

# THE CALL



# Genesis 12

# Genesis 12

The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

# Genesis 12

<sup>2</sup> “I will make you into a great nation,  
and I will bless you;  
I will make your name great,  
and you will be a blessing.

# Genesis 12

<sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you,  
and whoever curses you I will curse;  
and all peoples on earth  
will be blessed through you.”

# Genesis 12

<sup>4</sup> So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran.

# Genesis 12

<sup>5</sup> He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

# Genesis 12

<sup>6</sup> Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land.



# Genesis 12

<sup>7</sup> The LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

# Genesis 12

<sup>8</sup> From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD.

# Genesis 12

<sup>9</sup> Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev.



# The Call

1. Catch someone's ear for a time (phone)

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2. Call something a name (call it into being or make it)

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2. Call something a name (call it into being or make it)
3. In NT, gets associated with salvation

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“Follow Me!”

# Follow Me

“It is to the cross that the Christian is challenged to follow his Master.”

Hans Urs Von Balthasar

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Who is doing the action?

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# The Call

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- 1.

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- Our primary call is to intimacy with God

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- By him,

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- Our primary call is to intimacy with God
- By him, To him,

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- Our primary call is to intimacy with God
- By him, To him, For him

# The Call

1.

- Our primary call is to intimacy with God
- By him, To him, For him
- We are not primarily called to do something or go somewhere; We Are Called TO Someone.

# The Call

2.



# The Call

2.

- Our secondary Call is to be like Christ

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- Be the image of God and participate in its restoration.

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- Our secondary Call is to be like Christ
- Be the image of God and participate in its restoration.
- Our secondary call is not to do something or go somewhere; We Are Called to BE Someone.

# The Call

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- Our secondary Call is to be like Christ
- Be the image of God and participate in its restoration.
- Our secondary call is not to do something or go somewhere; We Are Called to BE Someone.
- E. M. Bounds wrote, “The Church is looking for better methods. God is looking for better people.”

# The Call

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- Means community



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- Make the most of Today
- Means community
- **MAY** involve a specific occupation

# Mistakes of the Call

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- Failing to understand our PRIMARY CALL or to keep it the PRIMARY CALL

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- Confusing call with occupations

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- Failing to understand our PRIMARY CALL or to keep it the PRIMARY CALL
- Confusing call with occupations
- Our jobs are not what we hope people remember about us when we die.

# Application

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- God's call is both a call to and a call away.

# Application

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  - What might God be calling you away from (not just sin) to follow him? - v1



# Application

- God's call involves relinquishing control

# Application

- If Jesus' call to follow him takes us to the cross, what might it look like for you to FOLLOW HIM this week?

# Application

- God's call involves relinquishing control

# Application

- God's call involves relinquishing control
- Where might God be asking you for greater intimacy and trust?

# Application

- God's call involves a community

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# Application

- God's call involves a community
- Where have I allowed my understanding of call to be limited to individuals?

# Application

- Have we been confusing jobs for callings?
- What should/can be done about it?