

When God Calls You
Mary
Luke 1:26-38

1. Today we talked about three calls of God. The first call is the General Call that is offered to everyone. Describe the events surrounding the time when you responded to that call.
 - a. How did your life change?
 - b. Matthew 11:29-30 is an invitation to take Jesus' yoke which is especially designed for us. How has being yoked with Jesus helped you carry your burdens?
2. The second call is the call to Discipleship. It is only for those who responded to the first call. It is the call that asks us to sacrifice our rights and control to ourselves and our lives, surrendering them to Jesus.
 - a. As you reflect on Mary, what would have happened if she had refused to surrender her control?
 - b. Reflect on your life. Are there areas that God is asking you to give to Him? What is holding you back?
3. The third call is the Special Call. It is the call that the Lord has specifically chosen for you.
 - a. What is God's special call on your life?
 - b. How have you stepped into that call?
 - c. As you think of your spiritual gift(s), is God calling you to use it in ministry for Him?
 - d. If you are using your spiritual gift, share how.
 - e. If you are not using your spiritual gift, what needs to happen for you to start?
 - f. If you are not sure of your spiritual gift, here is a great website that will explain and help you discover your gift: <http://www.spiritualgiftstest.com/>. Make sure you listen to the video before you take the spiritual gifts test. It is short but good.

Ponderings for Life

Take a look at the Identity Statements (Promises) on the back. I firmly believe that when we surrender our lives, hopes and dreams to the Lord, He will give back to us His hopes and dreams for us. The beauty of this is that His dreams for us are so much bigger and more satisfying than our puny ones.

- Read the list and choose two or three statements that catch your attention. This is just to get you started. As you start to spend daily time in God's Word, He will reveal others to you.
- Start constantly talking to the Lord about these statements and ask Him to empower you to believe them and to help you live and make decisions from them.
- As these truth statements (promises) become part of your life, God's dreams will start forming in your heart.
- When your heart starts to stir with God's dreams for you, start stepping into them by preparing yourself:
 - Spending time daily with Jesus.
 - Spending time with others (women) who are passionate about Jesus and can be a sounding board, helping you form those dreams.
- Be courageous and start moving toward your dream!