

I. God Provides for His Call

When God calls you to a relationship or a task, He has promised to accomplish His will in and through you:

- 1 Thes 5:24 AMP-- Faithful is He Who is calling you...and He will also do it (fulfill His call).
- Phil 2:13 NLT-- For God is working in you, giving you the desire to obey him and the power to do what pleases him.

II. Jesus' Example of Living by Call

A. Study Lk 6:12-17 NLT-- Jesus went to a mountain to pray, and he prayed to God all night. At daybreak he called together all of his disciples and chose twelve of them to be apostles. Here are their names: Simon (he also called him Peter), Andrew (Peter's brother), James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, 15 Matthew, Thomas, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon (the Zealot), Judas (son of James), Judas Iscariot (who later betrayed him). When they came down the slopes of the mountain, the disciples stood with Jesus on a large, level area, surrounded by many of his followers and by the crowds. There were people from all over Judea and from Jerusalem and from as far north as the seacoasts of Tyre and Sidon.

- Write your observations about how Jesus sought the Father for specific direction on where to invest relationally:

B. Jesus' Pattern for Investing in People

Use Jesus' pattern of 3/12/Masses as a tool to help you discern how much time, energy, emotion, and other resources God is asking you to give to the people and activities in your life. Knowing your level of call will help you determine your priorities when you make decisions or when conflicting interests arise.

- Your Inner Circle (3): These relationships are your top priority. Jesus comes first, then husband, then children. You may have one or two others here.
- Your "Twelve" (12)-- These are the people and activities where you are to make a significant investment, not because it is expected, but because you have been called by the Lord to invest here. It is beneficial to further prioritize these within the group.
- Your Masses (M)-- These are the people, organizations, and activities that you are called to in a more limited way (maybe you are called to invest here seasonally or sporadically). Whenever there is an opportunity for you to give here, be sure to pray for God's direction as to what He is calling you to do at this particular time.

- Insights:

### C. Applying Jesus' Pattern

- Make a list of the people, organizations, and activities in your life.
  1. Jesus (Matt. 6:33)
  - 2.
  - 3.
  - 4.
  - 5.
  - 6.
  - 7.
  - 8.
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  - 22.
  - 23.
  - 24.
- Take time to seek God in prayer about your call to each person or activity.
- Identify your current level of investment for each item on your list by putting a 3, 12, or M to the left of their name.
- Use the following questions to help determine your specific call and see where you may need to adjust your thinking or current level of investment for each item:
  - How much time and energy is God calling me to invest there, right now?
  - Do I have a vision and/or a call verse for this item? If not, ask God to confirm your call as you continue to seek Him in prayer.
  - Is this a fresh call or an old one? Has the call changed?
  - Am I experiencing love, joy, peace, etc. in this relationship or activity? Do I feel empowered and energized there?
  - Am I feeling irritated, frustrated, drained, put out, angry, overwhelmed, sad, etc.? Is it possible that I have answered something other than God's call in any of the places I've listed? (Options include needs, wants, people-pleasing, over-responsibility, fear, cultural or familial definitions, etc.)
- Insights:
  
- Continue to pray often about what love looks like for each of your calls so that you can experience God's love, power, and victory in your relationships.