

## CALLED BY GOD!

**“I tell you the truth, a time is coming and now has come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live.”** (Jn.5:25 NIV)

Our call begins with a call out of death into life. God has to initiate this call because we are dead to the things of God. There is a scripture that tells us that there is no one who seeks God; not even one. If we hear and respond to the call, we live. The Bible tells us that we are quickened or made alive with Christ. (Eph. 2:5) **The true Christian life does not begin with our name on a church membership roll, or a course in Christian doctrine, but in a meeting with God.** We are born again; called by God.

The apostle Peter tells us that we are called out of darkness into God’s marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9) We gain the ability to understand. **When before we could not see or understand the kingdom of God.(Jn.3:3), now as we study the Bible things become clearer to us.** It is not by our great intellectual ability, but the work of the Holy Spirit that helps us.

Then we are told in 1 Co.1:9 that we are called into fellowship with God’s Son, Jesus Christ. That is our primary calling while on earth; walking and fellowshiping with the Lord Jesus who has been raised from the dead; alive forevermore. **He is the good shepherd and “his sheep hear his voice and follow him.”** (Jn.10:27) God has plans for our lives; purposes to be fulfilled.

We are told that our calling includes a holy or clean life. (1 Th.4:7) **Our bodies are to be controlled in a way that is honorable.** Our bodies, that are temporary, are given to us to be used to accomplish God’s will.

**Finally, we have a calling to share in the eternal glory of Christ forever.** (2 Th.2:14) This is the final destiny of our call. The apostle writes that the sufferings of this life are not worthy to be compared to the glory that shall be revealed in us. (2 Co.4:17) What a calling! Let’s give ourselves to it.