

Called To Ministry Class Falls Creek 2019

Welcome

- We're excited for the decision you made this week.
- Please complete the card in your seat (if you made a decision regarding a call to ministry this week).
- Pray with them and begin sharing the class material.

Break up the participants into groups of 3 or 4. Have them introduce themselves and share their names, where they are from, and to what ministry they think God may be calling them. Tell them to stay in their groups as they will be discussing different topics throughout the breakout.

Conference Content:

Four things to know about a call to ministry:

- 1. There is no call to ministry that is not FIRST a call to Christ.**
 - a. Edmund Clowney, in his book *Called to the Ministry* says, "You dare not lift your hands to place God's name in blessing on his people until you have first clasped them in penitent petition for his saving grace. Until you have done that the issue you face is not really your call to ministry. It is your call to Christ."
 - b. Share with your group how and where you came to know Christ.***
- 2. Every believer is called to be a minister of the Gospel.**
 - a. Jesus said, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me." The service of every believer is the abandoned life for the cause of Christ.
 - b. "To miss your calling, follow this three point program: assume that it begins in the future, decide that you don't know what it is, and sit down to wait for the Lord's call. No, he has already called you – to be a Christian. Fulfill that call with all your heart and you will learn in his time what ministry is yours." Edmund Clowney
 - c. Share with your group something you can do as soon as you get home that is a ministry of service.***
- 3. God calls some believers to vocational ministry.**
 - a. "Christ's clear call to the gospel ministry is a special instance of the way in which he calls his sheep by name to follow him." Edmund Clowney
 - i. God's call on your life to gospel ministry is as distinctive and clear as your name.
 - b. Though you may know that God is calling you into vocational ministry, you may not know where that call is taking you – and that is okay. "We live by faith, not sight, and the pilgrim of faith sometimes must go out without knowing his immediate destination." Edmund Clowney
 - c. Share with your group what you think is the scariest part of feeling called to the ministry.***

4. God always equips those that He calls.

- a. Finally, “the principle of stewardship in Christ’s kingdom leads us to an unavoidable conclusion: The call of the Word of God to the gospel ministry comes to ALL those who have the gifts for such a ministry.” Edmund Clowney
- b. God will not leave you unequipped for a job he has called you to do. If he were not prepared to equip you, he most certainly would not have called you. But be mindful:
 - i. Without exercise spiritual strength declines rapidly.
 - ii. The work of the Lord can be generally summed up in three words:
 1. Teacher – The teacher of the Word is a workman, who labors to know the Word and instruct others in it.
 2. Leader – Leadership is marked more by being an example than by having authority.
 3. Mature – Maturity includes insight into people and their motives. “The minister must stand beside Christ as did the first disciples and see him looking at the multitudes. Until a man has that vision he is not ready for the ministry. He cannot condemn sinners until he can first weep over them.” Edmund Clowney
- c. *Share with your group which of these three qualities you know you need God to help you with right now.*

Close

- Have a time of Q&A for those who have questions.
- Reference The Call Conference using the provided bookmark.
- Make sure cards have been completed and either left in seats or handed in.
- Encourage students to check out The Discovery and The Devo to End All Devos, and to connect to a small group in their home church.
- Dismiss (Reset room)