

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN F E L L O W S H I P

What's your calling?

I Corinthians 1:1-9

What do you think when I ask, "What is your calling"?

*If you have read **I Corinthians** before...*

- *How did you receive it? In what context?*
- *Did you receive it according to your calling?*

Yes, it has personal application for you

- *But it's much bigger than that*
- *What's the bigger picture for your application?*

I Corinthians 1:1-9,

- *What is our calling?*

Knowing your calling, is **what** you serve in

- *Knowing your calling is where you serve from*
- *You never leave your initial calling*

Proverbs 27:8, Like a bird that wanders from its nest is a man who wanders from his place.

Any future additional calling never leaves our initial foundational calling

- *Some in subsequent higher callings who wander from their first calling...*
- *Ephesians 4:11;** apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors & teachers
- *Sacrifice Christ likeness*

Philippians 2:3-7, Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. **Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus**, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but **made Himself of no reputation**, taking the form of a **bondservant**, and coming in the likeness of men.

We can never represent Him by being unlike Him, especially toward each other.

- *How we treat each other is how we are treating Christ*

John 13:34-35, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

Vs. 1, Paul, **called** to be an apostle of Jesus Christ **through the will of God**, and **Sosthenes** our brother

- *Our calling is also supposed to be "through the will of God"*
- *This is the same Sosthenes from **Acts 18***

Who did he write it to? THE Church at Corinth... Not the churches

- *And not to singular individuals*

The entire rest of the letter **must be read** with that understanding.

- It was **NOT** written to any singular individuals, or congregations

Does it apply to each congregation?

- Yes... **together**. But **NOT** separate from each other
- Doing so is attempting to **redefine God's Word** on our terms

I Corinthians 1:1-2, Paul, **called to be an apostle** of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, to the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are **sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints**, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

Who are sanctified in Christ Jesus? Who are saints?

- Those "set apart" from who they were without Christ
- Now set apart "to Christ & in Christ"

Being **sanctified in Christ Jesus** is what He **has done** for us

- Sanctification is the life long process of continually becoming more like Him
- Being saints is the status **He gives us** with Him
- "I am who You say I am"

Ephesians 2:8-9, For by grace you **have been** saved through **faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

- We can't become sanctified saints by anything we have done

"**To the church of God which is at Corinth**" & **Gig Harbor**

- **To the church of PCF, One Hope, Chapel Hill, Calvary Fellowship...**
- **Which of us is it written to, and what are we called to?**
- **Who are we called as?**

If it's not understood "**who**" it is written to, or is misunderstood who it is written to...

- **Can we properly know what the intended meaning & application is?**
- **Can we properly apply it as the Holy Spirit through Paul intended?**

Paul then extends God's grace and peace to those who are the called

Vs.3, Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- **Affirming God's blessings through him with The Father & The Son**
- **You're as safe with me as you are with them**

Vs. 4-7, He expresses his thanks for the **evidence** of God's presence among them

I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance and all knowledge, even as the **testimony of Christ was confirmed among you**, so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ

Vs. 8, who will also confirm you to the end, **that you may be blameless** in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- **I Thessalonians 4:16-17**

How important is this?

*I John 4:17, Love has been perfected **among us** in this: that we may have **boldness in the day of judgment**; because **as He is, so are we** in this world.*

- *Romans 8:29, For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son*
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Vs. 9, God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- *Does the fellowship of His Son exclude anyone who is His?*
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John 17:20-23, “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that **they all may be one**, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that **they also may be one in Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and **that the world may know that You have sent Me**, and have loved them as You have loved Me.”

I John 1:3-4, That which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly **our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ**. And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.