

Bible Class Notes - Lesson 181 God's Purpose

God's Call to Repentance and Faith

This week we remind ourselves-of God's Call to us to Come to The Saviour

The Lord Jesus said, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men". Matthew 4 v19

Bible Readings for this week

(Choose a regular time each day to read the bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	1 Samuel 1 (The Lord answered Hannah's prayer)	
Monday	1 Samuel 2v18-21,3v1-10 (The Lord calls Samuel)	
Tuesday	Isaiah 55v1-13 (Come freely to Jesus Christ)	
Wednesday	Matthew 4v17-22,11v28-29,19v13-14 (Come to Me)	
Thursday	Acts 1v1-22 (The Holy Spirit poured out on the Apostles)	
Friday	Romans 8v24-39 (Safe in the love of God)	
Saturday	Romans 10v1-21 (Confess Christ and believe in Him)	

Important Lesson for us today: God calls us – not audibly - **but** through His Word, the Bible, and the faithful preaching of it. Sadly, many reject His call, turning their back on Him. We need to 'listen' for the gracious call of God. He says to our troubled conscience, *"Come unto Me ..., and I will give you rest."* Matthew 11v28. *"Come, ye children, hearken unto Me: I will teach you the fear (respect) of the Lord."* Psalm 34v11. *"Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price".* Isaiah 53v1.

Have you heard this call? God has loved us from eternity past, with an everlasting love, and calls us to repentance and faith in the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. **Do not refuse.**

Hymn 358 – The Gospel call invites us to trust in the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Come unto Me, ye weary,
And I will give you rest.
O gracious voice of Jesus,
Which comes to hearts oppressed;
It tells of free forgiveness,
Of pardon, life, and peace,
Of joy that has no ending,
And love which cannot cease. | 3. 'And whosoever cometh
I will not cast him out.'
O welcome voice of Jesus
Which drives away our doubt:
Which calls us, wayward sinners,
Unworthy though we be
Of love so free and boundless,
To come, dear Lord, to Thee. |
|---|--|

EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet.

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

How God Fits Us For Heaven – He Calls us to Repentance.

- **God's Wonderful and Gracious Invitation is to Everyone.**
 - All kinds of people, from every nation. Wilful sinners who resist for some time, often having to learn the hard way through life's experiences.
 - Even to outwardly good people who have inward, heart sins.
 - All His Elect, predestined (chosen) – all those for whom He died to save.
- **A 'Call' to come to know His Converting Power:**
 - God places a 'hungering and thirsting' in our souls to want to know Him.
 - We then feel our sin as a heavy burden – being kept as slaves of Satan.
 - God humbles us to admit we have no goodness of our own.
- **From what does God Call us? What is He Calling us To?**
 - **From** our selfish ambitions and false hopes in this sinful world.
 - **To** discover the wonderful eternal purpose that He has for our lives.
- **For How Long does God Call?**
 - Throughout our lifetime. Before we die. But we must come now.
 - Some respond quickly – the Dying Thief, the Woman of Samaria, Samuel, Zacchaeus, Paul on the Damascus Road, The Philippian Jailor, etc.
 - Some take a long time such as Jacob and Solomon.
"The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy." Psalm 103v8
- **Why does God have to Call us?**
 - As descendants of Adam, we are spiritually far away, dead in trespasses and in our sin, even enemies of God. So, no-one is naturally a Christian.
- **How does He Call us?**
 - God calls us personally, individually - not as a group, families or nations.
 - God The Holy Spirit moves in our souls – freely changing our hearts, minds, and wills to appreciate what Christ has done for us on Calvary.
 - The work of The Holy Spirit is called 'The New Birth', being 'Born Again'.
- **How must we Answer?**
 - We must repent of our sin with sincere, deep regret. Turning away from sin, trusting **only** in the Saviour and His Death for sinners on the Cross.
 - Ask, like Paul did when convicted of his sins on the road to Damascus, *"Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?"* Acts 9v1-9.

Paul the Apostle wrote, *"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved"*.
Romans 10v9.