Vocatio Small Group Notes

Sunday, January 28, 2018

*The Call: Finding and Fulfilling   
the Central Purpose of Your Life*by Os Guinness

Chapter 4 – *Everyone, Everywhere, Everything*

1. Guinness states that, “*our primary calling as followers of Christ is by him, to him, and for him”* (p. 31) and the original church or ecclesia were a body of Jesus’ followers who were the “called-out-ones” (p. 30). When did you feel called to be a disciple of Christ and have you ever viewed your faith as a calling?

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1. “*Our secondary calling, considering who God is as sovereign, is that everyone, everywhere, and in everything should think, speak, live, and act entirely for Him.”* (p. 31) Many Christians want to hear and understand God’s call or vocatio for them, but often feel discouraged when the answer to this question is unclear. Is it enough to fulfill one’s calling/vocatio if everything that is thought, spoken, lived, and acted out is entirely for God and it is based on the individual’s best discernment/understanding of their calling?

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*“If all that a believer does grows out of faith and is done for the glory of God, then all dualistic distinctions are demolished. There is no higher/lower, sacred/secular, perfect/permitted, contemplative/active, or first class/second class. Calling is the premise of Christian existence itself. Calling means that everyone, everywhere, and in everything fulfills his or her (secondary) callings in response to God’s (primary) calling.*

*For Luther, the peasant and the merchant—for us, the business person, the teacher, the factory worker, and the television anchor—can do God’s work (or fail to do it) just as much as the minister or the missionary.”* (Guinness, 2003, p. 34)