Hope City

Discussion Guide The Difference A Day Makes

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I'm Called, But...

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Main Idea

Don't trade the bottom of the new season that God has placed you in. That is ordained and anointed by God for the COMFORT of the top of the previous season. The graduation is a celebration. It's also an indication that a new season is about to begin. For David, even though he was called by God, there was still a long road to the kingdom. He was CALLED by God but there was still a process of preparation needed.

Galatians 6:9 (BSB)

Let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

1 Samuel 16:1-13 (NLT)

(1)The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king." (2) But Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me." The Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' (3) Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate." (4) Samuel did what the Lord said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?" (5) Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. (6) When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the Lord." (7) But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the

outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." (8) Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The Lord has not chosen this one either." 9 Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the Lord chosen this one." (10) Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The Lord has not chosen these." (11) So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" "There is still the youngest," Jesse answered. "He is tending the sheep." Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives." (12) So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; this is the one." (13) So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

You Are Called

Samuel was approached by a great man of God who was led by the Spirit of God. And we too have been approached by God with a specific and unique call and anointing.

What do you do if you've been walking in discouragement because you've been confusing the calling, with qualification?

Additional Scripture: Psalm 139:13-18

Are You Committed

We all love the "called" moment. However, we are not very quick to embrace the waiting, in between, and the not quite yet not now season. But catch this. "Not now" doesn't mean "not ever." Neither does "right now" mean forever. Where in your life do you need to trust God and stay committed to the process?

Additional Scripture: 1 Samuel 24:6

Qualified For More

Qualification is not where you end, but rather where you begin. So what does it look like to NOT just be qualified, BUT to be qualified for more?

Additional Scripture: John 15:16 (AMP)

SUMMARY

We've established that you are called by God. The question then is - are you committed? But let me take it one step further - are you submitted? Because you're called by God, but you're appointed by someone. That's why here at Hope City we talk about someone pouring into you. You're called by God, covered by someone, and that's where submission is, and then you're ultimately anointed by God. It is in His anointing and empowering that you are qualified for more.

CALL TO ACTION

- 1. What things do you feel specifically called to? Write it down and then discuss it with your family and/or a spiritual mentor.
- 2. What are some of the signs that someone is truly committed to something? Read 1 Samuel 24 and make notes of what you learn and how you can apply it.
- 3. Memorize Galatians 6:9. Be intentional about having conversations this week encouraging others not to grow weary in well doing.

A great way to take advantage of your calling is to put your purpose into action through <u>Growth Track</u>, <u>Leading</u> a Connect Group, or serving on a <u>Dream Team</u>. If you need assistance you can email <u>info@hopecity.com</u>.

GROUP LEADER RESOURCE

Game: Remember Everything

This get to know you game is best played in a smaller group of around 10 or so people. If playing in a larger group, I'd recommend splitting up into smaller groups.

Everyone must partner up and then find out three things about that partner (maybe school, hobby and food). After a minute, get everyone to report back to the group about the person that they got to know.

You could stop there, or continue on by suggesting each person finds a new partner and discovers three new things about that person. Then maybe get a couple of people in the group to try to remember all the six facts about both people they've interacted with.

You can keep going with a third or fourth round. Get people to try to report all the facts back without making a mistake!