

Market Place Ministry Part 4
Which Calling Plan Are You On?

1 Peter 2:9 (NIV)
 9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

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“It is not what a man does that determines whether his work is sacred or secular, but why he does it.”
A.W. Tozer

1. God calls us by desire.

Nehemiah 1:2-3 (NIV)
 2 Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem. 3 They said to me, “Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire.”

1. God calls us by desire.

Nehemiah 1:4-6 (NIV)
⁴ When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven. ⁵ Then I said: "O LORD, God of heaven, ...⁶ let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. . .

Nehemiah is an example of the calling by desire plan.

2. God calls us through circumstance.

Esther 2:5-7 (NLT)
⁵ Now at the fortress of Susa there was a certain Jew named Mordecai... ⁷ This man had a beautiful and lovely young cousin, Hadassah, who was also called Esther. When her father and mother had died, Mordecai adopted her into his family and raised her as his own daughter.

2. God calls us through circumstance.

Esther 4:14 (NIV)
14 For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?"

2. God calls us through circumstance.

Proverbs 16:9 (NIV)
9 In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps.

Esther is an example of the calling by circumstance plan.

3. God calls us through service.

Matthew 20:26-28 (NIV)
... whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant,²⁷ and whoever wants to be first must be your slave--²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

3. God calls us through service.

Acts 6:1 (NIV)
¹ In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

3. God calls us through service.

Acts 6:3 (NIV)
³ Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them.

3. God calls us through service.

Acts 6:5-6 (NIV)
⁵ This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶ They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

3. God calls us through service.

Acts 6:8-9 (NIV)
⁸ Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, did great wonders and miraculous signs among the people. ⁹ Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue...

3. God calls us through service.

Acts 8:4-5 (NIV)
⁴ Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. ⁵ Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Christ there.


