

May 16th & 17th, 2026

What is Your Call? ***Being Comes Before Doing***

Acts 16:1-5

The call of God defines who we are before it defines what we do, and when we live in that call, others are strengthened.

The Significance of God's Call

❖ God draws our attention to a disciple named Timothy.

Acts 16:1 "Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra. A disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek."

↳ God initiates the call in every one of His disciples.

Romans 8:30 "And those whom He predestined He also called, and those whom He called He also justified, and those whom He justified He also glorified."

John 15:16 "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in My name, He may give it to you."

John 3:27 "John answered, 'A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven.'"

Called to be a Disciple

❖ The description of Timothy is not his past, his job, or his family story; he is a disciple.

Acts 16:1b "...A disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek."

↳ The call of God defines us.

2 Timothy 1:9 "[God] saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of His own purpose and grace, which He gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,"

↳ Discipleship carries a cost that we cannot afford to avoid.

Acts 16:3a "Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him, and he took him and circumcised him..."

Luke 9:23, "And He said to all, 'If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me.'"

↳ The One who calls will complete His work in us.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 "Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it."

Called to Witness to Others

- ❖ Timothy didn't start serving God when Paul showed up; Paul found a young man already serving God.

Acts 16:2 "He was well spoken of by the brothers at Lystra and Iconium."

- ↳ A witness in his environment.

2 Timothy 1:5-7 "I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. ⁶For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

- ↳ An ambassador for Christ.

Acts 16:3-4 "Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him, and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. ⁴As they went on their way through the cities, they delivered to them for observance the decisions that had been reached by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem."

- ↳ An early start in ministry.

1 Timothy 4:12 "Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity."

Called to God's Direction

- ❖ When we choose to obey the Lord, He will give us real success and lasting purpose.

Acts 16:4-5 "As they went on their way through the cities, they delivered to them for observance the decisions that had been reached by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem. ⁵So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and they increased in numbers daily."

- ↳ They brought the message of salvation, and God provided the fruit to the Church.

1 Corinthians 3:6-7 "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth."

Psalms 127:1-2 "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. ²It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for He gives to His beloved sleep."