

## THE CALLING

Main Text: Math 4: 12-24 (Read the scripture)

From the scripture we have just read, we realise that when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, that was when he took up the message John was preaching, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near' It was during this time that we are told in scripture that Jesus began calling his first disciples. In calling them, he says 'Come, follow me'

The calling of the disciples came in a very simple command, put fully loaded. This is a command with two instructions within it. The first instruction is to 'COME'.

### COME:

Beloved in the Lord, many of us sitting here today have 'Come' to the lord and we have tasted of the lord and seen that he is good. But how about members of our family, friends, co-workers and the world at large who have not 'come' to Jesus, and do not know him as Lord and saviour. Someone MUST 'go' and tell them about Jesus, and bring them to Jesus.

**ROM 10: 14-15** - Read the whole passage.

The scripture I have just read poses four questions to the believer to answer, but the bottom line is that the 'Good News' must be preached to the sinner, before they can enter in at the gate of salvation.

We have a mandate to 'Fill the hall' by a set period. Inviting people to church ALONE is not enough, we must go a step further and let the sinner know the one he is coming to and committing to.

The message of salvation is a very simple one. Salvation is about the Birth, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension into heaven of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ.

When telling someone about Jesus, the following scriptures can come in handy.

1. John 3:16
2. I John 5: 11-12
3. Rom 3:23
4. Rom 6:23
5. Prov 14:12
6. Heb 9:27
7. Rom 10: 9-10

{Kindly put up only the **first** and **last** scriptures fully, I will mention the rest of the scriptures for the sake of time}

Rom 10:9-10 I believe is the gate way to entering into the kingdom of God, where after believing in your heart, you take another step of confessing with your mouth, and then you now belong to Christ, you have obeyed his voice, you have fulfilled the first part of the command, the first instruction – 'Come'

In his command, there was a second instruction, and that was to 'Follow'

### **FOLLOW ME:**

Basically, we are required to follow by simply making time on our own to read the scriptures and to pray and commune with our God.

Rom 8: 12- 17 {Read the scripture} If the scripture is true, then who are you following, and who is leading you. Where are they leading you?

Beloved, our mandate in Christ is to follow **him**. We have leaders in the church who have a mandate as well to ensure that they guide us on the paths of righteousness, but make sure you are following Christ who called to you and said 'COME, FOLLOW ME'

### **Math 20: 29**

We notice in this scripture that the two blind men when they had received their sight, followed after Jesus together with the crowd, the same crowd that tried to stop them. In your efforts to try to follow Jesus, some may try to stop you and put impediments in your way, but be focused, and FOLLOW HIM.

### **Prayer**