

EQUIP Transformed SERVICE

Level 3 Lesson 6

Introduction

The main question in the introduction of this book is why are so many called but few are chosen?

A meaning of "call" is to call out to someone, invite, summon get the attention of. <u>Matthew 20:8</u>. The owner of the vineyard told the foreman to call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.

If you are last, but you endure and keep the faith, it is then you shall be first in that which you have been last in. The first will be last to that which they were first in, but evidently they will qualify to be first after running the race of **faithfulness**.

Disciples of God, it is all about being faithful to the end!

A meaning of chosen is the noun **Bachir-** chosen ones - <u>1 Chronicles 16:13</u>. The verb **Eklego-** to pick out select, <u>Luke 6:13.</u>

God calls all Christians to do His will. However, there are only a chosen few. <u>Matthew 20:16.</u> This is not because God desires only a few to be chosen by Him, but it is clearly because few remain faithful, in doing the work of God. **God must become the subject and we must become the object**. He must come first in our life!

<u>Hebrews 6:12</u>, Gods' instructions are do not be slothful, but be followers of them that through their faith and patience has inherited the promises of God. Those promises are for all believers that have remained **faithful** to God. God said if you remain faithful in a few things, He will reward you with many things <u>- Matthew 25:23</u>.

Bob Yandian said, there is not just a "key to successful" ministry. "In reality, there are a <u>handful</u> of significant **keys** of understanding and wisdom which are revealed to us as we study, meditate and act on the Word of God." These **keys** unlock secrets of success and give insights which become major mile markers in our walk with the Lord. Some of these are <u>the Grace of God</u>, <u>our right standing before God</u>, <u>the authority of the believers</u>, and the subject of this book <u>Calling and Separation</u>.

Gods' Word tells us clearly in <u>Matthew 16:19</u>, He will give us the **keys** of the Kingdom of Heaven. He will give us power and authority. What so ever you bind on earth will be bound in Heaven and what so ever you loose on earth will be loosed in Heaven.

Bob Yandian said, instead of seeing God from your perspective you will see yourself from His, by the mirror of His Word.



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Calling and Separation

A calling is the will of God in all believers' life, throughout their time here on earth.

Paul was called to be an Apostle. **Romans 1:1,** and the Greek Word for called comes from the root word **kaleo**, which means to call aloud, to summon, or call toward.

Every believer has a calling on their life. The believer must recognize it and accept it. This is done through prayer and supplication to God. He will consecrate us and give us power through the **Holy Spirit** to dedicate our life to serve Him, when we open our hearts to receive and do what He asks of us.

The calling or vocation on our life may be a natural call, for example, such as a school teacher in a public school, or a spiritual call, such as a Missionary. Allowing God to place us in our vocation, will make our life fuller and more productive. <u>Read, Ephesians</u> <u>4:1, Colossians 1:10 and 1 Thessalonians 2:12.</u>

The word separation translated in the original Greek is **aphorao**, which means to set apart by boundaries, or to sever. It has the dual meaning of separating someone **from something**, while separating them **to something**.

The separation period is a refining process.

For example, God may allow you to leave your natural job as a store manger to become a church administrator and then a few months or many months or years down the line, He may speak to your heart about Pastoring a congregation with few people, or many people. The sufficient point here is throughout your journey, God is preparing you **in** His will for your life of service to Him.

Paul the Apostle is a good example of a person, where series of events took place in his life, after making the decision to follow Christ, he became Christs' ambassador. Read Acts 9;15-16 and Acts 13:1-5.

Example: A Couple employed at the US Embassy, left to go to the subways of NY to preach the gospel.

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Faithfulness

THE KEY OF FAITHFULNESS:

When you remain faithful in a few things, God will promote you to many. Matthew 25:23.

Words of Bob Yandian, "you do not need to be where success is located to be successful yourself. God will bring success to you as you are **faithful.**"

God says, without faith it is impossible to please Him. <u>Hebrews 11:6.</u> With faithfulness come patient, perseverance and strength. <u>Read Isaiah 40:30-31 and Lamentation 3:25.</u>

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THE REWARDS OF FAITHFULNESS:

God rewards those that diligently seek him. <u>Hebrews 11:6B.</u> Jesus wants our faith in Him to be unmovable, steadfast. <u>1 Corinthians 15:58</u>. For the labor in Christ is never in vain.

Job lost his family and all of his possessions, but he **never lost faith in God**. Job walked in faith and not by his surroundings or conditions. <u>2 Corinthians 5:7.</u>

<u>Job 36:11</u>, if they obey and serve Him, they shall spend their days in prosperity and their years in pleasures. Because of **Job faithfulness to God**, the Lord blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the beginning of his life. <u>Job 42:11-13</u>.

<u>Please read Psalms 1</u>, and as you do meditate on **Gods' Words** and allow the Words of God to **speak to your heart.**

QUALIFICATIONS VS. FAITHFULNESS:

Words from Maeola, if you are faithful, have a teachable spirit, and strive to do your very best, the Lord will teach you and equip you. He will also make available the people, tools, material and opportunity to you to fulfill His purpose in your life. If God be for us, who can stand against us? <u>Romans 8:31.</u> The Spirit is the **key** to the **keys** of the kingdom. It is the **Holy Spirit** in you that Jesus promised to His disciples the night before He faced the cross at Calvary. That promise is given to all believers to receive. <u>Luke 11:13</u>. We must keep the faith, wait upon the Lord, and He will empower us with the promise <u>Luke 24:49</u>.

Notice one sufficient thing that Bob Yandian said that God taught him. God revealed that you can teach a person **qualification**, but it's a challenge to teach them **faithfulness**. They must choose it for themselves, apart from any persuading of others. Bob understood that Jesus did not place him in the ministry because of his qualifications, it came by **his faithfulness**. **Read 1 Corinthians 4:2.**

Jesus Christ is our example. Jesus is found faith throughout His life here on earth. He was faithful unto the cross; more over He continues to be faithful to us. Jesus sits on the right hand of the Father and intercedes for us continually without stopping. <u>Read Romans 8:34.</u>

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Faithfulness

GOD DEFENDS THE FAITHFUL:

In 1 Chronicles 16:22, God said, do not touch my anointed, and do not do harm to mine prophets.

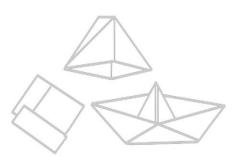
Aaron and Miriam slandered Moses name. God became angry and caused Miriam, Moses's sister to develop a painful contagious nerve disease, called leprous. Numbers 12:9-10.

The Lord preserves the faithful, and fully repays the proud doers. Psalms 31:23. God also will not take His loving kindness from the faithful or cause the faithful to fail. Psalms 89:33.

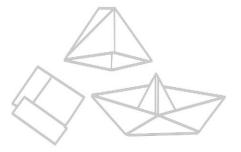
God defends His faithful, He said no weapon formed against you shall prosper, Isaiah 54:17, and every tongue that shall raise against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is my servant's heritage and their righteousness is from me, says the Lord God, Isaiah 54:17.

A few characteristics of the faithful, they love people, they are meek, they are teachable, and they have a caring personality and Godly fear. These are attributes given through the Holy Spirit that operates in a person life as that person yields to the Holy Spirit.

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The Call of God

ELISHA'S CALLING

Elisha recognized his calling right away. He willingly accepted the ministry God had set before him. He gave up everything, (his earthly riches) to commit to the ministry with Elijah. He followed Elijah ten years. God obliviously paired Elisha with Elijah not only to be taught, but to minister to Elijah, as well. Though Elijah and Elisha had a rough journey together, they learned not only what to do but what not to do, in regards to fulfilling God's will in their lives. They also learned how to deal with each others imperfections.

There were many times when Elisha faced doubt and criticism from others. The Prophets doubted his ability to take Elijah's place. Elisha's determination and **faithfulness** to do God's will encouraged him to continue the calling God placed on his life.

ELISHA'S SEPERATION

Elisha obliviously did not follow Elijah for wealth, or fame. Elisha left his prosperous business of being a successful Rancher to follow Elijah. His heart's desire was to do God's will. He prayed for a double portion of Elijah's spirit to be in him. Elijah explained to him that this would only happen if he was with him, and see him taken up into Heaven.

Elijah did not have the power to give Elisha a double portion of the Holy Spirit, **only God**, Himself has this power. **2 King 2:9-10.**

<u>I believe God was using Elijah to test Elisha</u> when he told Elisha to stay behind while he journeyed to Bethel and Jordan on those occasions. But **faithful Elisha** stayed with Elijah throughout their journey. However, if Elisha had remained behind, he would have missed his blessing. <u>Ecclesiastes 9:11</u>, the race is not given to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, but to those that endure to the end. The message is to be **faithful and not give up**.

Elisha received the mantle that had fallen from Elijah. He took it up and went to stand by the bank of the Jordan. Elisha called on the God of Elijah, inquiring, "where is the Lord God of Elijah?" At that time, God separated him; He gave Elisha the power He had given Elijah. Elisha struck the waters of the Jordan River, it parted and he crossed over. During that time the Sons of the Prophets saw the authority God had given Elisha. At one time they doubted his abilities, now they bowed before him 2 King 2: 13-15.



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What About Your Ministry?

Pastor Bob Yandian did not have the qualifications that many other ministers have, **but** he is called and chosen by God. The statement he made, that he is a <u>Pastor to Pastors</u>, really impressed me greatly. God is blessing his ministry.

Disciples, there are three important truths about Gods' Word, you need to pay attention to and you need to remember, concerning **faithfulness**.

- 1. Without faith it is impossible to please God, Hebrews 11:9.
- 2. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God, Romans 10:17.
- 3. Only God can reward the faithful. <u>Hebrews 11:6b.</u> discipleship mentoring discipleship mentoring

Throughout my life journey up to this point in my life, I have learned that God requires of us our undivided attention to Him. It is extremely important for us to give God our undivided attention. To do this it requires **listening** to **hear** His voice.

Three important ways to recognize Gods' voice is.

- 1. Through His Word.
- 2. Through confirmation from spirit filled people.
- 3. Through situations that we experience in our life.

Food for thought scriptures are Psalms 103:8-18.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not try to figure out, or work things out on your own understanding. Bring the Lord God into everything. Trust and obey Him. He will lead you into the right path. **Proverbs 3:5-6.**

Remember, we work **with God** not for Him, <u>1 Corinthians 3:9</u>, for we are laborers together **with God**. **AMEN!**

Gods knows our heart! He will not take his loving kindness from us or cause us to fail, Psalms 89:33.

He will preserve, in other words, (guard, protect and save) the **FAITHFULL**. Psalms 31:23

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Review Questions - Lesson 6

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- 5. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God, Romans 10:17.
- 6. Only God can reward the faithful. Hebrews 11:6B.

3. Matthew 16:19 tells us God will give us the ______ of the Kingdom of Heaven. g

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9. Who lost all his possessions and family, still remained faithful?

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10. People can be taught <u>ment or ing</u>, but they have to choose themselves to be



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