD answered, "I will be with you.... Judges 6:11-16"

Have Faith

As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." He said to another man, "Follow me." But the man replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say good-bye to my family." Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

Luke 9:57-62

PRAYER

Lord, with Jeremiah we all have said, "I am only....fill in the blank..." With Moses we have said "don't you have anybody else?" With Gideon we have said, "I'm not qualified." Don't give up on us Lord. We thank you for including us in your plans. It is an honor. Forgive us for not making your priorities our priorities. Help us to love what you love, to value what you value. We know that nothing done for the Lord is in vain. It will count for eternity. Our work will be rewarded. By your grace we will eat the fruits of our labor. And you will gain glory through it all.

I Surrender All

Make My Life A Miracle