



I read this quote from Vincent Van Gogh "Your profession is not what brings home your weekly paycheck. Your profession is what you are put here on earth to do, with such passion and such intensity that it becomes spiritual in calling." What a great statement and what a challenge it is for all of us who follow Jesus. But how do we find what we are meant to do? What on earth am I here for? What am I supposed to do with my life? These questions bounced around in my head for a long time. How would you answer these two questions, "What is God uniquely calling you to do?" "Are you fulfilling God's calling on your life?" I am not sure how you will answer that but after struggling with it myself I came to the conclusion that, "God has called me to walk step by step with Him, obey Him, and if I can do that, then I will be fulfilling His unique calling on my life." Do you feel called? For many the answer is no or I'm not sure. Calling is not about an assignment like being a parent, or a missionary, or a teacher; or a "calling" to "go into ministry" or "go on the mission field." I think for me I doubted that God would have a reason to call me. My expectation was very low. I needed to expect more of God, I needed to believe in myself

the way God believed in me. I had waited on God and hoped that the elusive “calling” would come and land on my lap. I looked at others and asked why does He have something unique for them, but not for me? I had this expectation that my calling would just magically appear but I finally discovered that I needed to pursue God and be willing to play my part. It took me stepping out in faith before I received my calling and I can tell you that it didn’t come easy to me.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, “When Christ calls a man, He bids him come and die.” We have an expectation that our calling will bring us success, start a business, invent something unique, write a book that impacts thousands, raise the next President, write music that reaches the Billboard Top 100, become the next Rick Warren or Billy Graham, or perhaps make movies that are box office hits. But what if your “calling” is to be in the background and not in the spotlight, how will you handle that?

We are seeing new people coming to our church who have never been in church before, there will be people recovering from illness or loss and they taking small strides toward a better life. The questions facing so many are: Will I have enough money at the end of the month? Will I stay healthy? Will I have a job? They are taking one step at a time, one step closer toward their best selves, the people God wants them to be. This is maybe how we need to started looking at calling. Life today means having a huge amount of discipline and maturity to get by, walking one step at a time, doing whatever they are supposed to do that day. It takes discipline to say, “I don’t know.” It takes faith to trust in one-day-at-a-time. It requires us to lay down our desire for control and trust He is at work. He knows why you were made. May we walk in step with Him every day and in doing so find our calling.

