

Answering God's Call for Missions and Ministry



Information + Application = Transformation

Introduction



The Mission of God is to redeem all of creation

Romans 8:19-21

- For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

Did You Know?

- There are currently 7.2 Billion people on the earth.
- Over 2 Billion have never heard the gospel message.
- 40 Million people are infected with the HIV virus.
- Half the world lives on less than 3 dollars a day.

In America

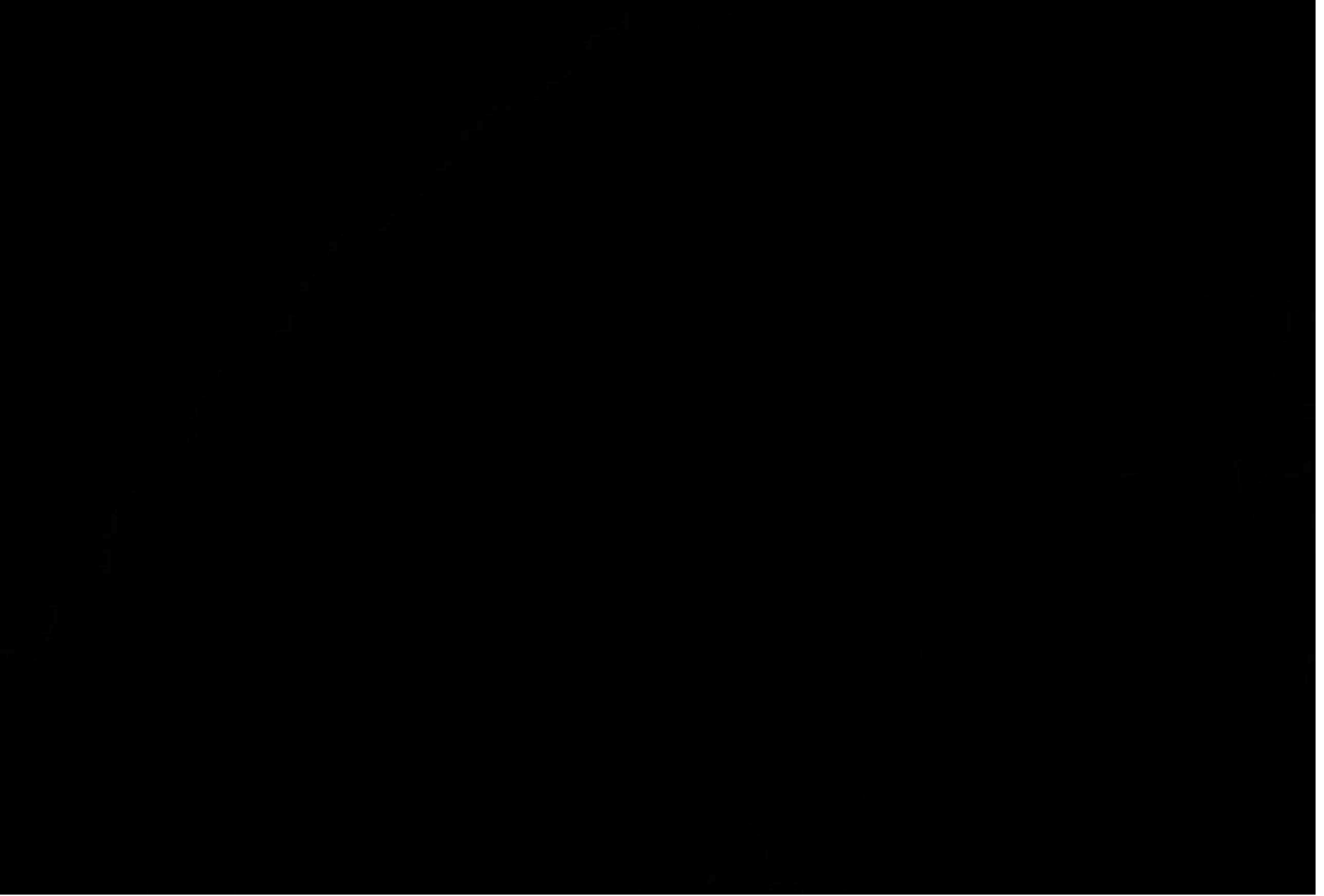
- Less than 20% of people actually attend a Christian Church.
- The Church has been on the decline for decades.

- God has not called us to go to Church but to be the Church.

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. 1 Corinthians 12:27

DON'T JUST GO TO CHURCH

BE THE CHURCH!

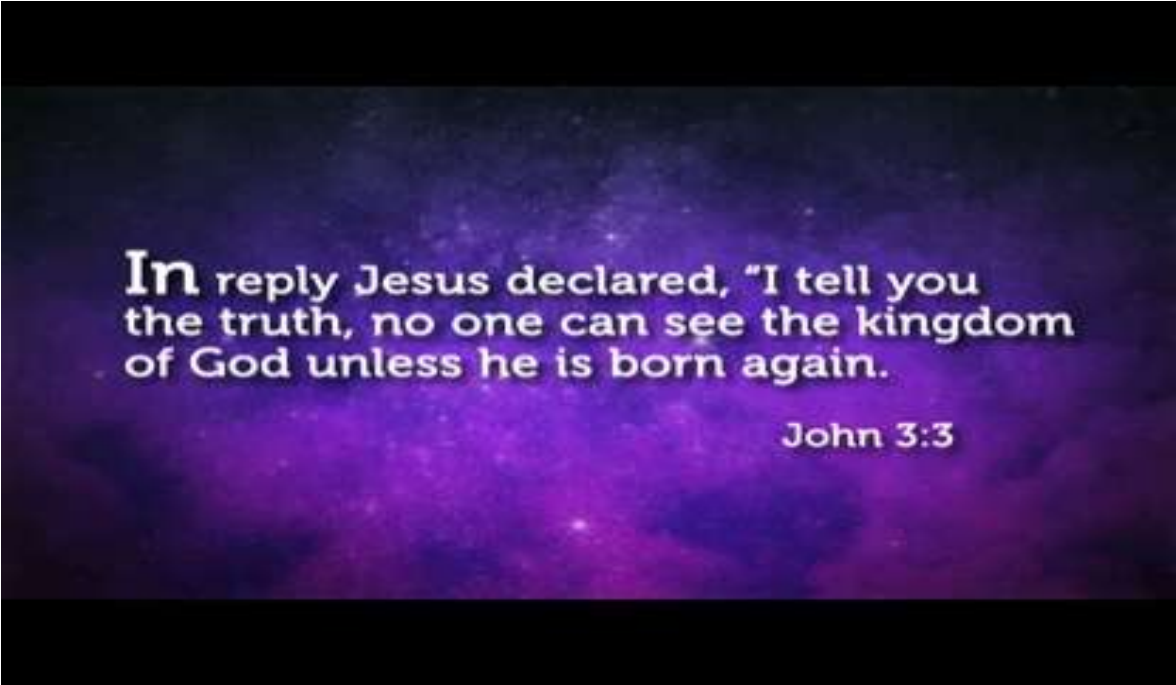


Preparing for the Call Living the Christian Life



1. I need to be saved

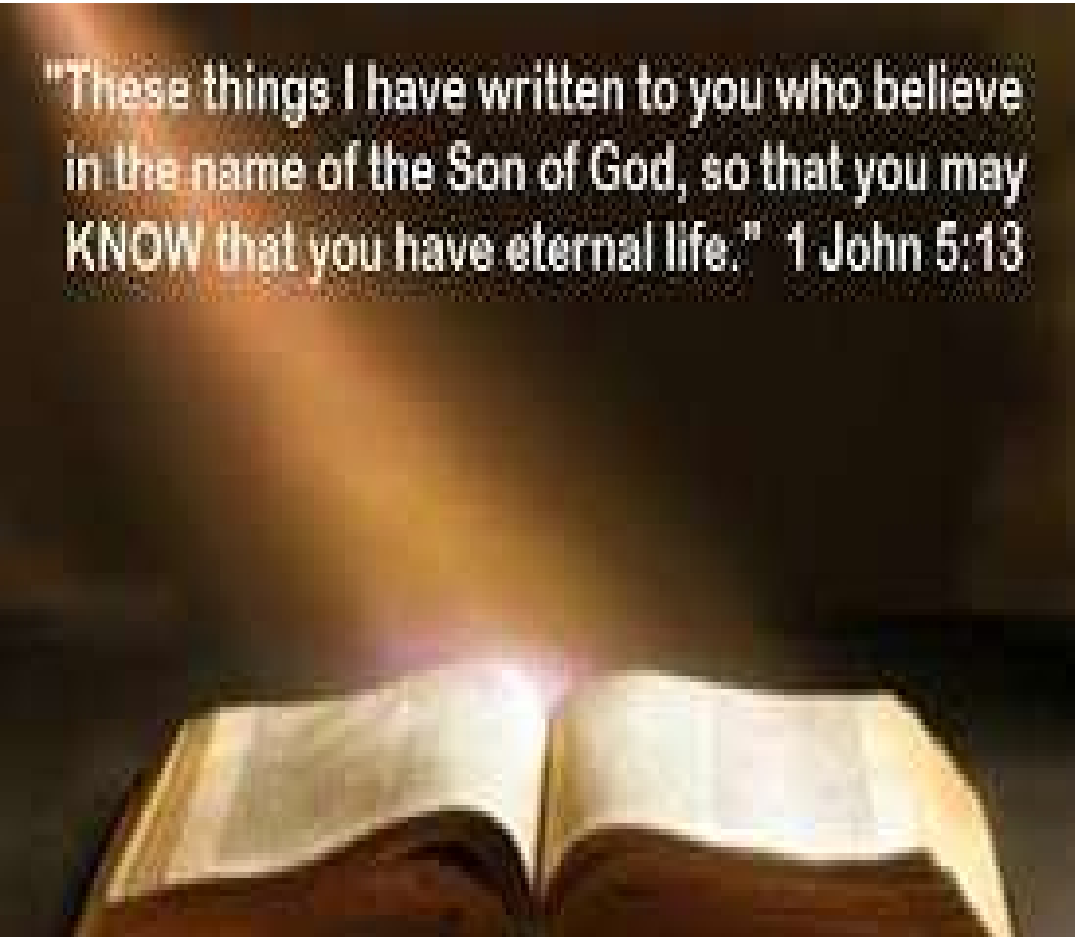
- He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— John 1:11-12
- Jesus said to Nicodemus, “you Must be born-again”



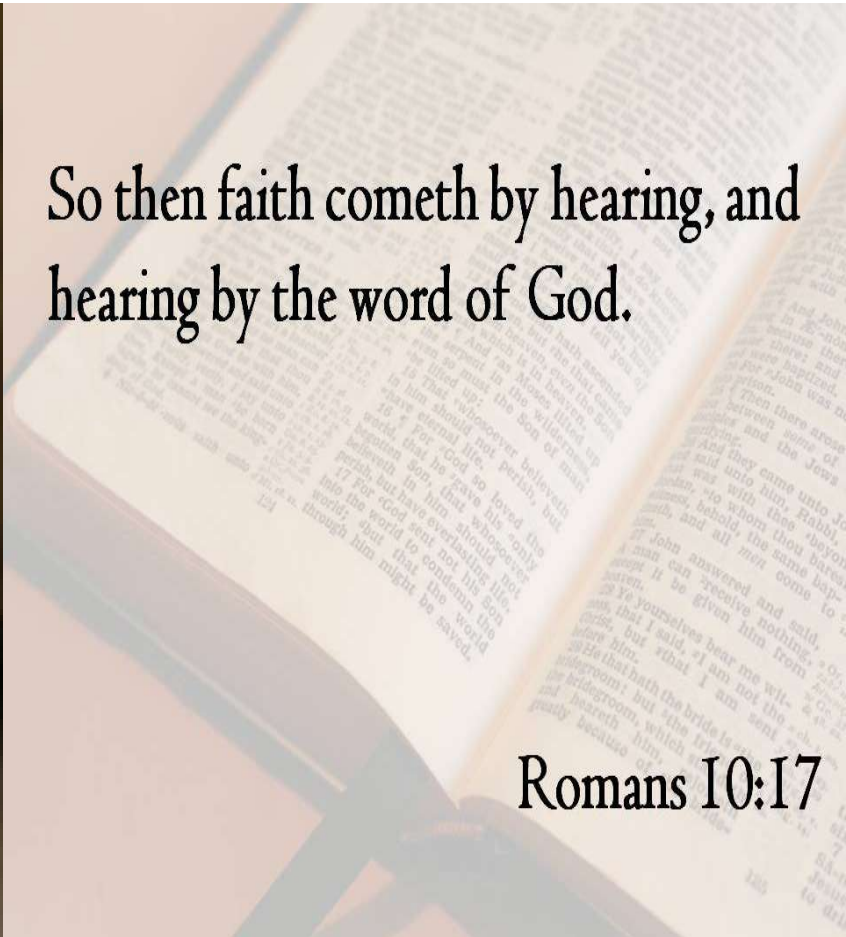
In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.

John 3:3

2. I need to be in the Word



"These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may **KNOW** that you have eternal life." 1 John 5:13



So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Romans 10:17

Check out Psalm 119!

3. I need to Pray

And this is the
confidence that we have have
toward him that if we ask

anything

according to his will he

hears us and if we know that he
hears us in **whatever** we ask

we know that we have the
the requests
that we have asked of him

1 John 5:14-15

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18

You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. James 4:2

Even Jesus found it absolutely necessary to spend time alone with God to pray

One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. Luke 6:12



4. I need to be financially responsible

But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Luke 19:8

**Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me.
"But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?'
"In tithes and offerings. 9 You are under a curse—
your whole nation—because you are robbing me.
10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that
there may be food in my house. Test me in this,"
says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw
open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so
much blessing that there will not be room enough
to store it. Malachi 3:8-10**

**"Woe to you, teachers of the law
and Pharisees, you hypocrites!
You give a tenth of your spices—
mint, dill and cumin. But you have
neglected the more important
matters of the law—justice, mercy
and faithfulness. You should have
practiced the latter, without
neglecting the former. Matthew
23:23**

What motivates your giving?

Do you walk away happier after having given?



5. I need to be accountable to a body of believers



"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

Hebrews 10:25 (KJV)

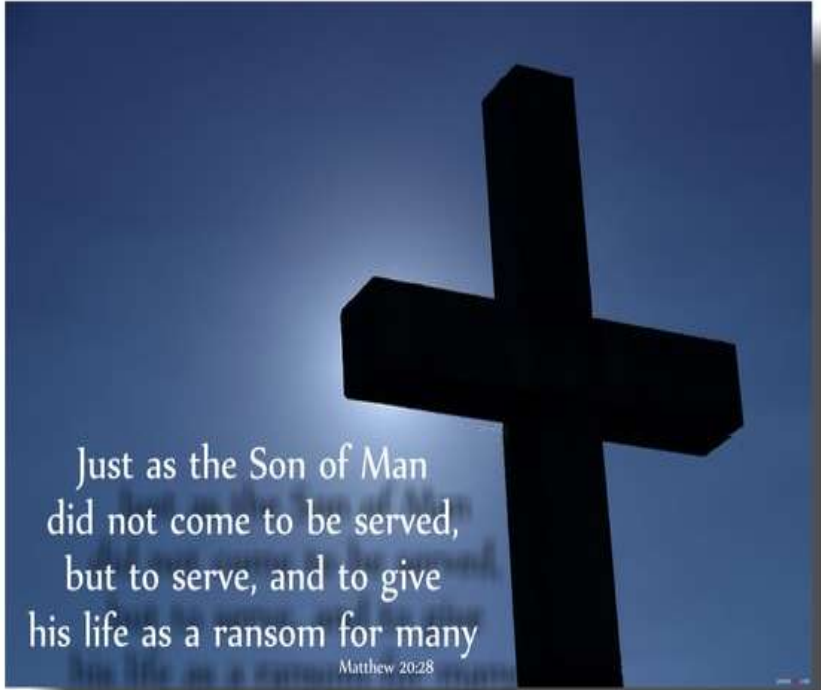
Am I isolating myself? Am I relying on my technology to keep me company or am I willing to go face to face with other believers for accountability?

6. I need to be a servant



**SERVE THE LORD WITH
GLADNESS; COME
BEFORE HIS PRESENCE
WITH SINGING.**

PSALM 100:2



Just as the Son of Man
did not come to be served,
but to serve, and to give
his life as a ransom for many

Matthew 20:28

Do I serve with gladness and total surrender?

As a response to the love of God in my heart I am saved and I will seek his word, pray, be financially responsible, accountable to a body of believers and serve.

**Jesus replied: "‘Love the Lord your God
with all your heart
and with all your soul
and with all your mind.’ This is the
first and greatest commandment.
And the second is like it:
‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’
All the Law and the Prophets hang on
these two commandments."**

Matthew 22:37-40

What all believers have in common



God All are called

- **For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. Romans 8:29-30**

The defining question



What is God's offer for my life?

All are gifted

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.[b] 11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines. 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

The defining question

- How has God uniquely equipped me?



Discovering your shape

- Spiritual Gifts
- Heart's Desire
- Abilities
- Personality
- Experiences



All have a purpose

*"For I know the plans I have for you,"
declares the Lord,
"plans to prosper you and
not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future."
Jeremiah 29:11*

The Defining question

Gods dream
for you

- What is God's dream for my life?



All need discernment

- from Issachar, men who understood the times and knew what Israel should do—200 chiefs, with all their relatives under their command; 1 Chronicles 12: 32



The defining question

- How do I know?



The Attitude of the Call

ATTITUDE IS CONTAGIOUS...



IS YOURS WORTH CATCHING?

1. A desire to please & glorify God

- And he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him.” John 8:29

What is my heart's desire?

The desire of Jesus was to do God's will.

**WHAT
EVER**

you do, whether
in word or deed,
do it all in the name
of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks
to God the Father
through him.

COLOSSIANS 3:17

2. Joy no matter how difficult the task may be

Let us keep looking at JESUS.
Our faith comes from Him

& He is the one who makes it PERFECT.
He did not give up when He had
to suffer shame and die on a cross.

He knew His 
would come later.

Hebrews 12:2

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. James 1:2-3

What brings me joy?

What takes away my joy?

Answering God's call brought Jesus joy, even though it meant enduring the cross.

3. Being content in any circumstance.

- I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.- Philippians 4:11



Do I let my circumstances determine my answer to God's call?

Paul's circumstances didn't alter God's call on his life.

4. To finish and be told, well done

- His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' Matthew 25:21

Do I honor God with the resources He has given me for the task to which I am called?

The person with the talent wanted to honor his master.



Urgency of the call

The current world population is over 7.2 billion people



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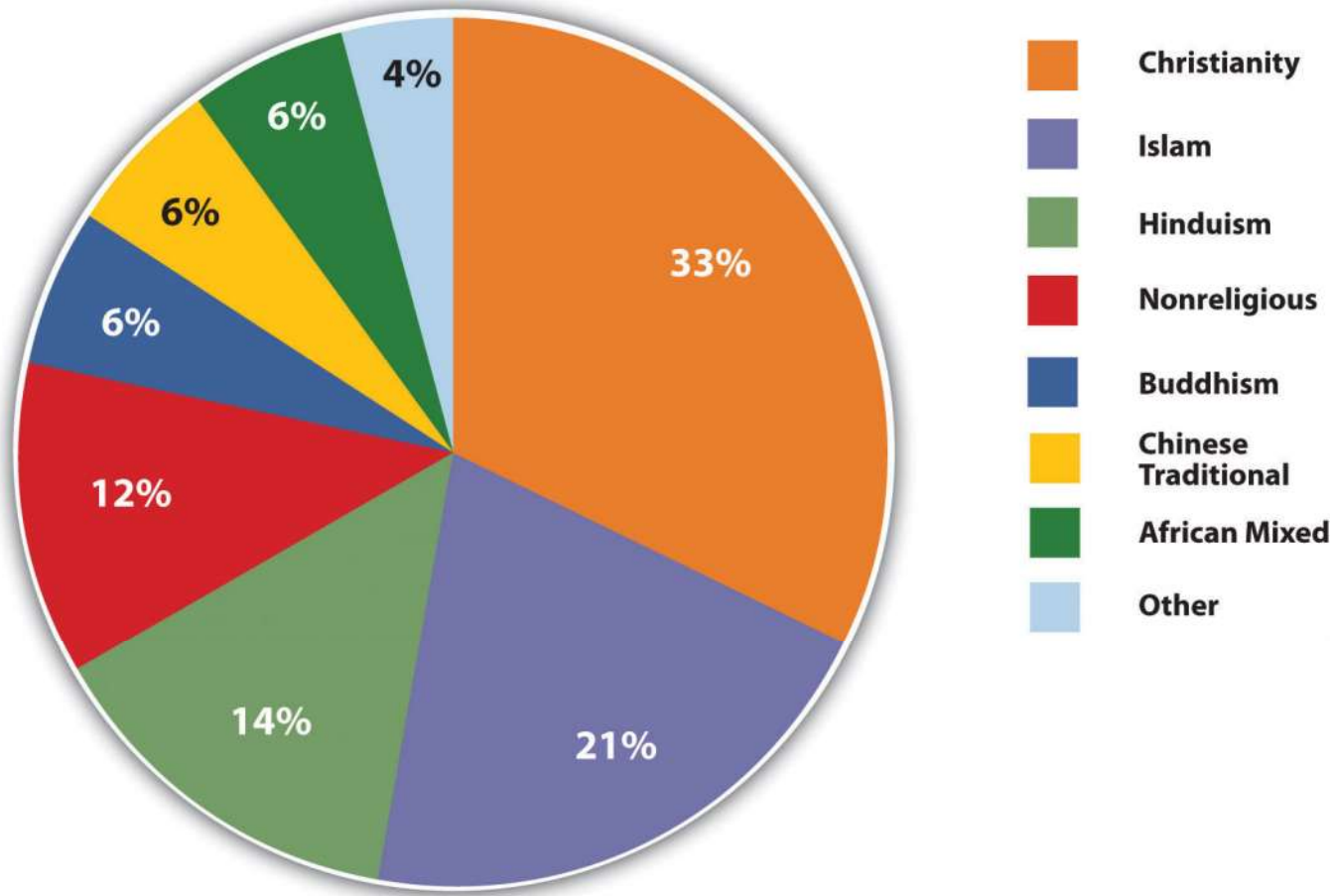
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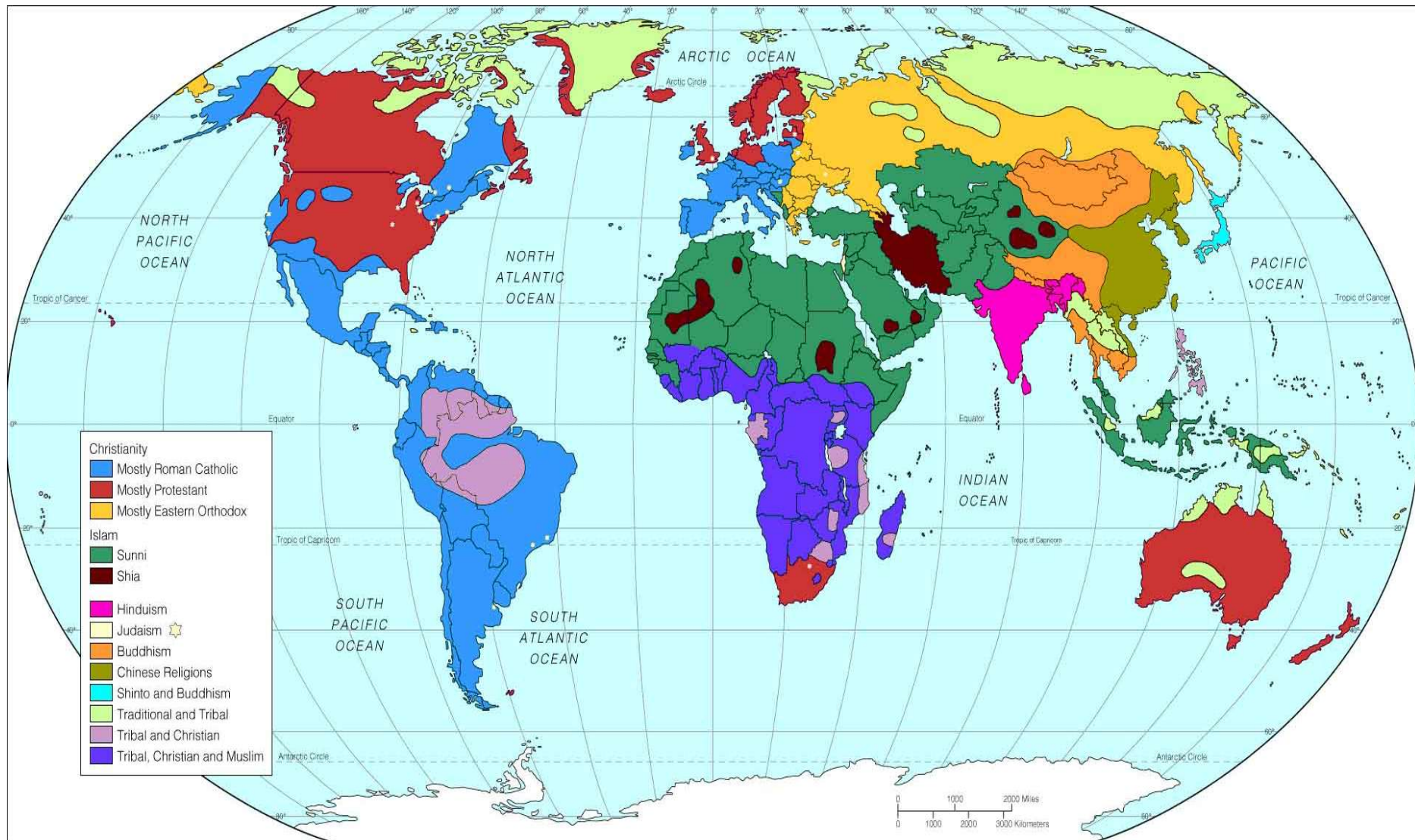


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At least 2 billion people have never heard the gospel message

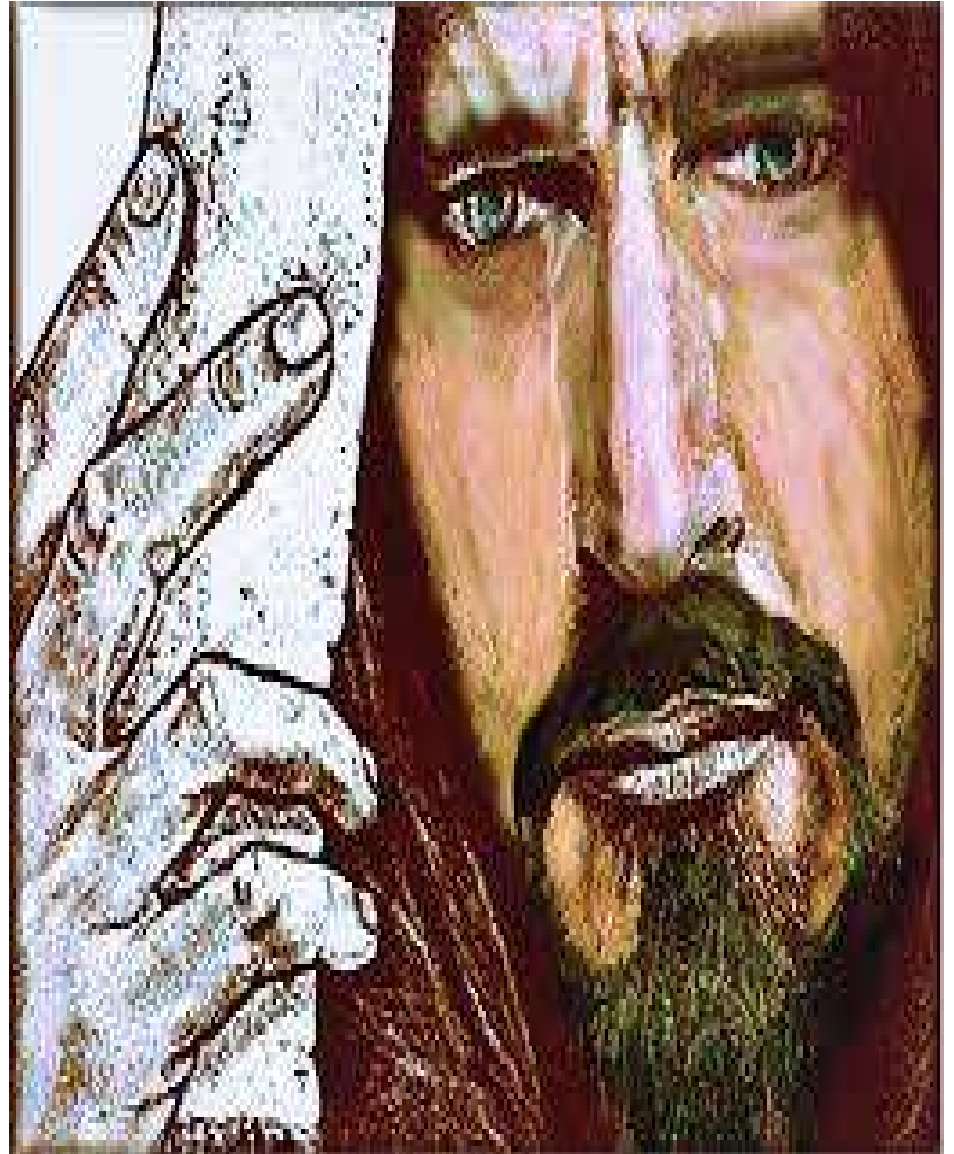




What do you see when you look at the world?

Jesus saw the needs of the people and wept


As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it- Luke 19:41



The need is great and the stakes are eternal



The time is now for the harvest

A photograph of a vast field of golden wheat, with some stalks in the foreground in sharp focus. The background shows a clear blue sky with a single, small white cloud. The overall scene is bright and sunny, evoking a sense of harvest time.

*Lift up your eyes,
and look on the fields;
for they are white
already to harvest.*

John 4:35

The harvest is plentiful but there are few workers

A photograph of a vast field of golden wheat in the foreground, stretching to a horizon line. The sky above is filled with heavy, grey, overcast clouds. The text is overlaid on the sky portion of the image.

The harvest is **plentiful**,
but the workers are few.

Luke 10:2

We are all called to go into the world and make disciples

DISCIPLE MAKING CHURCH

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.
(Matthew 28:18-20)

Someone is waiting for you to share the love of Christ

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Romans 10:13-15

Where is God calling YOU to go?

The Call

It's For You



Where Do I Fit In? (Figuring it all out)

WHERE DO I FIT IN?



Amal Lina

THE WRITER



Kar Jin

THE ANALYST



Belicia

THE DESIGNER



Alvin

THE SUPERSTAR



Jazelle

THE SOCIAL
BUTTERFLY

Three Questions Everyone Asks:

- Who am I? (Identity)
- Where do I belong (Security)
- What is my purpose in life? (Significance)



**LIFE'S
B I G
QUESTIONS**

A graphic on a yellow background featuring the text "LIFE'S BIG QUESTIONS" in bold, dark blue, sans-serif capital letters. A large, light yellow question mark is positioned to the right of the text, partially overlapping it.

Ephesians 4:11-12

*And he gave the apostles,
the prophets, the evangelists, the
pastors and teachers, to equip the
saints for the work of ministry...*

Eph 4: 11-12a (NIV)



The Five-Fold Ministry
Of the Christian Church

So... How do I know?

- Pray about it!



SEEK
YOU WILL FIND

ASK
YOU WILL RECEIVE

MATTHEW
7:7

KNOCK
DOOR WILL BE OPENED

Seek Counsel

Without counsel plans

FAIL

— *but* —

with many advisers they

SUCCEED

Proverbs 15:22

Try it out!

It's ok to try and fail!

From Paphos, Paul and his companions sailed to Perga in Pamphylia, where John left them to return to Jerusalem- Acts 13:13

Qualifications and the Process of the Call



The Choosing of the Seven



- In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews[a] among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. **2** So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. **3** Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them **4** and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”
- **5** This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. **6** They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.
- **7** So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

1) Identifying the Need

- What is the real need?

Opportunities



Evaluating the current ministry

Identifying Needs

What is
happening?

What should
be happening?



The performance
gap (or need)

3) Selecting the right Leaders

Every need (Opportunity) needs a leader

- They were saved
- They had wisdom



The Example at Antioch

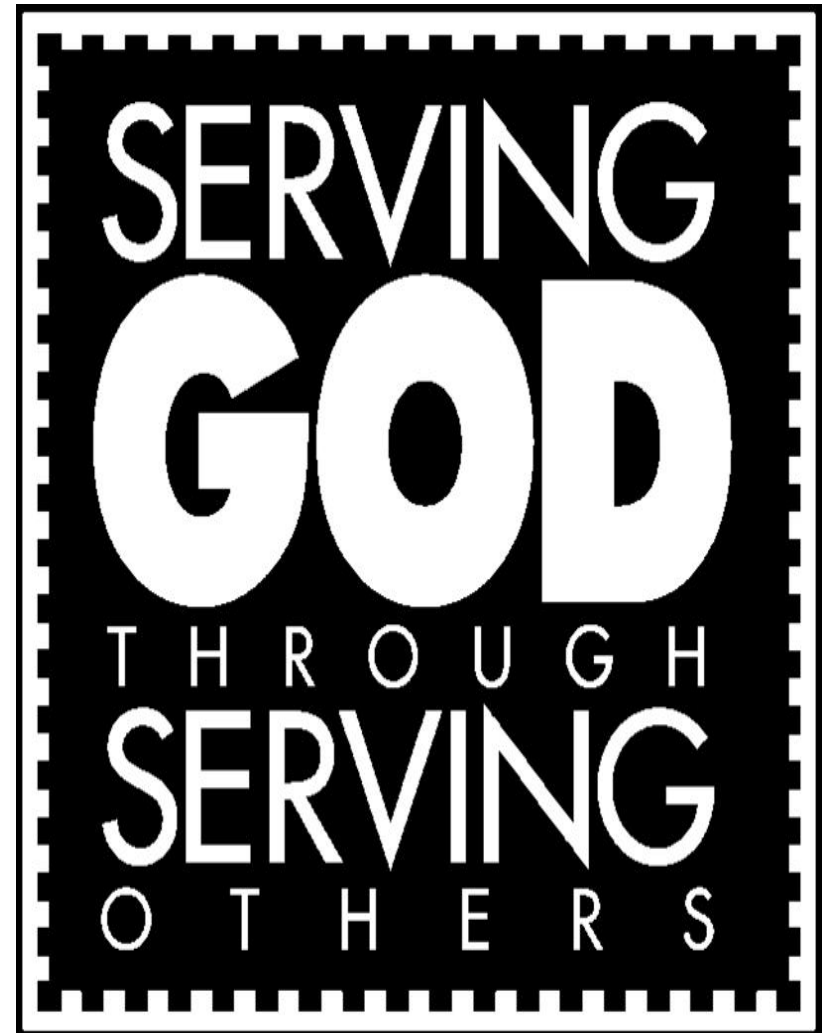
(Paul and Barnabas) Acts 13:1-3

- Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. **2** While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” **3** So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.

1) They were already serving

Everyone can and should be serving

Where are you currently serving?

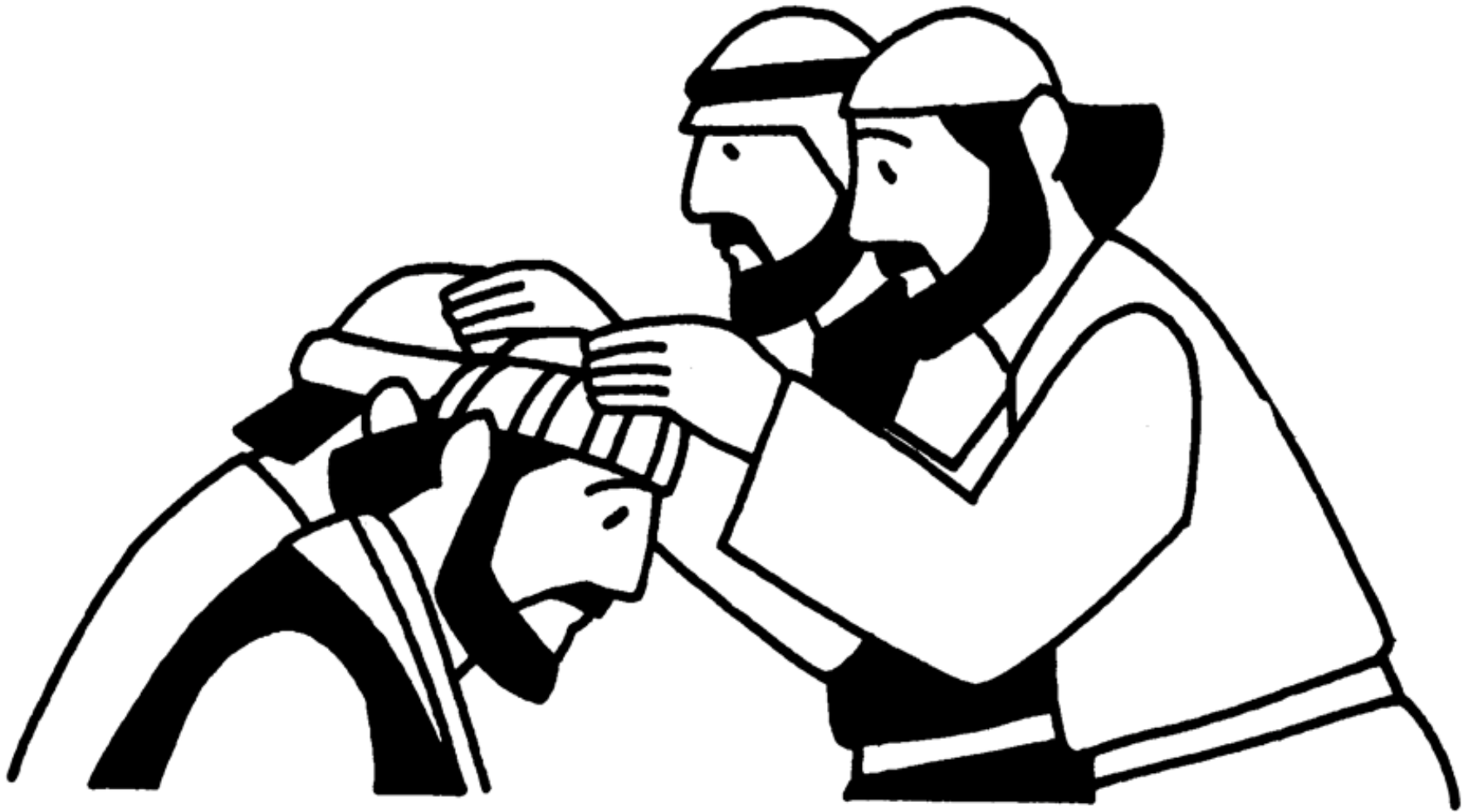


2) They were chosen by God

Chosen for a Purpose



3) They were commissioned by the Church



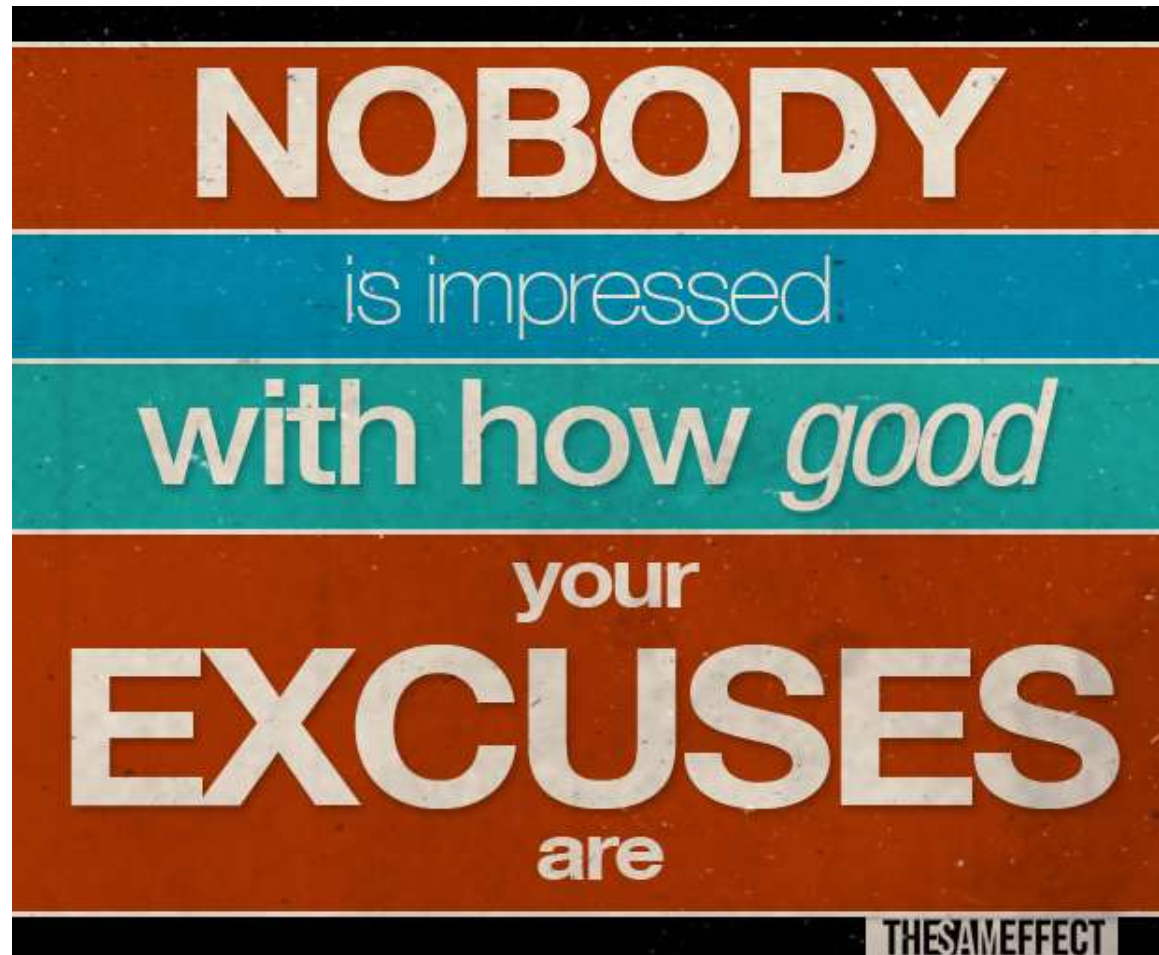
Additional Scriptures to Study

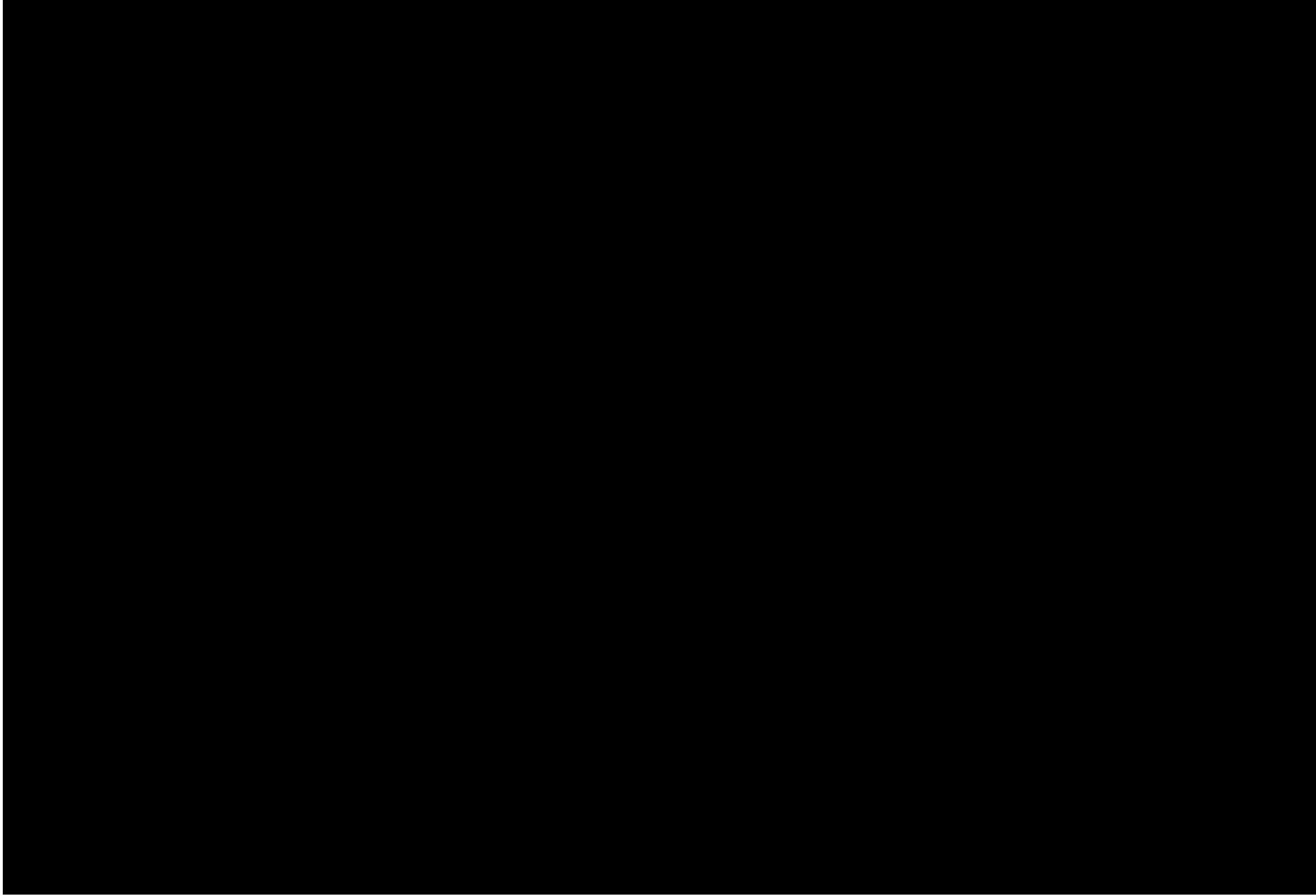
- 1 Timothy 3:1-13
- Titus 1:6-9

Pastoral Letters *1+2 timothy titus*

Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive his approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15

Excuses
Everyone has them





God calls everyone - Romans 8:29-30

But not everyone answers the call

Why?

Moses

Then Moses said to the LORD, “Please, Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither recently nor in time past, nor since You have spoken to Your servant; for I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.”

— Exodus 4:10 (NASB®)



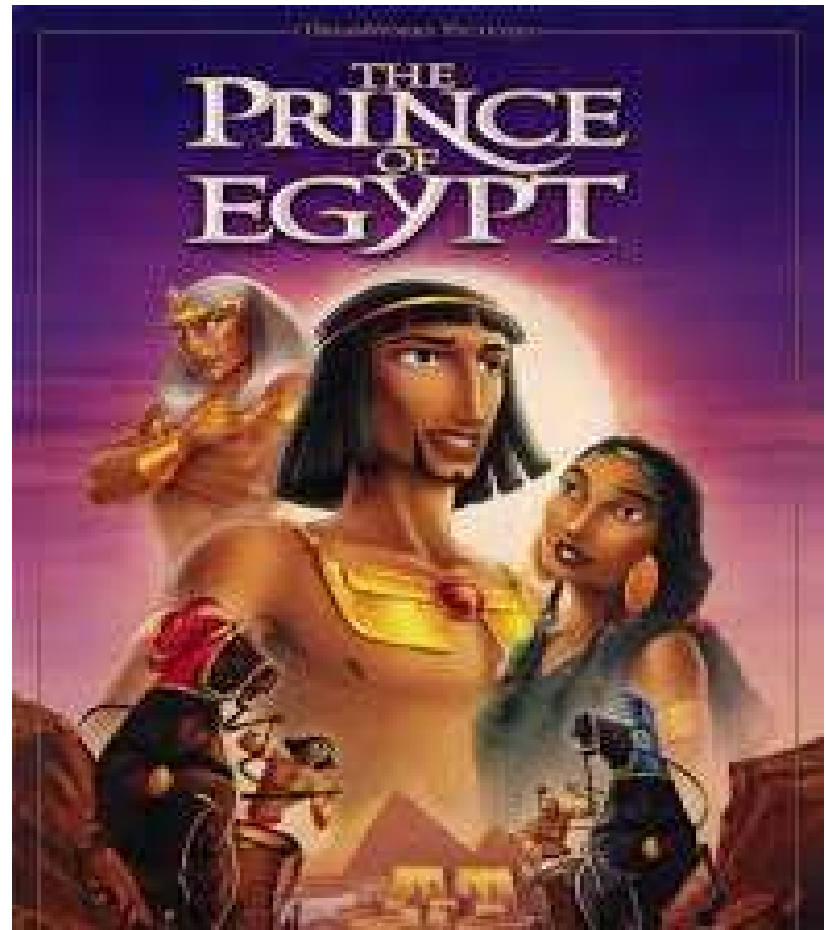
I am not smart enough

I am not poised enough

I can't speak

The Reality

When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water."
Exodus 2:10



God's Answer

- The Lord said to him, “Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord? **12** Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.”
- **13** But Moses said, “Pardon your servant, Lord. Please send someone else.”
- **14** Then the Lord's anger burned against Moses and he said, “What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and he will be glad to see you. **15** You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do. **16** He will speak to the people for you, and it will be as if he were your mouth and as if you were God to him. **17** But take this staff in your hand so you can perform the signs with it.” Exodus 4:11-17

Elijah

He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

I am all alone



The Reality

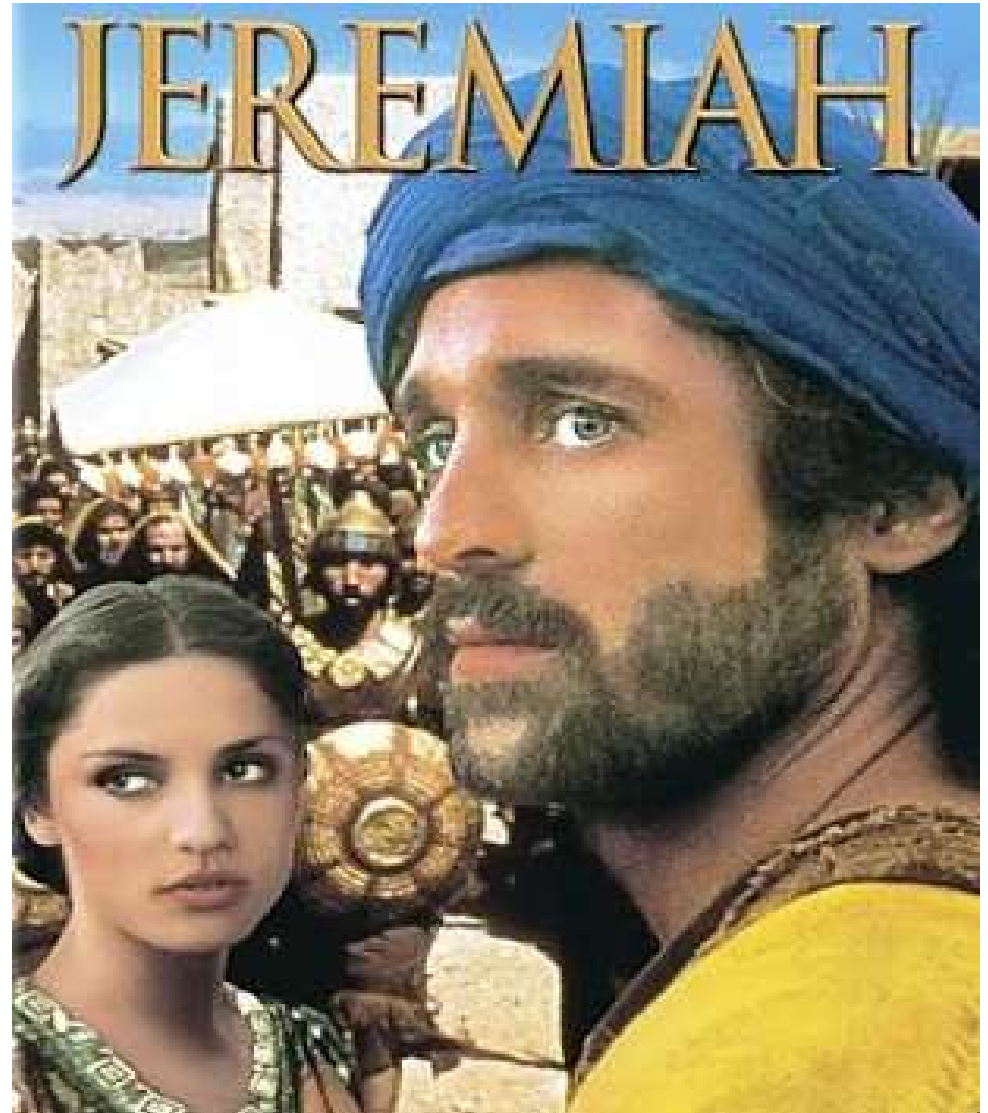
“Yet I will leave 7,000 in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

— 1 Kings 19:18 (NASB®)

Jeremiah

- Alas, Sovereign LORD," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am too young."
Jeremiah 1:6

I am too young



God's Answer

- But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. **8** Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the Lord.

Jeremiah 1:7-8

Some who didn't answer

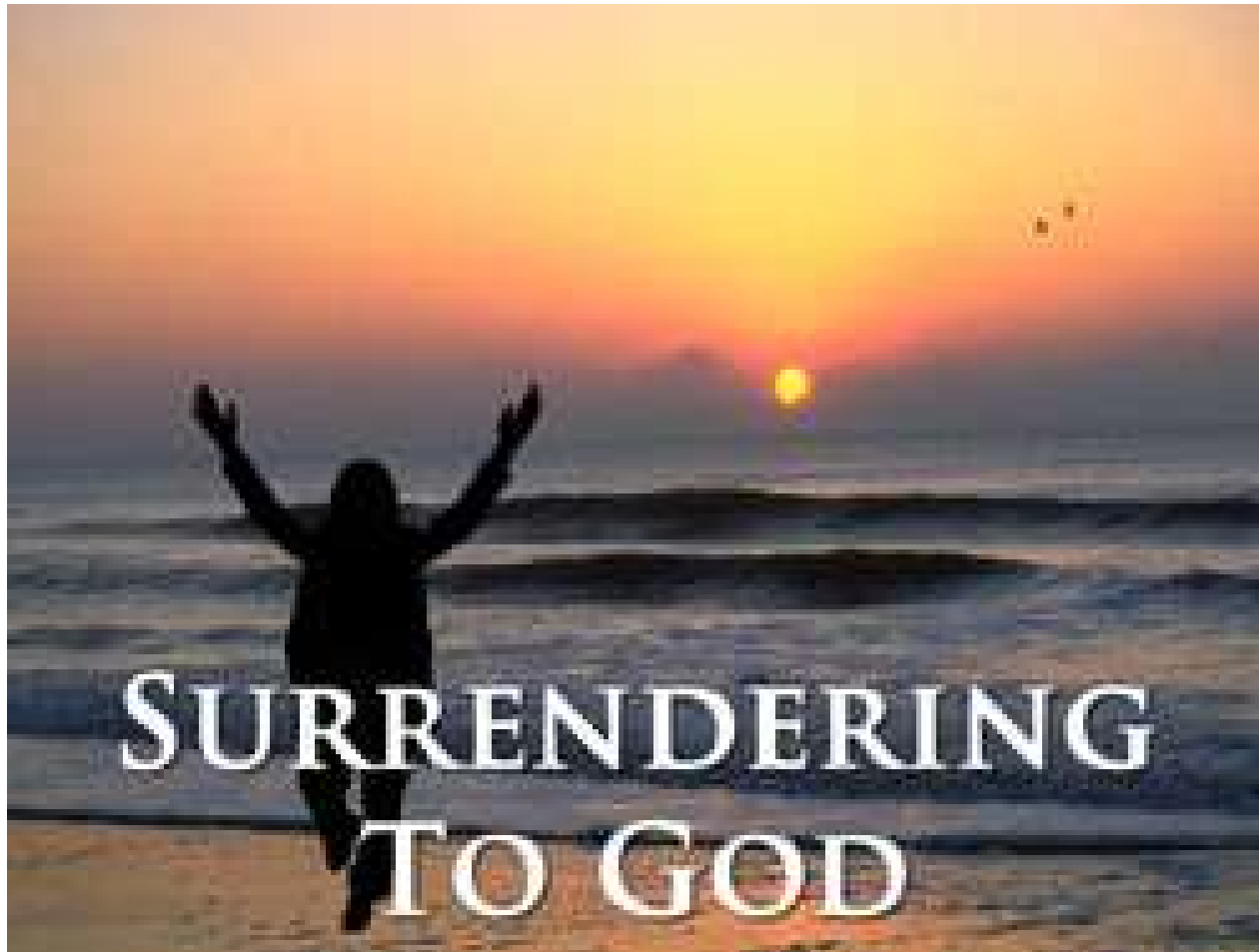
The Rich Young Man

- As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”
- **18** “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. **19** You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’[a]”
- **20** “Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.”
- **21** Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”
- **22** At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth. Mark 10:17-22

Luke 9:59-62

- He said to another man, “Follow me.”
- But he replied, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”
- Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”
- Still another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family.”
- Jesus replied, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”

God requires full surrender!



Commitment to the Call

THERE'S
NO
ABIDING SUCCESS
WITHOUT
COMMITMENT
- TONY ROBBINS

Daniel

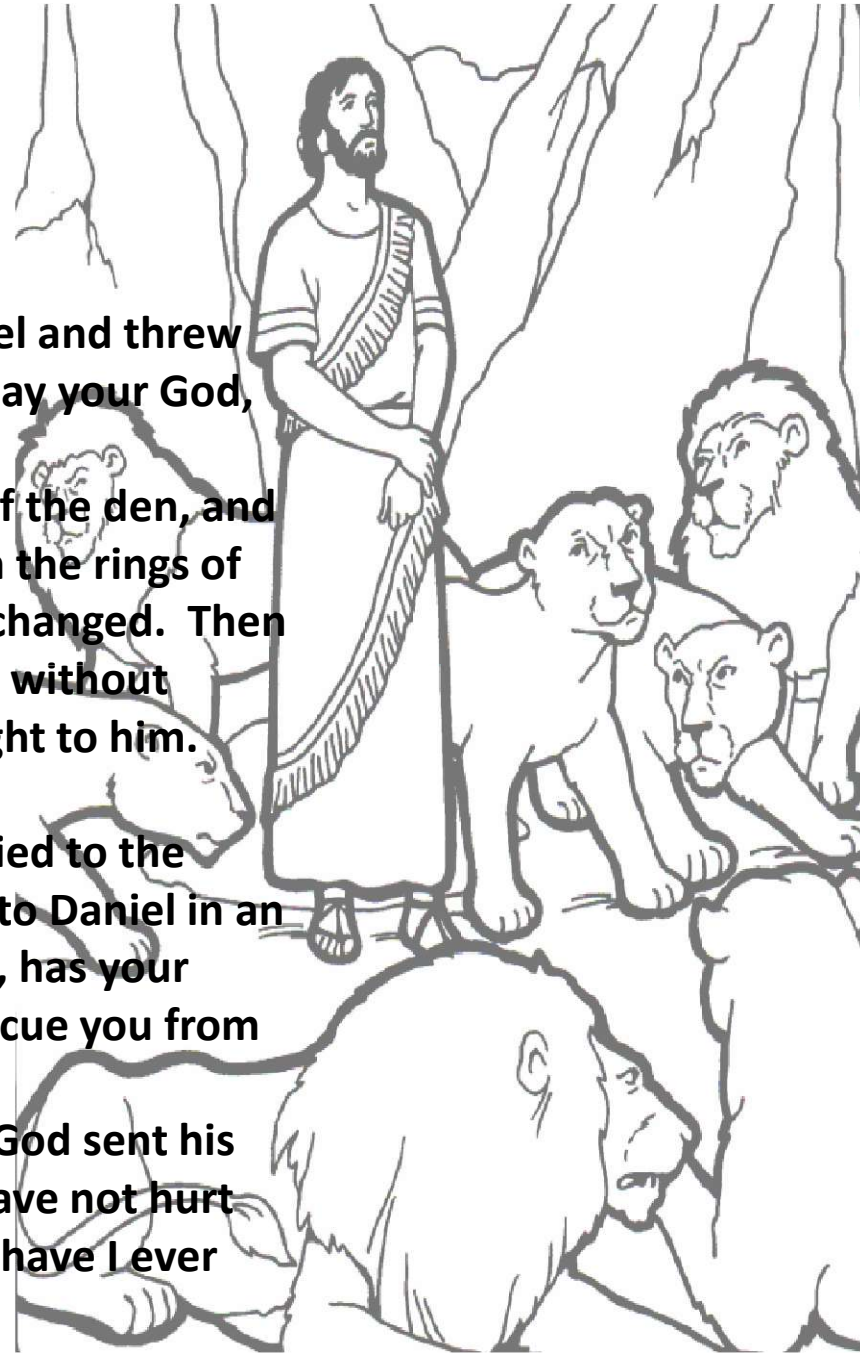
Thrown into the lion's den

So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!"

A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so that Daniel's situation might not be changed. Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating and without any entertainment being brought to him. And he could not sleep.

At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den. When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?"

Daniel answered, "May the king live forever! My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty."



John the Baptist

At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the reports about Jesus, and he said to his attendants, "This is John the Baptist; he has risen from the dead! That is why miraculous powers are at work in him."

Now Herod had arrested John and bound him and put him in prison because of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, for John had been saying to him: "It is not lawful for you to have her." Herod wanted to kill John, but he was afraid of the people, because they considered John a prophet.

On Herod's birthday the daughter of Herodias danced for the guests and pleased Herod so much that he promised with an oath to give her whatever she asked. Prompted by her mother, she said, "Give me here on a platter the head of John the Baptist." The king was distressed, but because of his oaths and his dinner guests, he ordered that her request be granted and had John beheaded in the prison. His head was brought in on a platter and given to the girl, who carried it to her mother. John's disciples came and took his body and buried it. Then they went and told Jesus. Matthew 14:1-12

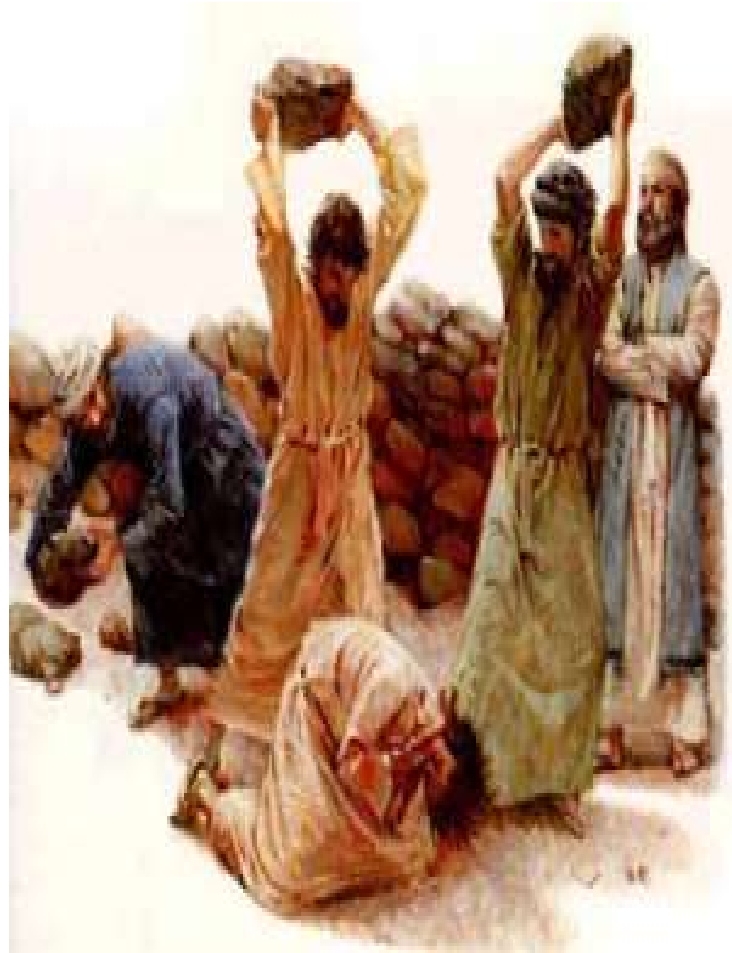


Beheaded

Stephen

Read Acts 7

Stoned to Death



John the Apostle

Boiled in oil, forced into slavery

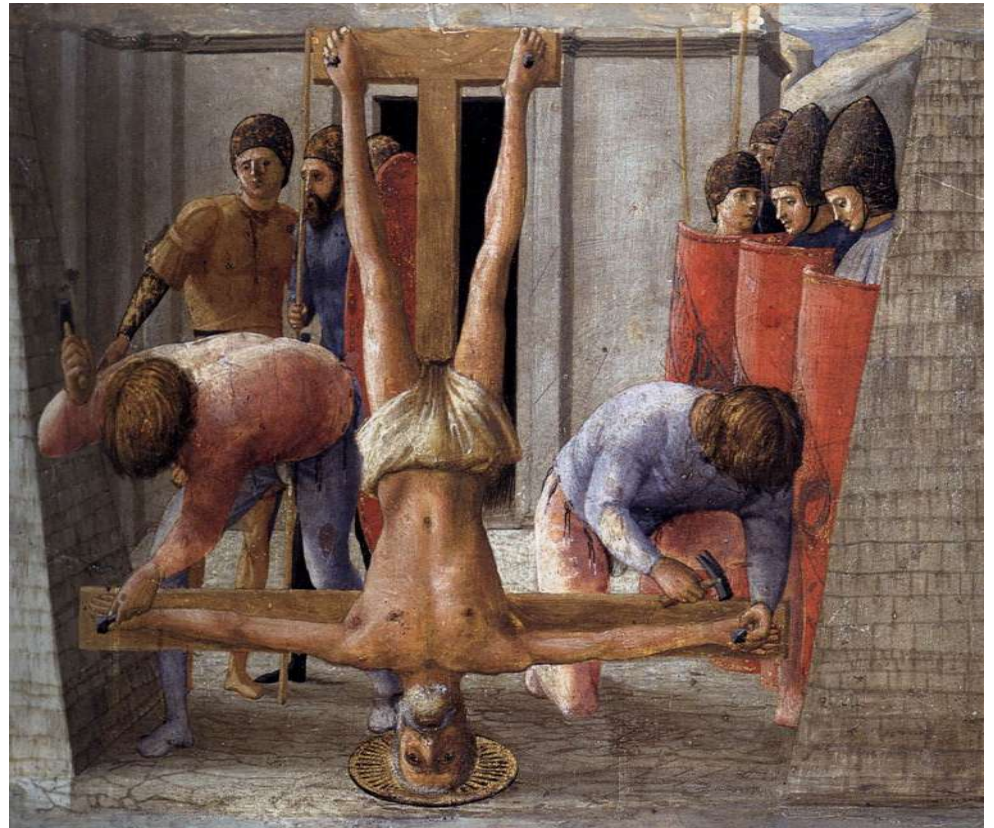
According to
Tradition



Peter

Crucified upside down

According to Tradition



- In addition, tradition tells us that Andrew was crucified, Paul was beheaded, Bartholomew was killed with a whip, Matthew was killed by a sword, & Thomas and Matthias were stoned.

Our patient endurance thru hardship validates the strength and trustworthiness of Jesus for all to see.

2 Corinthians 1:8-9 - We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about the troubles we experienced in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.

It's not important how they died. What is important is that they were willing to die for their faith.

The level of commitment God seeks in the believer:

Present yourself to the Lord

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:1-2

1. As a Living Sacrifice

2. Holy

3. Acceptable to God

4. Not conformed to the world

5. Transformed by the renewing of your mind



When I surrender to the Lord, fully committed to His call at any cost, I then prove by my life that the will of God is good, acceptable and perfect


What level of commitment do I have?

- ***What action will I take to strengthen my level of commitment?***



The Call is never easy but always worth it .





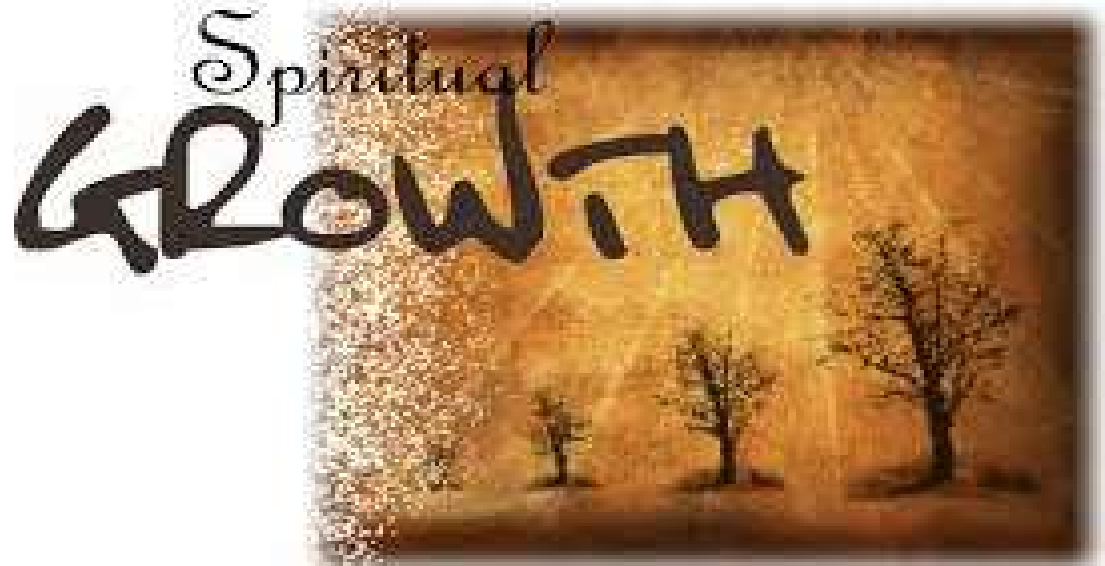
FOLLOW UP



FOLLOW
THROUGH

1) Intentionally grow and develop your faith.

Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, instruction about Baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. And God permitting we will do so.
Hebrews 6:1-3



The Small Group Advantage

Helps with Self-Discovery

Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, Acts 2:46



Provides accountability

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. James 5:16a



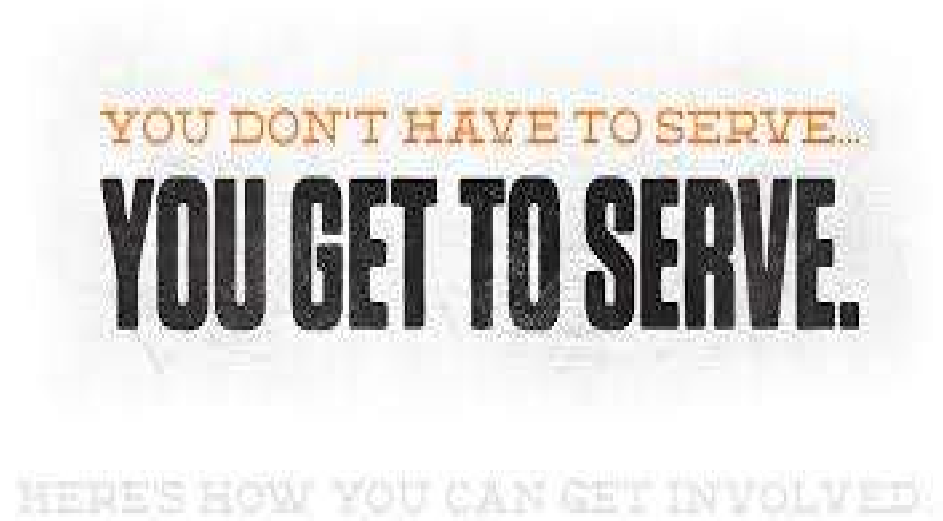
So join, host, lead or start a small group.



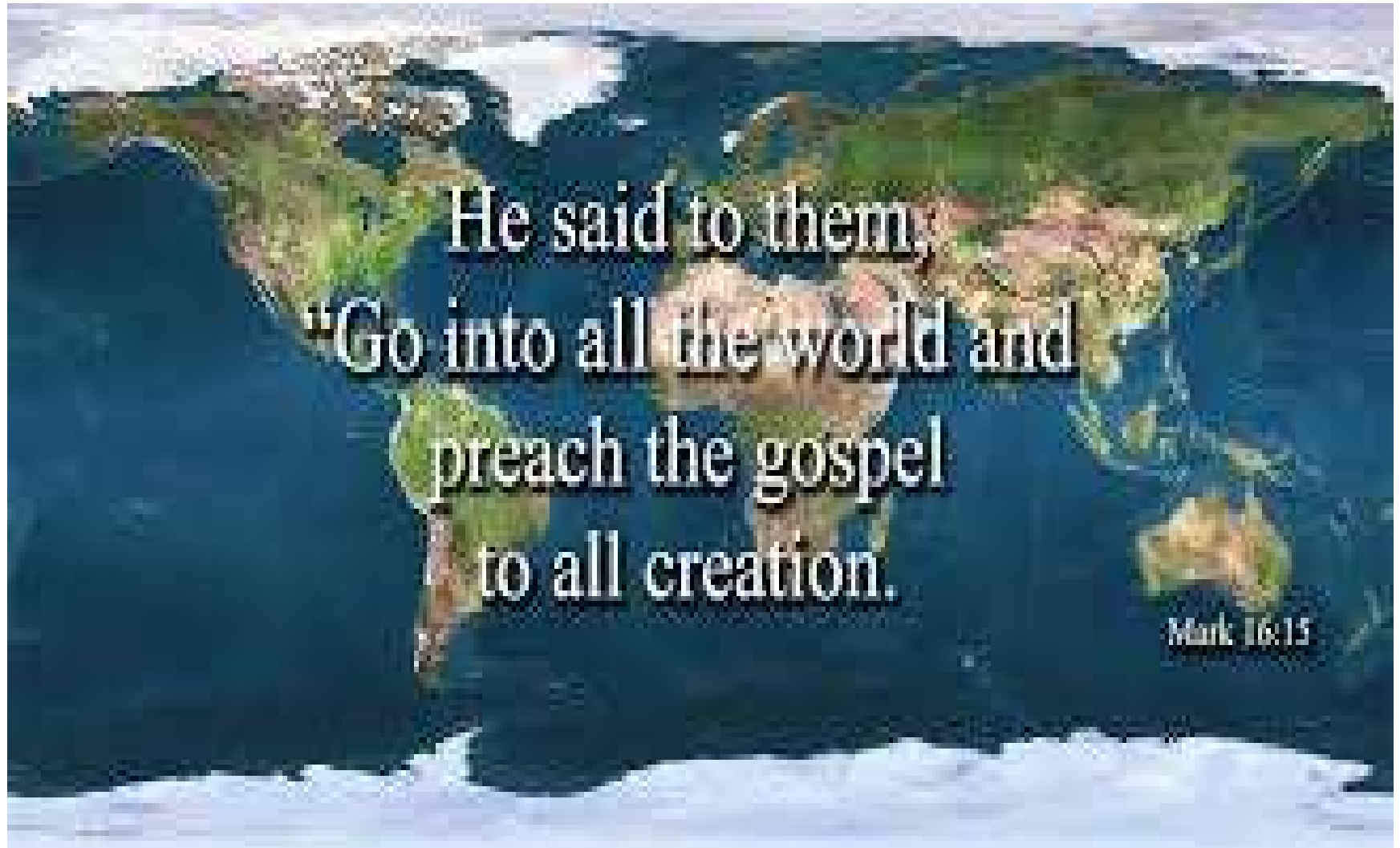
2) Actively participate in the Ministry



Pick a place to serve!



Get involved in a Missions Trip



Guatemala 2016!

- Medical
- English Classes
- Chapel Services
- Evangelism
- Labor
- Relationship Building



How can I get involved?

- By Going
- By Sending
- By Praying



Contact Information

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