

## Understanding Your Calling (Part 2)

### 8. When you are called to something you must be careful how you build.

1 Cor 3:10 - 15

But each one should build with care. <sup>11</sup>For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. <sup>12</sup>If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, <sup>13</sup>their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. <sup>14</sup>If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup>If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.

- **We must build on the right foundation.**
- **There are alternatives to building on Christ.**
- **You can be called but still building on the wrong foundation and then question the calling.**
- **A foundation is hidden.**
- **Are you building in a manner that will survive God's testing fire.**
- **The quality of what you build is determined largely by its foundation.**
- **The quality of your work is not always known immediately.**
- **Do not build anyhow.**
- **Many are called and are labouring in their fields, but sadly are not careful how they build.**
- **God will reward us based on the quality of what we build.**
- **You are always building something whether by default or by design.**
- **Don't think too short-term.**
- **What are you building; your own ego, empire or a legacy.**

### 9. You and your calling are sacred.

1 Cor 3:16-17

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? <sup>17</sup>If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.

- **Corporately we have been set apart for God's purposes.**
- **When God has called you it means you are His property.**
- **God will protect His property.**
- **People should be careful how they treat us; God's called people.**
- **You should be careful how you treat yourself and your calling.**
- **Understanding your calling means you must understand the mind of the one who called you.**
- **Don't treat your calling lightly.**

- Our calling is made sacred not because of what it is but who has called us.
- You don't belong to yourself

**Acts 12:23 is an example of destruction taking place as a result of someone resisting God's move.**

Immediately because Herod did not give praise to God, an angel of the Lord struck him down and he was eaten by worms and died.

**10. You are called by God to His field and His people.**

<sup>18</sup>Do not deceive yourselves. If any of you think you are wise by the standards of this age, you should become "fools" so that you may become wise. <sup>19</sup>For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight. As it is written: "He catches the wise in their craftiness"<sup>[a]</sup>; <sup>20</sup>and again, "The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are futile."<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>21</sup>So then, no more boasting about human leaders! All things are yours, <sup>22</sup>whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas<sup>[c]</sup> or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours,

**If we go back to verse 9 we see that the people we minister to are God's field. This gets us to ask some of the following questions.**

- To whom have you been called?
- To whom do you belong?
- Who out there is allowed to USE you?
- To whom are you a gift from God?

**God assigns you as a gift to people. There are many unwrapped gifts around us. You don't own people. You there to serve them, not abuse them.**

**11. We are to position our callings aright in the eyes of people.**

**1 Corinthians 4:1-7,17**

This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed.

- Paul articulated how people ought to see him and Apollos.
- He was a great apostle and Apollos was a great preacher yet he clarified how they ought to be seen.
- When you are called by God it's your responsibility to mentor people in how they should regard you.
- Sadly, many people today do not correct people who are exalting them.
- When in Lystra, Paul and Barnabas corrected those who were trying to worship them.
- Paul also acknowledged that they were entrusted with God's mysteries. How do you treat someone who is carrying a package from God?

Acts 14:11-15

<sup>11</sup>When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, 'The gods have come down to us in human form!' <sup>12</sup>Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes because he was the chief speaker. The

priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates, hoping to offer a sacrifice along with the crowds. 14But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul found out about this, they tore their clothes and rushed into the crowd, shouting, 15“Men, why are you doing this? We too are only men, human like you. We are bringing you good news that you should turn from these worthless things to the living God,

- **How do you respond when people worship you? Do you correct them whilst secretly enjoying their praise? Or does it genuinely grieve you? What was my response to the person who said. “Thank you, you saved our lives.”**
- **Often we crave for worship from our spouses and kids.**
- **You might think there is nothing about you that would cause people to worship you but as you prosper and get more breakthroughs watch what happens. Decide now how you will respond.**
- **The people around you, do you know what they have been entrusted with?**

## **12. Your calling is entrusted to you.**

<sup>2</sup>Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.

- **God chooses to trust you to fulfil your calling.**
- **God is not in unbelief with regards to your calling.**
- **Do you know what you have been entrusted with? Paul knew. He was entrusted with mysteries. Perhaps you have been entrusted with a message, a method, a solution or a cause.**

## **13. We are accountable to God with regards to how we handle our calling.**

<sup>3</sup>I care very little if I am judged by you or by any human court; indeed, I do not even judge myself. <sup>4</sup>My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me. <sup>5</sup>Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of the heart. At that time each will receive their praise from God.

- **We should not be enslaved to man’s judgment or opinion.**
- **Our problem is that we often care too much about what people think.**
- **We should be cautious about our blind spots and believing our own press.**
- **God will judge our work.**
- **God takes into consideration our hidden motives when He judges us.**
- **Our main interest should be the praise and honour that comes from God.**

<sup>6</sup>Now, brothers and sisters, I have applied these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, so that you may learn from us the meaning of the saying, “Do not go beyond what is written.” Then you will not be puffed up in being a follower of one of us over against the other.

## **14. Our Gifts and Callings are completely from God.**

<sup>7</sup>For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?

- **Seeing that what you have is a gift from God will affect your behaviour and attitude.**

- **Your flesh will try to assert its independence from God; “I am a self-made man.”**
- **When we are called and gifted our flesh has a tendency to boast.**
- **What gifts do you tend to boast about?**

Deut 8:17-18

17"[Otherwise, you may say in your heart, 'My power and the strength of my hand made me this wealth.'](#)"18"But you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, ...

### **15. Whatever you do must be replicable.**

1 Cor 4:17

For this reason I have sent to you Timothy, my son whom I love, who is faithful in the Lord. He will remind you of my way of life in Christ Jesus, which agrees with what I teach everywhere in every church.

- **God is generational.**
- **God wants you to leave a legacy.**
- **True disciple- makers pass on something to the next generation.**
- **True builders multiply themselves.**
- **Does your vision have a multi-generational dimension?**

The Lord spoke to me in a dream about the message, the man and multiplication (3 Ms). When God calls you he will often give you a message. He will also work with the man (or woman), speaking of your character. After that He expects you to multiply that which He has given you.