

The Call - 12

The Call of God Upon a Man or Woman's Life

Welcome to Pearl Family Church

At Pearl Family Church we are here to help you grow into everything God has created you to be as you discover that you are the pearl of great worth.

Matt. 13:45-46 (WNT) the Kingdom of the Heavens is like a jewel merchant who is in quest of choice pearls. He finds one most costly pearl; he goes away; and though it costs all he has, he buys it.

Songs

COUNT ME IN Michael Biancaniello, Louis Biancaniello, Dameon Aranda, Luke Guevara, Rob Estevez, and Cassidy Estevez ©2019 SWITCH / Life.Church

VERSE 1

One more step, one more exhale As I follow where You lead
Feel my heart as it's racing Down the path
You set for me

CHORUS

I won't let the race overtake me Won't let anxiety phase me
Whatever comes, count me in
Count me in [Here am I lord – send me!] (Is. 6:8). Oh, even when my legs are weary
I'm not gonna give up that easy
Whatever comes, count me in
Count me in

Ghost – MercyMe

There's a ghost

There's a ghost inside of me

Not like those draped in ol' bedsheets

Saying "trick or treat"

Different

Oh this ghost is different

Not one that leaves me scared to death

But one that puts my fear to rest
Oh-oh-ohhhh, oh-ohh
Holiness keep haunting me
Oh-oh-ohhhh, oh-ohh
You're my hope, You're my peace
Ironic in a way
I'm no longer afraid
And the ghost is to blame
There's a ghost
There's a ghost inside of me
Not something from some campfire story
Where I'm terrified to sleep
Opposite
This ghost is quite the opposite
He came just like a welcomed friend
I was comforted
Oh-oh-ohhhh, oh-ohh
Holiness keep haunting me
Oh-oh-ohhhh, oh-ohh
You're my hope, You're my peace
Ironic in a way
I'm no longer afraid
And the ghost is to blame
I'm not afraid
I'm not afraid!
No longer afraid
Lead me through the darkness

Lead me through the unknown

Oh-ohh, lead me

Holy Ghost

Lead me through the darkness

Lead me through the unknown

Oh-ohh, lead me

Holy Ghost

Lead me through the darkness

Lead me through the unknown

Oh-ohh, lead me

Holy Ghost

Lead me through the darkness

Lead me through the unknown

Oh-ohh, lead me

Holy Ghost

- **Now it's time to worship with our giving.**

Heb.11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Ps. 35:27 The Lord has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant.

John 16:13 I am led by the Spirit and have Godly wisdom; therefore I make wise and prosperous financial decisions.

John 10:10 Jesus came that I might have life abundantly.

Deut. 28:8,12 The Lord has opened His good treasure to me and blessed all the works of my hands. He has commanded the blessing upon me in my storehouse and all that I do.

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Isa 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are* bound;

Isa 61:2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

Isa 61:3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

Pastor/Shepherd

Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Mat 9:35 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

Mat 9:36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

Mat 9:37 Then saith he unto his disciples, *the harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;*

Mat 9:38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

The Call - 4 - Inspired Utterance - Words that Shape the World (The Door of Utterance)

The Call - 5 - Inspired Utterance - Words that Shape the World (Inspired Utterance)

The Call - 6 - Inspired Utterance - Words that Shape the World (The Voice of the Lord)

The Call - 7 Jesus and the Ministry of Helps Ministry of Helps International

The Call - 8 Jesus the Great Shepherd

The Call - 9 Carriers of the Good News

The Call - 10 Gifted to Serve

John 10:11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

Heb. 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,

Ministry is Serving People

Rom. 11:29 ESV For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

Ministry Is Living a Life of Prayer

At this point in his ministry, Moses was obviously missing the big picture and was overly absorbed in the details of the day-to-day grind of ministry. Fortunately, his father-in-law Jethro, an experienced shepherd-rancher, was there to help. “What you’re doing is not good,” Moses’ father-in-law said to him. “You will certainly wear out both yourself and these people who are with you because the task is too heavy for you. You can’t do it alone.” (Exod. 18:17– 18)126.

Pastoral burnout is a big problem. It not only hurts the pastor but also disables their family and derails their flock. Too many good leaders burn out or wear out under the immense weight of spiritual leadership. Research of 25 years ago showed clergy dealing with stress better than most professionals.¹

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

Heb. 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Zephaniah 3:17 The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

2 Cor. 4:13 It is written: “I believed; therefore I have spoken.” Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak,

2 Cor. 4:14 because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself.

2 Cor. 4:15 All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

2 Cor. 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

2 Cor. 4:17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

2 Cor. 4:18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Ministry Is . . . Refusing to Coast

Phil. 2:19-20 But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timotheus shortly unto you, that I also may be of good comfort, when I know your state. For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state.

¹ Earley, Dave, et al. *Ministry Is ...*, B&H Publishing Group, 2010. ProQuest Ebook Central, 126.

2 Cor. 5:18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation.

Acts 26:2 I think myself happy, king Agrippa, because I shall answer for myself this day before thee touching all the things whereof I am accused of the Jews.

Sharpen Your Axe

If I had eight hours to chop down a tree, I'd spend six sharpening my axe. - Abraham Lincoln

The story is told of a young man who was hired to cut down trees as a lumberjack. The more trees he cut down, the more he was paid. Although he had never done it before, he was confident because he was big, strong, in great shape, and willing to work hard.

The first day he got right to work and cut down 10 trees. The next day he went right to work and cut down eight. The third day he was only able to fell six trees. The fourth day his total was four. The fifth day he cut down only three trees. His total for the week was 31. He was discouraged. He had worked just as long and hard each day, yet his total kept declining.

He noticed that during the same week an older, skinnier, yet more experienced lumberjack had dropped nine trees each day for a week-ending total of 45 trees. The new lumberjack approached the experienced one and said, "Let me ask you two questions: First, why were you able to cut down the same number of trees each day and my total kept declining? Second, I got right to work each morning and you didn't. What were you doing?"

The lumberjack smiled and said, "I can answer both questions with one answer. Each morning, I take time to sharpen my axe."

In some ways effective ministry is like cutting down trees. Highly effective leaders know the value of "sharpening their axes." They take time each morning to meet with God in the Word and in prayer. They build times for exercise and reading into their schedules. They don't neglect their families. They watch less TV than other people, play fewer video games, and don't waste time surfing on the Internet because they are joyfully finding fulfillment in their personal growth and development.²

Ministry Is . . . Loving People

Loving people means you smell like the people by being in the midst of them. Hence, a pastor smells like his sheep.

Your Legacy

Rev. 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

² Earley, Dave, et al. *Ministry Is . . .*, B&H Publishing Group, 2010. ProQuest Ebook Central, 147-148.

“How He Loved Him!”

Jesus is the model minister and master leader. One of the foundational stones and distinguishing marks of His ministry was His obvious love for people. A quick read through the Gospels makes clear that Jesus loved people.

Jesus loved the hurting and hopeless. When He saw the crowds, it broke His heart.

When He saw the crowds, He felt compassion for them, because they were weary and worn out, like sheep without a shepherd. (Matt 9:36)

Jesus loved spiritual seekers. When Mark described Jesus’ dealings with the rich young ruler, Mark noted Jesus’ love for the young man. Mark wrote, “Then, looking at him, Jesus loved him” (Mark 10:21).

Jesus also loved His friends. In order to escape the crowds and persecution of Jerusalem, Jesus often retired to the home of Lazarus, Mary, and Martha, located in Bethany on the outskirts of Jerusalem. Lodged in the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead is this observation by the apostle John. Jesus loved His friends.

Jesus loved Martha, her sister, and Lazarus. When Jesus saw her crying, and the Jews who had come with her crying, He was angry in His spirit and deeply moved. Jesus wept. So, the Jews said, “See how He loved him!” (John 11:5,33,35– 36).

Jesus loved deeply and it was evident. He was deeply moved. He was angry. He wept or literally burst into tears. Those observing the scene had only one response: “How He loved him!” What a statement. If we hope to be powerful in ministry, we need to be like Jesus. We must be people of evident love.

Jesus’ disciples knew that He loved them. For example, even though John was an influential leader among the apostles, in his Gospel he chose never to refer to himself by the name “John.” Instead, he continually called himself “the disciple Jesus loved” (John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2; 21:7,20).

Jesus repeatedly told His followers that He loved them. His love for them became the basis of His expectations. He was able to command His disciples to be people of love based on the fact that He obviously loved them (see John 15:9-17).

Ministry in its purest sense is loving people. It is taking the love that Jesus has given to us and passing it on to others.³

You are gifted for such a time as this

Est. 4:14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

³ Earley, Dave, et al. *Ministry Is ...*, B&H Publishing Group, 2010. ProQuest Ebook Central, 154-155.

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

Rom. 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Ministry Is . . . A Life without Compromise

What is your definition of a “spiritual giant”? - someone who has loads education; a person who has memorized a lot of Scripture verses, a person hours a day, a pastor with a big church, a woman who has written amazing books?

How would you describe a “man of God” or a “woman of God”? Is it a person who leads many people to Christ regularly or one who lovingly serves the unlovely or is a missionary to the least reached?

One thing is certain, the answers could cover the gamut from education to years of experience, to describing someone who has earned a specific title and has been ordained as a minister. These are all good characteristics to have said about us, but I don't believe they would parallel God's definition of a spiritual giant or of a man or woman of God.

The Scriptures highlight some fantastic spiritual heroes who performed some miraculous feats of faith. But, according to the Word of God, we can see that spiritual giants are anyone who has developed an uncompromising commitment to live according to the truths of the Word of God . . . no matter what. The ones that God said possessed a commendable testimony are a group of unnamed people mentioned at the end of Hebrews 11. They are commended for their uncompromising faith:

And others experienced mockings and scourgings, as well as bonds and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawed in two, they died by the sword, they wandered about in sheepskins, in goatskins, destitute, afflicted, and mistreated. The world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts, mountains, caves, and holes in the ground.

All these were approved through their faith, but they did not receive what was promised. (Heb 11:36-39, bold added for emphasis)

Spiritual giants are not necessarily those who involve themselves in magnificent physical battles and glorious miracles. Rather, a spiritual giant is one who in their own life situation has never wavered from the truth. They have remained faithful to the call of God no matter how difficult the hardships.

Strong integrity and godly character are essential for long-term effectiveness in ministry. Ministry is the result of living an uncompromising life of unwavering faith.

I remember asking a Christian leader of a large global ministry his definition of a true man of God. His response reveals how difficult it is to remain faithful to the Lord in today's culture. He replied, “Any minister who can remain in the ministry for more than 15 years without

falling morally is a true man of God.” Sobering. To him a man of God was determined by the level of compromise in his life. Even though far more theologically acute definitions can probably be formed as to what a man of God and spiritual giant is, I have recognized that when you are in the trenches in the ministry - in the churches, schools, colleges, ministries— people attribute honor and spirituality to a person who exhibits one major characteristic: an uncompromising life.⁴

- **Abraham go to the land...**

Gen. 12:1 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee.

- **Paul you are not going to die yet...**

Acts 23:10-11 And when there arose a great dissension, the chief captain, fearing lest Paul should have been pulled in pieces of them, commanded the soldiers to go down, and to take him by force from among them, and to bring him into the castle. And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, **Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.**

- **Moses saw God...**

Exod. 33:17-23 And the LORD said unto Moses, I will do this thing also that thou hast spoken: for thou hast found grace in my sight, and I know thee by name. And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory. And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy. And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live. And the LORD said, Behold, there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock: And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a clift of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by: And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen.

Heb. 11:24-27 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

2 Cor. 4:18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Heb. 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

⁴ Earley, Dave, et al. *Ministry Is ...*, B&H Publishing Group, 2010. ProQuest Ebook Central, 163-164.

Acts 7:56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

Zephaniah 3:17 The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

Ps. 16:11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

2 Cor. 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

Ministry Is . . . Loyalty to the Truth

It's your time to go to battle. It's your time now to go out and face the enemy and to make a difference as soldiers of light and salt. You're to win multitudes to Christ and mold the culture again in the image of Christ. You can be God's change agents to save America and to enable us to change the world in our generation. - DR. JERRY FALWELL⁵

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

John 17:17 **Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.**

Ps. 30:5 For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

Est. 4:14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

John 17:17 **Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.**

A 2,000-Year-Old Prediction

We live in a world that has convoluted standards. But this shouldn't surprise us because this type of culture was actually predicted by the apostle Paul 2,000 years ago. He reminds us that we should not expect the problem ever to go away on its own. In fact, the last days will usher in "difficult times" (2 Tim 3:1). People will be "always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth" (2 Tim 3:7). They will in fact "resist the truth" (2 Tim 3:8). Resulting in "evil people and impostors" growing "worse, deceiving and being deceived" (2 Tim 3:13).

⁵ Earley, Dave, et al. *Ministry Is ...*, B&H Publishing Group, 2010. ProQuest Ebook Central, 172.

Fortunately, Paul did not stop there. In the rest of the chapter, he provided us with a list of clear and concise directives on how to minister to the culture. These directives are so clear and understandable that further elaboration may tend to confuse their meaning.

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing those from whom you learned, and that from childhood you have known the sacred Scriptures, which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. (2 Tim 3:14– 17)

Paul's solution to a world drowning in relative truth is the secure rock of the absolute truth of the Word of God. He told Timothy of six ways it powerfully meets the needs of those swimming upstream against a culture adrift in relative morality.

1. The Word of God will save you.
2. The Word of God will teach you all truth.
3. The Word of God will lovingly confront your sin.
4. The Word of God will correct any incorrect ideas of life.
5. The Word of God will guide you in every decision you make.
6. The Word of God will equip you to navigate through life with the proper perspective.

Pastor, author, and Bible teacher John MacArthur has dedicated his life to teaching the Word of God. He is passionate about the supreme importance of biblical truth: I've said this through the years, I continue to believe it more and more all the time. The most important reality in the world is divine truth. It's not just important for people who don't know Christ, who don't know God, who don't know Scripture. It is important for those who do.⁶

- **Come Home to Jesus today.**

Rom. 11:29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

Rom. 11:29 ESV For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

Matt. 12:31-32 Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.

Rom. 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

⁶ Earley, Dave, et al. *Ministry Is ...*, B&H Publishing Group, 2010. ProQuest Ebook Central, 176-177.

Rom. 8:34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

Zep. 3:17 The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Rom. 10:9-10 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Is. 53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Ps. 23:2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

- **This is your moment. Pray where you hear it with your own ears and the whole church will pray together with you along – so now pray along with Pastor Dave...**

"HEAVENLY FATHER, I COME TO YOU IN JESUS NAME. AND I BELIEVE WITH ALL MY HEART THAT JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD. HE DIED ON A CROSS TO BEAR MY SIN STAIN. AND I NOW OPEN THE DOOR OF MY HEART. I OPEN THE DOOR OF MY LIFE AND JESUS, I INVITE YOU IN. I RECEIVE YOU NOW JESUS TO BE MY SAVIOR AND TO BE MY LORD. THANK YOU FOR COMING. I'M NOW A CHILD OF GOD. AND MY SIN IS WASHED AWAY AND I'M HEAVEN BOUND. AND JESUS IS MY LORD, IN JESUS NAME, AMEN."

IF YOU HAVE PRAYED WITH ME, JESUS HAS COME INTO YOUR LIFE AND HE WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU OR FORSAKE YOU. FIND A GOOD CHURCH TO HEAR GOD'S WORD AND TO GROW SPIRITUALLY.

<https://needhim.org/>

GOD HAS AN AMAZING PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE. THANKS FOR PRAYING WITH ME TODAY. GOD BLESS YOU!

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