# CALLING John 10:1-5, 14; and Ephesians 4:1-7 Message Reflection Guide

# **Conversation Starter**

What is your motivation to go to church on Sundays?

Read: John 10:1-5, 14; and Ephesians 4:1-7

# 1) What is a Calling?

You are first called out from this world to be part of God's flock. You are called His Sons and His Daughters. You are given new names and positions. This is beautiful truth that we get to call the creator of the universe Father, Pappa. We are now called to live out our new identity in all we do.

How is your identity different now that you are a follower of Jesus? How are you living that new identity out in your: Family? Neighborhoods? Christian community (Church)? Work? Nation? World?

# 2) Who is called?

Give an example of someone whom you would say, "this person is called to\_\_\_\_"? What makes them called to that profession/lifestyle? Is calling limited to only certain people or professions?

Sometimes there is a certain holiness put on the position of pastor, priest, missionary, chaplain or any "ministry" profession. Those who have a position on stage we hold up as the ones who are called to minister. I would like to tell you today that even if you work at Sal's Septic and Suage Sucking Services that can be a high and holy calling. You can live that career for the Glory of God. Even the smallest things can be used as a glorious calling for the kingdom of God. You can use your job/profession/life as an opportunity to live out who you are as a child of God in the world and in the Church. The world around you needs you too!

Have you ever seen yourself as called to serve God? If you are called to be a child of God, how are you living out that new identity in your daily life?

# 3) how do I know my specific calling?

#### 1. Pursue God

How are you pursuing god in your life? Has God spoken to you recently in your time with Him?

#### 2. run toward the need.

(C.f. Acts 6:1-7)

What are the specific needs in your community that you as individuals and as a Christian community are uniquely gifted to address?

# 3. What are your passions and giftings and holy desires?

(C.f. Romans 12:1-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; Ephesians 4:1-3, 11-14)

### 4. Be quick to listen

Who are the Godly mentors in your life? Do you have an example of someone speaking into your life to either confirm a gift or calibrate your understandings of your own ability? Have you ever spoken into anyone's life in that way?

# 5. Fall to your knees

Take time to pray reflect on the beauty and wonder of God. Reflect on theses steps and repeat them often in your life.

#### Conclusion

Our identity as children of God is an eternal identity. What we do today lasts for an eternity. We get the privilege of participating in God's rescue plan for the world. Our position of as called children of God never changes but how we live it out may look different from season to season? These five steps are not a one-time process but a daily walk. We must continually ask God to use us as the needs shift and our lives grow and mature so that we can be fully effective as individuals and as a community. My hope for this church community is that you would be know as a people who make a difference in the world around you because of who you are in Jesus.