

# God's People and Their Callings

## God Calls; But Not All Accept

## Lesson #1

God calls to His people. Open yourself up to God's voice. "He who has an ear to hear, let him hear what the Spirit says"

(Revelation 2:11)

### Section 1: Read Hebrews Chapter 3:1, 7-15 - *God is Calling*

1. a. What is the dictionary definition of calling?  
  
b. In your own words define the heavenly calling spoken of in verse 1.
2. According to verse 1, the called are to fix their thoughts on Jesus. How would this help you to hear God's voice more clearly?
3. a. Verses 8 and 15 warn us not to harden our hearts **if** we hear His voice. Why would a hard heart have trouble heeding God's voice?  
  
b. How did God get the attention of His people so they could hear Him?

Scripture	Who Was Called	How Called
Genesis 28:10-13		
Exodus 3:2		
I Kings 19:11-13		
Acts 9:3		
Revelation 1:10-11		

4. List ways God calls His people today. (II Thessalonians 2:13-14; II Timothy 1:8-11)

### Section 2: Read Jonah Chapter 1 – *Jonah Chooses to Run from God's Call*

5. a. What calling did the prophet Jonah receive from God and how did he respond?  
  
b. What was God's response to Jonah not heeding His call?  
  
c. Recall a time when you were guilty of running the other way when God called. Who or what did God use to get your cooperation?

6. a. Read Jonah 3:1-5. How did Jonah respond to God's second calling?
- b. What was the result of Jonah and the Ninevites heeding God's call according to 3:10?
- c. According to Proverbs 1:24-29 and Jeremiah 7:25-29, why is it important to always heed God's calling?

**Section 3: Read Deuteronomy 1:21-33 - *The Israelites Choose Not to Obey***

7. a. What had God called His people to do according to verse 21?
  - b. How did they respond in verse 26 and what excuses did they give?
  - c. List several excuses we are guilty of using when it seems the task we are called to is "too great."
8. a. Share ways that God provides the resources needed to accomplish the tasks He calls His people to.
  - b. Thought question: Why are God's people so quick to lose trust in Him to provide all they need?

**Section 4: Read Habakkuk 2:1-3 - *Are We Prepared to Listen?***

9. a. In today's reading, how did the prophet Habakkuk make sure he heard God's voice?
- b. On occasion, when and where did Jesus go to be able to hear and discern God's will? (Mark 1:35)
- c. Share specific ways in which you can prepare yourself to hear God.  
(Physically)                      (Spiritually)                      (Mentally)

10.a. John 10:27 says Jesus' sheep are to hear and follow. How can you recognize His voice and know His will? (John 8:47; Romans 12:2)

b. Thought question: What do you do if when trying to discern God's will you receive seemingly conflicting information or God seems to go silent?

**Section 5: Read Luke 1:30-38 - Responding to God's Call**

11.a. How did Mary respond to God's calling to be the mother of the Messiah?

b. How did God's people respond to His callings in the following verses?

Samuel (I Samuel 3:10) \_\_\_\_\_

Isaiah (Isaiah 6:8) \_\_\_\_\_

1st Disciples (Luke 5:10-11) \_\_\_\_\_

Levi (Luke 5:27-28) \_\_\_\_\_

c. What advice do you think the world would have given these people?

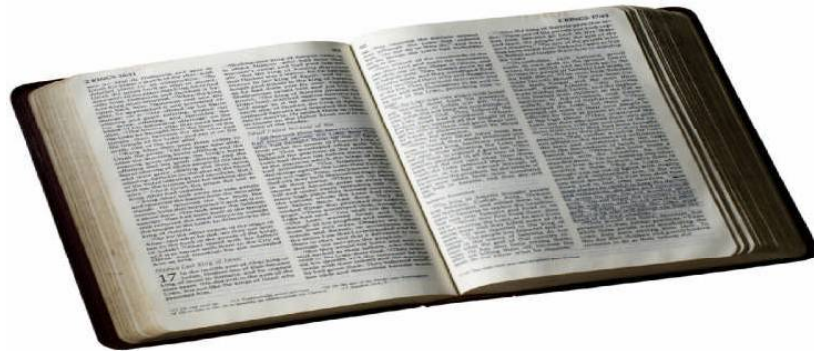
12. On the scale below mark where **you** would fall **today** upon hearing God's voice calling you into action for His eternal purposes:

←1 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 10→  
I'm ready                      I need a little more time                      Please not now Lord

13. a. What makes the biggest difference in being a 1 on the above line and a 10?

b. Give several ways a person could move closer to a 1 and be ready for lift-off with God. (Share scriptures.)

*Sisters, let's not settle for spending time in the dark pit of the giant fish's stomach or wandering in the desert when God's promised-land is within sight. Over the next few weeks let's learn how to better heed God's callings and proclaim yes, Lord I am your willing servant send me.*



## **DIGGING DEEPER:**

A. Choose one of the callings you studied this week and record which of the five elements of God's calls you find:

1. A need
2. An attention getter/prompting
3. An actual call/commission
4. A hesitance, reluctance or objection
5. A reassurance/answer

B. Is this a calling that is still needed today? If yes, how are **you** responding to this call?

## **PERSONAL JOURNAL OF GROWTH:**

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