



Sunday, February 26, 2012

Pastor Joseph Ardayfio

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WE ARE |

ANSWERING THE CALL

SCRIPTURE: 1 PETER 2:9-10; 1 SAMUEL 3:1-10

key theme: God does not expect us to find our calling by ourselves but to respond to what God has and continues to reveal. In each of the 4 dimensions of our calling, we must continually pay attention to God's call, respond to it in faith and diligently walk out the responsibilities of the call.

1) HEARING THE CALL

- a. God calls us by name from birth. The issue is not whether God has called us, but whether we are truly recognizing his voice and hearing his call.
- b. There are many things that can cause us to misapprehend God's calling:
 - 1) *Thinking that God must appear in a divine encounter in order for us to be appointed for service.*
 - 2) *Thinking that God isn't involved when we are called to seemingly "obvious" tasks.*
 - 3) *Assuming that our lack of understanding of what God is doing means that God doesn't know what he is doing.*
 - 4) *Refusing to attribute our success to God's leading in our life and*
 - 5) *Not understanding the progressive nature of God's call and thus, not understanding that seasons of preparation are as much a part of the call as are seasons of execution.*

2) ANSWERING THE CALL

- a. God calls us. We hear that call but must also respond.
- b. Instead of saying that "We can't find our calling in life," we should ask ourselves, "Are we ready to listen to God share with us his calling?"

3) WALKING WORTHY OF THE CALL

- a. Pitfalls of walking worthy of God's call
 - 1) Engaging in the comparison trap regarding our calling.
 - 2) Assuming that the only way that our calling has significance is if we are better than someone else.
 - 3) Not being satisfied with the scope of our calling.

Mars Hill Fellowship Church is a diverse gathering of believers in the Metro Boston area. We come from a variety of cultures, ages, educational backgrounds, and family histories, but we share the common testimony of being transformed by God's everlasting love. We are living witnesses that the gospel is real and has the power to redeem all people. We strive to love God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

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