

THE CALL OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

A Lord's Flock PRAISE & WORSHIP Topic

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Jesus asked a question to His two disciples that made them curious. He is still asking this question today, "What are you looking for?" (Jn.1:38). Like the disciples, we also don't know what we are looking for. Jesus knows that we are looking for meaning, purpose, fulfillment and passion while remaining a faithful Christian. Let us discover our vocation by asking the Good Shepherd, "Lord, what is your will for me?" We must listen and discern God's will. He directs us with confidence on the path to grow in holiness.



What are we looking for?

1. The three aspects of life:

1.1. Relationship. Listen to the one who called us for marriage through prayer and discernment. Then, respond with "I do" (1Pet.3:1-2).

1.2. Work/Career. We are so obsessed with legacy, leaving a name when we are gone. Therefore, let us ask the Lord in order to start the journey of knowing the will of God (Matt.5:16); thus, others may see our good works that glorify our Father in heaven.

1.3. World View. It is the way we see the world with the lens of our faith. When we find the answer in secular ideology, there is no room for God and we lose our identity as Christians (Ps.10:4).

2. Happiness: God wants to give us our happiness to make us enjoy the good in our labor (Eccl.2:24). Happiness is the state of wellbeing; physically, emotionally, and psychologically; there is wellness, balance, and contentment. It is finding our meaning, why we are created in this world. Some find happiness in money, power, fame, pleasure. Let us discover God's calling, discern the best will of God for true happiness.

3. Meaning and purpose. We are in a continuous search for the greatest love because of our desire to discover our purpose and meaning (Jn.15:9-11).

4. The kinds of love that we see.

4.1 The Child. "Love me." The child is selfish. He keeps on wanting and is never satisfied.

4.2. The Teenager. "Love me and I will love you in return." He is afraid to love and to give love. He desires to belong and fears rejection.

4.3. The Adult. "I love you, do you want to return my love?" There is maturity.

4.4. The Old Age. He gives love first without any condition and is willing to sacrifice.

5. Vocation. Marriage is a relationship steeped in imperfection. We need to accept the totality of that person. We become humble and our calling becomes holy and happy (1Pet.3:1-2).

6. Discernment. It is knowing the difference between right and almost right. Steps to Discernment:

6.1. Talk to someone who is wise and respectful. God speaks through others.

6.2. Silence and solitude. God speaks in silence in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

6.3. Start with what we know about ourselves.

6.4. Take it to God. A good prayer life discerns God's will.

6.5. Let God speak. Allow God to speak when we silence our mind.

6.6. Wait and be patient.

6.7. Be assured that God has a plan for us. Lift up everything.

6.8. Ask for the grace to act upon it. Have the courage to take up God's call to vocation.

6.9. Choose and commit.

6.10. Check the fruits. If you choose the will of God, it will produce good fruits.

CONCLUSION: We listen, discern and respond to the call of the Good Shepherd for our immediate, particular and universal vocation (Jn.10:2-7). Let us align our immediate desires to the desires of God that will lead us to holiness and happiness.

REFLECTION:

1. What vocation are you looking for?
2. How did you discern the will and plan of God for you?

SCRIBES Ministry:

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