

A Call To Service

- Willing Service
- Consecrated Service
- Personal Service
- Immediate Service
- Divine Service

This lesson is entitled, "A Call To Service".

We are CALLED, to GIVE all that we HAVE, and all that we ARE, to God's SERVICE.

It is a Divine right as Creator and King, to Call.

- "Know ye, that the Lord, He IS God: it is He that hath made us, and NOT we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture." ([Psa.100:3](#))

In 1Chronicles chapter 29, we have an appeal to contribute, to building the temple.

In 1Chron.29:5b we have this question,

- "who then, is (1) WILLING to (2) CONSECRATE (3) his SERVICE, (4) THIS DAY, (5) UNTO THE LORD?"

...Which is the sentiment, of N.T. teaching.

Truly we have a call to,

I. "WILLING" SERVICE

A. WILLING: means "Ready to Act, Unforced";

No reluctance; No pressure; Done cheerfully, and of Free will.

God does not use constraint; He wants a willing response, with affection, and devotion.

- "Every man ACCORDING as he purposeth in his HEART, so let him GIVE; NOT grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a CHEERFUL giver." ([2Cor.9:7](#))

WILLINGNESS, underlies work, influence, and liberality.

B. The Spirit of the Gospel: is Persuasion and Appeal; Not Compelled.

The Lord, Appeals to the lost, through His Gospel.

- "He that believeth and is baptized shall be SAVED; but he that believeth not shall be damned." ([Mk.16:16](#))

- "COME unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." ([Matt.11:28](#))

- "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living SACRIFICE, holy, ACCEPTABLE unto God, which is your Reasonable (or spiritual) SERVICE." ([Rom.12:1](#))

- "For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power, they were WILLING of themselves;" (reads [2Cor.8:3](#))

C. Let us Respond, as they Did.

- [1Chron.29:6](#) reads, "the chief of the fathers, and princes of the tribes of Israel, and the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the rulers of the king's work, offered WILLINGLY,"

D. The WILL of mankind, must CONSENT, to the path of SERVICE.

- Isaiah said, "Here am I; send me." ([Isa.6:8](#))

E. We need to Desire to stand Ready, Unforced to Serve as Needed.

A Call To Service, will include,

II. "**CONSECRATED**" SERVICE

A. CONSECRATE: means to "To set apart, or devote to God."

Our need, is to make THIS our vocation.

An example, can be found in [Heb.10:9a](#),

- "then said he, Lo, I **COME to DO Thy will, O God.**"

• "Jesus saith unto them,
My meat is to **DO the WILL of Him that sent Me**, and to **FINISH His work.**" ([Jn.4:34](#))

- "Forasmuch then, as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, **ARM yourselves likewise** with the **SAME mind**: for He that hath suffered in the flesh, hath ceased from sin;
² that he no longer should **live** the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but **to the WILL of God.**" ([1Pet.4:1-2](#))

In all, we should strive to honor God.

Samuel said to the house of Israel,

- "If ye do **RETURN** unto the Lord, with **ALL your HEARTS**, then **PUT AWAY** the strange gods and Ash-ta-roth from among you, and **PREPARE your hearts** unto the Lord, and **SERVE HIM ONLY**: and He will deliver you, out of the hand of the Philistines." ([1Sam.7:3](#))

- Paul said, "what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.
⁸ Yea doubtless, and I **count all things but loss**,
for the excellency of the KNOWLEDGE of Christ Jesus my Lord:
for Whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung,
that I may **WIN Christ**," ([Phil.3:7-8](#))

A call to consecrated service is,

B. Not a call to leave secular work.

- As the Bible says, "Let him that stole, steal no more:
but rather let him labour, working with his hands, the thing which is good,
that he may have, to give to him that needeth." ([Eph.4:28](#))

CON-SECRATE self, to the Lord in ALL activities.

- "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other;
or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other.
Ye cannot serve God and mammon (or wealth)." ([Matt.6:24](#))

All secular work is to glorify Him.

- "Servants, obey in all things your masters, according to the flesh;
NOT with eyeservice, as menpleasers; **BUT** in singleness of heart, **FEARING God**:
²³ and **whatsoever ye do, DO it heartily, AS to the Lord**, and **NOT** unto men;
²⁴ knowing that **OF** the Lord, ye shall **RECEIVE** the reward of the inheritance:
for ye **SERVE** the Lord Christ." ([Col.3:22-24](#))

Thus transformed...

- So, "be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind,
that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." ([Rom.12:2](#))
- Christians should be a better employer, better employee, and better neighbor, etc.

C. All that we are, should be taken up with the Savior, and His Will for our lives and service.

- “the very God of peace sanctify you **WHOLLY**; and I pray God your **WHOLE** spirit and soul and body be **PRESERVED** blameless unto the **COMING** of our Lord Jesus Christ.” ([1Thess.5:23](#))
- “For to me to Live, **IS** Christ, and to die, **IS** Gain.” ([Phil.1:21](#))

Consecrated Service, will include,

D. Setting Affection on things Above.

- “**IF** ye then be **RISEN** with Christ (that is, risen from baptism to a new life IN Christ: Rom.6:3-5; 2Cor.5:17), **SEEK** those things which are **ABOVE**, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. ² **SET** your affection on things **ABOVE**, not on things on the earth.” ([Col.3:1-2](#))

E. Ability may be limited (which is true for all), But little able to do, can be CONSECRATED service.

- Therefore, “**Whatever** thy hand findeth to do, **DO** it with thy **MIGHT**; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.” ([Ecc.9:10](#))

What we are Capable to Do, We are Responsible to Do.

Someone has said,

- Ability + Opportunity = **Responsibility**.
- I will also note, that any ability one has, comes from God (read the last part of [1Pet.4:11b](#))

A Call To Service, will include individual,

III. PERSONAL "SERVICE"

A. Not volunteer for someone else, but devote PERSONAL SERVICE to God.

Going to Heaven is a PERSONAL affair.

Personal responsibility -- I must shoulder mine, and you must shoulder your responsibility.

Personal service to the Lord, is the Highest call, one could receive.

- “If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master’s use, and prepared unto every good work.” ([2Tim.2:21](#))

We are called for self-surrender.

Paul said,

- “For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power, they were **willing of themselves**; ⁴ praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. ⁵ And this they did, not as we hoped, but **first gave their own selves to the Lord**, and unto us by the will of God.” ([2Cor.8:3-5](#))

B. We Should Give Ourselves Freely for Him, Who Gave Himself for Us.

...Which is The Source, of ALL real joy.

[1Chron.29:9](#) says,

- “The people **Rejoiced**, for that they **offered willingly**, because with perfect heart, they **offered WILLINGLY to the Lord**: and David the king also **Rejoiced with great joy**.”

Paul clarified unconditional **Giving of Self**, in [Gal.2:20](#)

- He said, “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, Who loved me, and gave Himself for me.” ([Gal.2:20](#))

If we do not know the joy of these people,
We do not yet know, true blessedness.

- The Psalmist said, “I delight to **DO Thy WILL**, O my God: yea, Thy law is within my heart.” ([Psa.40:8](#))

We Are CALLED to INSTANT,

IV. IMMEDIATE SERVICE, "THIS DAY"

A. The NEED is now; Not next year, (next) month, (next) week, or Tomorrow

There is No such thing as too early; Tomorrow may be too late.

- “(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, **NOW is the accepted time**; behold, **NOW is the day of salvation**.)” ([2Cor.6:2](#))

We are Not promised tomorrow.

- “¹³ Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:
¹⁴ whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.” ([Jas.4:13-14](#))
- As Jesus “walked by the sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.
¹⁷ And Jesus said unto them, **Come ye after Me**, and I will make you to become fishers of men.
¹⁸ And **STRAITWAY** they forsook their nets, and **FOLLOWED Him**.” ([Mk.1:16-18](#))

B. If We Are Older: There’s No time to lose;

**If We Are Younger: NOW is the time, to dedicate our whole life,
in Service to the Lord.**

A Call to Service, includes,

V. DIVINE SERVICE, "UNTO THE LORD"

...Not to secular activities, or social, civic duties,

A. But Service UNTO HIS church.

- Jesus said, "I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock, I will build **My church**; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." ([Matt.16:18](#))
- "**UNTO the church of God** which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified **IN** Christ Jesus, **CALLED** to be saints, with all that in every place **CALL** upon the **NAME** of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours." ([1Cor.1:2](#))
- "Salute one another with an holy kiss (that is, make your greeting holy). The **churches of Christ** salute you." ([Rom.16:16](#))

B. The Call, "Unto The Lord" is,

- "...**by our GOSPEL**, to the obtaining of the glory, of our Lord Jesus Christ." ([2Thess.2:14](#))
- "For I am not ashamed of the **GOSPEL** of Christ: for it (the gospel) is the **POWER** of God unto **SALVATION** to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek (or gentile)." ([Rom.1:16](#))
- "For the **GRACE** of God that bringeth **SALVATION**, hath appeared to all men," ([Titus 2:11](#))
- "But they have **NOT** all **OBEYED** the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? (or preaching?)" ([Rom.10:16](#))

C. Greatness of the Church, Shows Greatness of the Call:

...Bought with the greatest price ever paid.

- "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers, to feed the **church of God**, which he hath **purchased with His own blood**." ([Acts 20:28](#))

Greatness of the church, Is Where GOD put salvation.

- "For He is our peace, Who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us (talking about Jew and Gentile);¹⁵ having abolished in His flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in Himself of twain, one new man (that is, a Christian), so making peace;¹⁶ and that He might reconcile both (Jew & Gentile) unto God, in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:" ([Eph.2:14-16](#))
- "praising God, and having favour with all the people. And **the Lord ADDED** to the church daily such as should be saved." ([Acts 2:47](#))

We are Guided in all things, by Divine law.

- “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: ¹⁷ that the man of God may be perfect (or complete), throughly furnished unto all good works.” ([2Tim.3:16-17](#))

We have All-sufficient resources, for the work assigned.

- “For from you sounded out the Word of the Lord, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing.” ([1Thess.1:8](#); read also [Acts 6:1-7](#))

Permanence, Surpasses Time.

- [Dan.2:44](#) reads, “in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.”
- “Wherefore we receiving a kingdom (or church) which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:” ([Heb.12:28](#))

IN-CLOSING:

WHO THEN, WILL CONSECRATE HIS SERVICE, THIS DAY...?

...with thankfulness and privilege, to receive the call.

- “See that ye refuse **NOT** Him that speaketh. For if they escaped not, who refused Him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from Him that speaketh from heaven:” ([Heb.12:25](#))

Honorable and Happy service awaits.

- “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” ([Eph.6:12](#))
- “And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” ([Phil.4:7](#))

The Greatest reward, is after the battle of this life.

- Paul said, “I have **FOUGHT** a good fight, I have **FINISHED** my course, I have **KEPT** the faith:
⁸ henceforth there is laid up for me a **CROWN** of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing.” ([2Tim.4:7-8](#))

...But only on the terms of complete consecration.

- Jesus said, “Thou shalt **LOVE** the Lord thy God with **ALL** thy heart, and with **ALL** thy soul, and with **ALL** thy mind.” ([Matt.22:37](#))

WHO THEN IS WILLING TO CONSECRATE, HIS SERVICE THIS DAY, UNTO THE LORD?

If you have a spiritual need, Please **COME**,

- Hearing, Believing, Repenting, Confessing, Be Baptized, and remain Faithful forever more.

As Together we stand and sing.

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