

Calling

Calling

Your calling is unique because you are created for His purpose.

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28)

God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began (2 Timothy 1:9)

Calling

Your calling is a mystery to be unveiled as you walk with God.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.
(Romans 11:29)

You who are called to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:6)

For you were called to freedom, brothers. (Galatians 5:13)

Calling

Your calling is brutally opposed because it involves bringing to bear the full glory of your truest self as designed and destined in Christ.

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. (2 Corinthians 3:18)

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us...the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. (Romans 8:18, 21)

Calling

For Christ's followers, the life-destroying power of sin was decisively dealt with by His cross.

But we are not immune to wounds received in the warfare. Through wounds, the enemy tries to steal your true identity, kill your intimacy with God, and destroy your destined future.

Matthew 4:1-11

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴ But he answered, “It is written,

“Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

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Assault on His true identity

Deuteronomy 8:1-3

8 “The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers. ² And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. ³ And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Matthew 4:1-11

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶ and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you,”
and

“On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.”

⁷ Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

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Assault on His relationship with the Father

Matthew 4:1-11

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

“You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve.”

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

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Assault on His destiny

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“Battle wounds” are layers of lies we believe and live out of. They are designed to destroy desires, kill joy and steal life out of our hearts.

They come against our strengths, what brings life to our hearts – our calling.

Calling

¹¹ One day, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and looked on their burdens, and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his people. ¹² He looked this way and that, and seeing no one, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. ¹³ When he went out the next day, behold, two Hebrews were struggling together. And he said to the man in the wrong, “Why do you strike your companion?” ¹⁴ He answered, “Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?” Then Moses was afraid, and thought, “Surely the thing is known.” ¹⁵ When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh and stayed in the land of Midian. And he sat down by a well.

(Exodus 2:11-15)

Calling

¹⁰ Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.” ¹¹ But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?” (Exodus 3:10-11)

¹³ Then Moses said to God, “If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” (Exodus 3:13)

¹³ But he said, “Oh, my Lord, please send someone else.” (Exodus 4:13)

Jesus's Answer to Assaults on His Heart

Walking with God

He [the ruler of this world] has no claim on me, ³¹ but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. (John 14:30-31)

HOMework

1. Lord, help me remember, when have I felt most like myself?
2. What do I have in abundance?
3. Is there one thing I could drop right now?
4. Remembering what has brought you life, what has come against you in that?