



## **TEENS ASK: How can you tell what your calling is?**

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Often one of the greatest challenges a Christian faces is determining what God's call on their life is. This can mean God's call in terms of marriage, parenting, career, and overall life devotion. Many Bible personalities—Jeremiah, John the baptizer, and Paul for example—indicate that they were called prior to their own birth. I personally believe that this is the case for every individual, that God places a call on us from the day he made us.

Some people are lucky enough to have God verbally speak to them and assign their calling; however, or most of us, this is not the case. In terms of marriage and children, the Bible clearly indicates that the vast majority and men and women are called to marriage as well as having (or possibly adopting) children.

For the giving of one's life (a career and cause), consider the following to help you determine what your calling might be:

- What is my hearts desire? Deep down, what do I want to do with my life?
- What am I good at? Where do my talents direct me?
- What motives and moves me deeply?
- What doors are open in my life? What doors are closed or closing?
- What have other people I respect said to me about my calling?
- Is what I'm thinking of something I could see myself doing for a very long time, possibly for the rest of my life?

Answering these questions ought to give you a solid start for realizing your calling. Be in prayer over this issue and ask God to speak to you and direct you...He will answer your prayers! Only he truly knows his plans for you.

Also, note that great peace and calm will come when one is working out their calling, even if it's difficult. Look for the place where you feel "right" and God's peace is in your spirit. God will not hide your calling from you; rather, he seeks to share it with you and help you achieve it.

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### **REFLECTION QUESTIONS**

1. Respond to the questions listed above. Does it give you a better sense of what your calling might be?
2. How is God opening or closing doors in my life to give me direction?
3. What do other people think my calling might be? Do I agree or disagree with them? Why?