

## ***“What is the ‘Word’ Over My Life?”***

Every one of us has a ‘call’ on our lives, a purpose, a Word spoken over us.

In every situation that God establishes in the Bible, He speaks or declares a Word either directly (Himself or his written Word) or indirectly through one of His appointed Servants.

If you are unsure about whether God is personally interested in you enough to have a Word or Calling for YOU - then let’s string a few well known scriptures together and see if that helps:

- PSALM 139:13-18 – fearfully and wonderfully made
- JEREMIAH 1:5 – knew you before you were formed
- JEREMIAH 29:11-14a – thoughts, hope, future, call on me, search for me, found
- EPHESIANS 2:10 & 22 – workmanship of God

We can be utterly confident today that God has most definitely got something for you to do.

Last week I made three statements. I want to repeat these as a reminder and to stir our thoughts for today’s message:

- If you won’t be the ‘you’ that God created – there will be a gap!
- He wants you to be a ‘living sacrifice’, to let Him have all your powers that have been saved and sanctified through Jesus. This is the thing that is acceptable to God.
- We have been given the ‘bread of life’ ...let’s serve it as creatively as possible!

## **THE CALL OF GOD IS NOT FOR THE SPECIAL FEW, IT IS FOR EVERYONE.**

Whether or not I hear God's call depends upon the state of my heart, my mind and my ears. What I feel, think and hear depends upon my disposition (nature, character, temperament or outlook).

MATTHEW 20:16 says, "Many are called but few are chosen." I believe this means few prove themselves to be chosen ones."

The phrase ‘chosen ones’ describes those who have come into a relationship with God through Jesus Christ, whereby their disposition has been changed and their heart renewed, their spirit born again and their ears unstopped, whereby they hear the voice of God.

We need to believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths that God is who He says He is and with reverence and awe, come before Him with humility, recognising our absolute, complete and utter dependence on Him and allow Him to speak into our lives.

### PSALM 25:9

“The humble He guides in justice and the humble He teaches His ways”

I can almost hear someone ask ... “Is it that simple?”

In truth, the answer is “YES”. But I would qualify it by saying ... “simple but not easy” ... because we do a five-star job of complicating it through our desperate desire to walk in *‘full human knowledge & understanding’* instead of *‘walking by faith’*.

I believe each and every person is ‘CALLED OF GOD’. The bit that stalls us is the ‘WHAT’ ... what is the call?

### ISAIAH 6:8

"Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me."

I find in this scripture the three things I want to unpack today on how we can get that ‘Word’; find out the ‘Call’.

The almost humorous thing about this scripture is that God did not actually address the call to Isaiah; Isaiah *overheard* God saying, "Who will go for us?"

## Three Ways to find the ‘Word’ or ‘Call’

### 1. God-given Common Sense

This statement, ‘common sense’ is a bit of an oxi-moron today. The sad thing is that it is not that common anymore. I have this firm belief that we have a God-designed brain and as such it should function in the way God designed it. The sad thing is that we fill it with un-Godly stimuli and literally ‘dumb it down’.

"Fill your mind with the meaningless stimuli of a world preoccupied with meaningless things, and it will not be easy to feel peace in your heart." Marianne Williamson Author and Lecturer on Peace

It is not a question of God singling out a man or woman and saying, "Now, *you* go." God did not lay a ‘heavy’ on Isaiah; Isaiah was in the presence of God and he overheard the call, and realized that there was nothing else for him but to say, in conscious freedom, "Here am I, send me." IT JUST MADE COMMON SENSE!

When Jesus called the men who became His disciples, there was no irresistible compulsion from outside. The quiet passionate insistence of His "*Follow Me*" was spoken to men with their every power wide awake. They dropped everything and followed because it ‘made sense’ to do so.

I have not read anywhere in the Bible that they rushed from one web-site to the next looking for confirmation, one Church to another trying to find a specific ‘man / Pastor’ to ‘give them permission’.

Now as a caution ... this is not about ‘setting up a ministry for my own wants or self importance’. The Bible is very clear about that!

### GALATIANS 5:13

“For you brethren have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

### ISAIAH 61:1-3

“ The Spirit of the Lord is upon me .... that He may be glorified.”

However, we need to get out of our minds the idea of expecting God to come with compulsions and pleadings. He will show us through His Word – both written and spoken - and then He will ask ... “Whom shall we send?” The ‘ball is then in our court.’

Even the Apostles operated with Common Sense over some rather large decisions. They discussed all the options and then concluded ...

### ACTS 15:28

“For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us ...”

## 2. God’s Given Word (Written and Spoken)

I said just before ... “*He will show us through His Word – both written and spoken*”.

### ROMANS 10:14-17

Both the *written* and *spoken* Word is required.

I have both heard and preached that if we want our faith to increase then we need to ‘read the Word aloud’ so we can hear it and our faith will grow. I have done this and it has worked for me personally but it is so much more than that!

We need to ‘read’ the Word and feed on it. Read and feed, read and feed, read and feed!! It needs to become a life-style ... not just a habit.

BUT ... we also need to “HEAR” the Word of God.

Think about what happened in the spirits of all the Heroes of Faith when they ‘heard the Word’:

... “*Build an ark, leave this land, you will lead a nation, go for your enemies are defeated, raise up a temple, cross this river, call down fire, you will carry a child, follow me, cast out demons, heal the sick ...*”

In 'hearing' God speak, faith explodes in our hearts and whilst it still may seem scary or daunting ... faith grows and we take steps forward. That hearing can come from God directly or indirectly but there is a very real need to 'read AND hear' God's Word.

On another tack ... think of how many people become Christians by simply reading a Bible given to them when compared to the numbers who believe in Jesus when they have been spoken to by a faithful Christian witnessing to them.

### 3. God's Given Spirit – (His Presence)

Let's look at the scripture about Isaiah again...

#### ISAIAH 6:1-8

Here we find the GLUE or the CATALYST that will bring all the ingredients together; common sense submitted to God, His Word spoken or read; to open up God's will for us.

There is no way Isaiah could have, "seen the Lord high and lifted up ... heard the seraphim saying Holy, Holy, Holy .... felt the door posts shaking ... had the seraphim touch his lips with the coal and then heard God himself speak..." if he had not positioned himself in the presence of God.

Perhaps you have a very real 'sense' of what you are to do, perhaps it's a Word that you have read or it was spoken over you ... but somehow you are unsure...

.... then you need to get into the presence of God and allow the Spirit of God to confirm and solidify His will for you.

If we position ourselves in a place where:

- we come into the presence of God through worship,
- we read His Word,
- we get into Prayer,
- we gather as the Church
- and we let the Spirit of God bring us face to face with God,

... we too shall hear something similar to what Isaiah heard, the voice of God; ... and in perfect freedom will say ...

**"Here am I; send me."**

Just to finish ... there is a sure fire test to confirm if what we are doing is really what God wants for us ... HAVE A GO!

Actually get involved and try, serve and get involved ... you will soon find out if it really is your 'calling' or simply a good idea.

As fully functioning, able bodied people we make up some of the most incredible excuses for not trying something or getting involved.