

The Calling II Ephesians Part 9

*I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened
in order that you may know the hope
to which He has called you.*

Ephesians 1:18

I'm going with the Greek translation that reads, "That you may know the hope of his calling." The thing that Paul is placing his hope in is the calling. Last week I talked about this and gave five things that this call represents. Please refer to it by going on-line to our web site. Today I want to focus on a particular aspect of our calling that I called the most dangerous part, becoming disciples.

Why do I call it dangerous? Because a disciple is a follower who entrusts his life to Jesus Christ and does not revoke that decision when fear sets in. We need to know the plan God has for our lives so that the thrill of living in Him fills us with a sense of destiny. Fear will not give way to an aborted plan if we are true followers. It takes guts and determination to follow a radical. Jesus is a radical when measured in human terms. So, are you radical when it comes to our culture? His disciples were taught to be. Although they were not rude, proud or pushy, they walked in quiet confidence and changed the world.

What kind of person does that? Jesus called men who were willing. The twelve of them may not have impressed a lot of the religious leaders. They were unlearned men according to the standards of Israel (Acts 4:13) but they were willing to learn. They were teachable. Though they were often men who got into arguments with each other, they were honest men. They were honest when confronted and honest with themselves. They also had big hearts. They left all to follow Him and stayed with Him unto death. They were common men who became extraordinary because they risked their reputations and even their livelihoods to follow the One who simply said, "Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men."

I believe that a true disciple is a person who truly is pliable in the hands of the Master. Today we look at our church leaders. The truth is we can look good on the surface for them. We know the words to use and the right excuses to make. But church leaders are not the ones we are to follow. Yes, they are men who must give an account. We are to obey our leaders and work with them in the mission of our churches. But let's not get sidetracked. We all are followers of the Master, Jesus. Jesus is the most important person in your life. To obey Him and honor Him with your life is what will make you happy and fulfilled. You are to entrust your life to Him. He is the One you are to please. When He calls you to step out on the water you do. When He calls you to pray for those at your work place you do. When He asks for your money you give. When he commands you to be holy you change. It's all about Jesus. And Jesus knows those who know and follow Him. He is wild and dangerous but He is the most wonderful adventure you will ever know. Love Him today by following Him. He is calling.