

The Four Callings of Children of God

Exodus 17:8-18:27

Lynn West/2-4-25



1. Call to intercessory prayer: Ex. 17:8-16

Moses lifted his hands and staff toward heaven is a picture of prayer.
Calling out to God to help them with this battle.

Questions:

Do you pray enough?

Do you spend enough time in prayer?

What keeps us from spending more time in prayer?

Opportunities to pray:

Wednesday morning at 10 am in the prayer room for women.

Wednesday night at prayer meeting, men and women.

Sunday morning at 8:30 am, before the service for men and women.

Also, the prayer room is open during the day to enter from and outside door.

Acts 6:4, *"But we devoted ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."*

Luke 11:13, *"if you, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children; how much more shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to the those who ask Him?"*

Andrew Murray, in his book, says, "let us stir up the slumbering gift that is lying unused, and seek to gather and train and band together as many as we can, to be God's remembrancers, and to give Him no rest till He makes His Church a joy in the earth. Nothing but intense believing prayer can meet the intense spirit of worldliness, of which complaint of everywhere made".

2. Call to battle: Ex. 17:8-16

Who is Joshua:

1. Son of Nun: parents must have feared the God of Israel and gave him a godly influence
2. He was a slave: He was born in the weary years of slavery in Egypt
Joshua 24:15,
"If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served which are beyond the river, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord".
3. As a soldier: He was pre-eminent as a military leader who knew how to plan campaigns, discipline his forces, use spies, but above all pray and trust God. **Joshua 5:13-15** show that when Joshua encountered the Lord of host he bowed down and asked, "what is the Lord to say to his servant".
4. As a servant: Joshua took over after Moses, he was prepared for leadership and this showed in his unwavering loyalty and devotion. He was called, "the servant of Moses" (Joshua 1:1)
5. As a spy: **Numbers 13:1-16** we see that Joshua was chosen with 11 others to search the land of Canaan with Caleb. It was Joshua who sent the spies into Jerico where they found Rahab.
6. As a savior: Moses representing the law, brought the people to the border of the land. But it took Joshua (God's salvation) to take them into the land.
7. As a statesman: Joshua divided the land, set up the tabernacle, appointed cities of refuge, arranged the Levitical order and service, with precision and thoroughness characterized by Israel's leader. Following God's plan in all that he did.
8. Filled with the Spirit:
Duet 34:9, "filled with the spirit of wisdom..."
Joshua 1:5, God stands with him
Joshua 1:8, he was indwelt by the Word of God
Joshua 5:14, he was obedient to God

Our battle:

Ephesians 6:11-13,

"Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything to stand firm".

3. The Call to testify: Ex. 18:1-12

Moses testifies to Jethro, his Father-in-law about God's great work.

Ex. 18:11, "Now I know that the Lord is greater than all the gods; indeed, it was proven when they dealt proudly against the people."

Luke 1:51, "He hath done mighty deeds with His arm, He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their heart."

We are called as Christians to testify to others the great work Christ has done in our lives. We glorify God when we do this.

Acts 20:24, *"But, I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of grace of God".*

4. The Call to listen as we serve: Ex. 18:13-27

Jethro questions Moses wisdom in doing all the work and not delegating some of it. He also encourages him to train up good men to help him.

Ex. 18:13-14,

"It came about the next day that Moses sat to judge the people and the people stood about Moses from morning until the evening. Now when Moses' father-in-law saw all that he was doing for the people, he said, "What is this thing that you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit as judge and all the people stand about you from morning to evening?"

The Church:

Healthy communities of faith practice shared ministry by having what Tony Merida calls, "every-member ministry".

1 Peter 2:9, "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;"

1 Peter 4:10, “as each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”

Galatians 6:2, “Bear one another’s burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.”

Keller, Philip, A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23

Lockyer, Herbert, All the Men of the Bible

Merida, Tony, Christ-Centered Exposition, Exalting Jesus in Exodus

Murry, Andrew, The Ministry of Intercessory Prayer