Understanding Your Calling

2Peter 1:10 Wherefore the rather, **brethren**, give diligence to make **your calling** and **election** sure: for if **ye** do these things, **ye** shall never fall:

John 13:17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

3 Jesus **knowing** that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;

7 Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.

Mark 16:14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

1. An Evangelistic Call

* **Now**

Mark 16:15 “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature”.

* **Before**

Mat.10:5 These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:

6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

* + **A special mission to the Jews. (A Special Appointment)**
  + The Lord did not want to put a stumbling block before Israel, by sending His

Disciples to the Gentiles first, leaving them totally without any excuse and He was willing to be a stumbling stone against their unbelief and hardness of heart, at any price.

Rom. 9:32 Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone;

33 As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Mat.15:24 But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

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.

37 Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;

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

Acts 3:25 Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.

26 Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.

Luke 2:32 A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

34 And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;

Acts 13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

1Peter 2:6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

7 Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

Acts 4:11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

What is an Evangelistic Call?

Eph. 1:18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

(16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers)

1. Understanding the Call by exercising your faith in Jesus Christ.
   1. In the Word of Truth.
   2. In the Way of Truth.

Isaiah 6:5-11(Mine eyes have seen the King the Lord of Host) 7 Sin purged 8 Call

Mat.16:16-19,22

1. Understanding the Resurrection of Jesus Christ by faith.
   1. By Faith His Life is added to your heart.
   2. By Faith His Grace, Peace and Glory is added to your heart
   3. By Faith His Virtue is received. Knowledge, Temperance, Patience, Godliness, Brotherly Kindness, and Charity.
   4. By Faith Experience is understood and Faith is shared that others would have the same experience.

Psalm 23:5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

1Cor. 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

2Peter 1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ

2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves **swift destruction**.

2 And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom **the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.** Diversity breeds discord and disagreements.

1. The Whole Load of sin is forgiven, No, not until repentance.
2. Repentance is just feeling sorrowful, No, you must turn from sin.
3. Understanding your Personal Responsibility to the Lost

Acts 13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain **prophets and teachers**; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. (5 men)

2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto **I have called them**.

3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they **sent them** away.

4 So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

1. **Barnabas**

Acts 4:36 And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of **Cyprus**,

To some it would be just going Home but this time he is on a mission.

1. Simeon that was called Niger thought to be the same who carried Jesus’ cross
2. Lucius of Cyrene
3. Manaen – (means comforter) “had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch”
4. Saul

Acts 11:19 Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only.

20 And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus.

* You will have to go through the Valley of death to help people.
* You will go through the Valley of death (to win the lost)

What does it mean to bear a burden for lost souls?

* Go through the Valley of death.

Mark 16:14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

* It’s when a believer will travail over the unbelief of a sinner.
* It’s when the Lord burns an unquenchable fire in the heart of the believer for the lost.
* Teaching from the Holy Ghost to help us understand the Word of Truth and the Way of Truth. (feelings will come and go, rise and fall, change.)
* Travailing from the Holy Ghost that takes hold of your heart until a certain soul gets the help that they need.
* It’s when you have an unsatisfied desire to win the lost.

1Cor. 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

Psalm 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will **fear no evil**: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Proverbs 29:25 **The fear of man bringeth a snare**: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.

1Peter 1:6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

**Mark 16:16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.**

There is a Heaven to gain and a hell to shun

There is a Blessed Eternity, Glory and Honor and Praise unto the Lord and an Eternal Burning Hell, a place of damnation and destruction.

* Hell is a place where every soul that has rejected God will go.
* Hell is a place where the souls that God has decided to not be gracious to any more.
* Hell is a place of torment, darkness and unquenchable flames.

Rev. 20:14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

* The Ministry of an Apostle is not over, nor have the Prophets ceased.
* Nor the Evangelists, Nor Teaching Pastors

Jer. 3:15 And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

Are you understanding your calling? Isaiah 29:24; 32:3-4

Are you calling for understanding?

Heb 11:3 “Through faith we understand”

1John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

(2,3,5,8) Knowledge, (8)Fruitfulness, (9)vision and (10)basis

Knowing, Growing and Going

5 “giving all diligence”

10 “give diligence”

“make your calling and election sure”

“do these things”

It takes a Profession of Faith to start and a Progression of Faith to continue.

Faith leads to growth and growth to Evangelism.

* The best defense against false teachers and false teaching is believers of like Precious Faith (1)
* The best offence against false teachers and false teaching is exceeding great and precious Promises. (4)

Experience and Revelation will continue as you grow.

Dependability and Durability is in those that really understand God’s Word.