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The Call of God

We have recently ordained a young man from our church for the ministry. He is someone who was saved at our church as a teenager and we have watched him grow in the Lord. He has now graduated Bible College, married and ready to get busy serving the Lord. What a change in just a few short years! But I also ask the question, why are more young people not hearing the call of God for service. Maybe all are not to go to a foreign mission field or even to enter into full time ministry, but what about faithful service to their local church at least? Where is the call of God today?

I believe God is still calling people into service. The problem is that many are not in a place where they can even here God's call. You see, He doesn't call through the secular world. You will not hear God through rock, rap, country or any other type of music that does not glorify the Lord. You will also not hear Him from Hollywood. There is nothing coming from movies or TV that is glorifying to God and most of the time it is against everything that God would stand for.

There are three standard calls of God on our lives: First, the "Whosoever will" call of Revelation 22:17. Also we have Isaiah 45:22 which says "look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth." This call extends to every man, woman, boy and girl around the world. Everyone must hear this call and we must make sure that they do. Second, Romans 12:1, 2 where God asks us to "present our bodies to him as a living sacrifice." This is where we, very much alive and willing, give our lives to the Lord for service in His kingdom. This is total surrender! By the way, this is our "reasonable service", it is what is expected, the norm. It may be the norm for God, but it doesn't seem to be the norm for man. The third call is where God then gives us the specifics or where he wants us. This is the easy part if we have settled the first two. Too many times people try and skip the hard ones and find themselves in turmoil in the third. I believe this is also why so many leave or quit the ministry today. Sometimes the place of God's calling is too hard, if we have not fully surrendered to Him.

So now what? Get in a place where God can call you! Sometimes this means spiritually resolving sins and problems in our life. Sometimes it means getting in church, changing the radio station or even turning it off. Whatever it takes, whatever it means, make sure you answer the call of the Lord! The Bible says in Jeremiah 29:13 "and ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

Pastor Pat Hall