

RIVERWOOD BIBLE CHURCH

February 17, 2019

“When God Calls, What Is Our Answer?”

“God does not choose people because of their ability, but because of their availability.” - Brother Andrew

SERMON OVERVIEW

- When Jesus was asked what the great commandment in the Law was, his response was _____ (Matthew 22:36-40)
- Love can be manifested through many different attitudes, words, and actions.
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - An attitude that undergirds each of these actions is _____

POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE EXAMPLES OF ACCEPTING GOD’S CALL

- **Positive:** (Genesis 12:1-9, Matthew 4:18-22, Luke 1:26-38)
- **Negative:** (Genesis 3:9-10, Exodus 4:1-17, Jonah 1:1-4)
- **Observation:**

A LIMITED SURVEY OF THE “HERE I AM” STATEMENTS IN SCRIPTURE

- Genesis 22:1, 7, 11 - God’s call on Abraham’s to offer his only son, Isaac, as a burnt offering to the Lord.
- Exodus 3:4 - God’s call on Moses to go to Egypt, that the Israelite slaves might be freed.
- I Samuel 3:4-6, 8, 16 - God’s call on Samuel in the middle of the night while Samuel mistakes God’s voice for that of Eli.
- Isaiah 6:8 - God’s open call, asking who will go and confront Israel regarding its sin.
- Acts 9:10 - God’s call on Ananias in a vision to go to Saul, that he might regain his sight.

WALKING THROUGH ISAIAH 6:1-8

In Isaiah 6, Isaiah received a vision of God seated on His high and exalted heavenly throne. Consider God’s evident glory.

- The train of His robe filled the entire temple was a symbol of total power and _____ (Isaiah 6:1).
- The seraphim maintained positions of _____, covering their eyes and their feet while flying so that they wouldn’t touch or see the holiness of God (Isaiah 6:2).
- They called out to one another saying, “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts. The whole earth is full of His glory” (Isaiah 6:3).
- The foundations of the room were shaking and the room was being filled with smoke, likely symbolizing God’s glory _____ the entire place.

Isaiah couldn’t take it anymore...overwhelmed by God’s glory and holiness...he said, “Woe is me, for I am _____! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts” (Isaiah 6:5).

Only when we see God for Who He really is can we rightly deal with the true state of our own hearts which God will graciously enable us to do.

- God had one of the seraphim to take a burning coal from the altar before God and touch it to Isaiah’s mouth (Isaiah 6:6). The coal symbolized the holy cleansing of God sanctifying Isaiah and removing his sin (Isaiah 6:7).
- Rather than ruin, Isaiah is suddenly confronted with the glorious reality that his uncleanness has been _____ for...that he was forgiven.

At this point, God speaks for the first time, saying “Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?” (Isaiah 6:8).

- Isaiah’s response is simply “Here I am. Send me.” (Isaiah 6:8)

WHAT IS IN THE HEART OF ONE WHO IS AVAILABLE TO GOD’S CALL?

- _____ to God → indicative of someone who is abiding in Christ (John 15)
- _____ acceptance → indicative of someone who recognizes that the night is nearly over and the day is almost here (Romans 13)
- **Attitude of** _____ → indicative of someone who recognizes that serving God is infinitely more soul-satisfying than asserting the worthiness of his own desires (I Cor. 15:58)

CONCLUSION

- Before we can be available to God, we must be _____ to God.
- Once we are reconciled, we are to be available to _____ God and others in a faithful manner.
- We are to do so knowing that God is the One who made himself available to us through his son, Jesus.
 - Isaiah 52:3-6 - Israel
 - Jesus made himself available to the will of the Father in Matthew 26:39 when he said that, even in his grief, he was available to do the work of the Father.
 - Isaiah 65:1 - Church
 - Hebrews 13:5 promises that God will be ever faithful, always available, and that he will never leave us nor forsake us.