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¹³Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him. ¹⁴He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach ¹⁵and to have authority to drive out demons.

Mark 3:13-15 (NIV)

**WALKING IN
YOUR CALLING**

“We were asked to look into what accounts for the pre-eminence of the West all over the world At first, we thought it was because you had more powerful guns than we had. Then we thought it was because you had the best political system. Next we focused on your economic system. But in the past twenty years, we have realized that the heart of your culture is your religion: Christianity. That is why the West has been so powerful.” - *Niall Ferguson, Civilization*

“The answer is not so much ‘Christianity’ in general as it is the Reformation in particular. In their massive rejection of medieval corruptions and distortions, the Reformers restored to the church not only the gospel, but the authority of the Scriptures, and the importance of lay people.” - *Os Guinness*

Calling:

When God separates someone to Himself and singles them out for a purpose.

Ecclesia: Greek word for Church – “called out ones.”

“For the secret of man’s being is not only to live . . . but to live for something definite. Without a firm notion of what he is living for, man will not accept life and will rather destroy himself than remain on earth.”

- Fyodor Dostoevsky’s The Brothers Karamazov

The Called Respond

“It was an invitation to leave the vast crowd and follow Him up the hill. It was addressed to a larger number than twelve, from whom He afterwards selected the Twelve. One purpose of our Lord in forming the Twelve was that they might constantly be with Him. This would be their preliminary training.”

K.S. Wuest

“We could not even have begun to seek for God unless He had already found us.”

Augustine

**The Called Are
Commissioned**

Appointed: “Apostello”

to send off from one’s self, furnished with credentials, with a commission to act as one’s representative and accomplish a certain mission. The word was used for an envoy, an ambassador.

Commission:

- 1. A Cooperative Mission with Jesus**
- 2. Enabled and Empowered to Act on Jesus' Behalf**

Commissioning is His process of revealing His glory and empowering His people.

For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.

1 Corinthians 3:9 (NIV)

Raoul Wallenberg

Swedish Ambassador, World War 2



Although the Swedish government was technically neutral in WW2, as WW2 was nearing its brutal end, its ambassadors were able to help many people from the atrocities of the German military.

Wallenberg was sent as a Swedish diplomat to Budapest, where he initiated an operation that set up "Swedish houses." Jews who were being persecuted and hunted could seek shelter, saving tens of thousands of Jews in Budapest.

“The Man at the Crossroads,” Diego Rivera, 1933



“Everyone will be forgotten, nothing we do will make any difference, and all good endeavors, even the best, will come to naught. Unless there is God. If the God of the Bible exists, and there is a True Reality beneath and behind this one, and this life is not the only life, then every good endeavor, even the simplest ones, pursued in response to God’s calling, can matter forever.”

Tim Keller

“One good deed is more worth than a thousand brilliant theories. Let us not wait for large opportunities, or for a different kind of work, but do just the things we ‘find to do’ day by day.”

Charles Spurgeon