

Have You Been Called?

October 2018



There is perhaps, nothing as sacred in life as the call of God on a person's life. The call of God is eternal. God will never change his mind when He calls you.

I remember as a child my first awareness of God. I must have been about four. Mother was watering the cows by the well house in the summer time. I was standing perhaps thirty feet on the other side of the well house in the field. I had to go wherever Mother went, because we were the only ones home. I remember having a sense that God was near and that He had a purpose for my life. Later, at the age of twelve, I told my Mother as she was washing dishes in the kitchen sink, "I guess I have to be a preacher."

Norvel Hayes, author of *Don't Let the Devil Steal Your Destiny*, believes that God calls every Christian to some kind of ministry and that the Devil does his best to divert, distract and pull that individual away from his or her calling. Lorraine and I have become painfully aware of how many people we have crossed paths with who seem to have lost their fire and focus, and are doing something that is not their calling, or in some cases just drifting, like ships without a sail.

A few years ago, I was privileged to meet with one of Billy Graham's inside men. I will never forget what he said. "A lot of people wanted Billy to do a lot of different things, but he knew what he was supposed to do and he would not be distracted from his calling."

Paramount Pictures wanted Billy to become an actor. One of the major television networks offered to pay him a million dollars a year to host a program to run opposite of Arthur Godfrey. Lyndon Johnson seriously propositioned Billy to run for president when his term was finished. He said he would put his entire staff behind Billy's campaign. Billy was offered millions of dollars and a thousand acres of land in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida to start a Bible College.

All of these things Billy turned down because he knew he was called to preach the Gospel.

I personally, have endured a plethora of obstacles that stood in the way of my calling. At times it seemed that all of hell was against me to try to make me quit. The ministry has had some very large successes and times when it seemed like we were just hanging on by our fingernails.

This morning I received one of the greatest encouragements I have perhaps ever gotten. I mailed a test copy of my second book to a well-respected business man. He received it in the mail yesterday and by early this morning had read the whole thing. His comment was, "I just finished your second book. You are a master storyteller. The book was fast-paced, engaging, and carried a powerful message."



I wish things could go much faster, but they seem to move along slowly. This week Lorraine and I sent the pictures and copy for our new web site to the web builder in Hutchinson, Minnesota. We are very close. As soon as we can

arrange to meet with them again, the web site will go up. The main purpose initially, for the site is to host our books, which will be very important to the spreading of the Gospel.

Perhaps God has called you to some kind of ministry and you've never gotten there, or you got there but were pulled away or distracted. In the *Screwtape Letters*, written by C.S. Lewis, *Screwtape* instructs *Wormwood* in the art of gaining souls for the Devil by diverting their energies in multiple directions.

Does this sound anything like modern day Americans . . . diverting their energies in multiple directions?

Perhaps it's time to take a closer look at your life. Is there something that God has asked you to do that you haven't done?

I once heard a preacher share from the pulpit how he wrestled with the call of God. He felt he had been called to the ministry, but he was a farmer. One day, troubled about the whole thing, he decided to put out a fleece to the Lord. "God," he said. "If you want me to go into the ministry, take my best cow."

The next day when he went to the barnyard, there lay his best cow on its side, dead as a doornail!

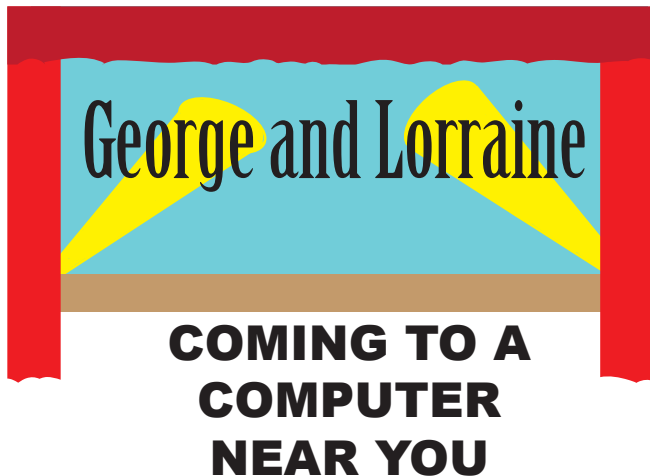
"I suppose that was kind of a stupid prayer," he said.

Stupid, or not, the prayer did the job. He went into the ministry, and to my knowledge, is still preaching.

If you have been called to a ministry, be it large or small, you will never be truly happy until you are walking in it. My admonishment is out of kindness. The intent is not to stir up your life and make a mess of it, but rather that you would find true fulfillment by walking in your calling.

Is it time to have a little talk with Jesus?

THIS OCTOBER



Our ministry will be taking on a new name, George and Lorraine. You will be able to find our ministry web site this month at georgeandlorraine.com. You will find our vision statement, history, biographies up to six months of previous newsletters and a way to make financial contributions to our ministry. In the future you will also find George's book.

This is a very exciting time for us. George and I have discussed the many possibilities of how the Lord may use our web site to teach people. We know whatever the Lord decides to do it will be GREAT!

Are you called..... to be a contributor to our Ministry?

It is an adventure to walk with Jesus! We are so excited about what the Lord is doing. We feel like Abraham in the book of Genesis who was instructed by God to leave his homeland. Abraham did not have a clue where God was taking him but he was obedient and went.

That is what our ministry is like. George has written books but first a web site had to be built and that is now being accomplished. The presentation of our newsletter has improved which has become a teaching tool. We receive glowing comments every month from people who are blessed by our teachings and how much they look forward to getting our newsletter.

Do you want to be a part of what God is doing in our ministry? Do you feel called to sow some financial seed?

What you sow into our ministry will allow you to be a part of the blessing that all people receive by our newsletters. You will be a part of all the people being blessed by our web site. You will be a part of how people are blessed by every aspect of our ministry. And you will be a part of everything that is yet to come. I guarantee you that God is in it and it will be exciting!

You will also be able give to the ministry electronically via the web site, georgeandlorraine.com.

In His Service,

*George and Lorraine
Halama*

George and Lorraine Halama

Visit our Web Site @ www.georgeandlorraine.com

All contributions are tax deductible

If you would like to make a contribution by mail, please make your check to Rise Up America, P.O. Box 41291, Plymouth, MN 55441



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