

Connected To Your Calling

2024-09-02 • PASTOR MATT ROSE



Philippians 2:12-13

FOR THE LEADER

These questions help you run the conversation. They are not your study. Get into the passage yourself first, because your group needs what God taught you, not just a list of questions. These also lean on Sunday's message, so a few will not land for anyone who missed it. Watch it before you lead.

WHAT THE MESSAGE WAS ABOUT

Calling is an invitation, not a riddle to solve. Pastor Matt used a jigsaw puzzle to make the point. Try assembling a puzzle without the picture on the box and you will get nowhere. Christ is the picture. And like any puzzle, you build the frame first: the general calling every believer shares, which our church names gather, grow, group, give, and go. The specific stuff comes later, worked with patience. Philippians says to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, and gives the reason in the same breath: God is the one at work in you.

To get started

- Have you ever felt pressure to figure out your calling? Where did that pressure come from?

Looking back at the message

The puzzle illustration carries the whole message. Frame first, then patience, then the picture.

- 1 Pastor Matt said we overcomplicate calling, and that it is really an invitation. What does that simplify for you?
- 2 Pastor Matt compared calling to a jigsaw puzzle: frame first, then the inner sections, with patience. Which section of your puzzle are you working on right now?
- 3 When a section of the puzzle stalls, we tend to declare I am done with this, when patience would say I am done for now. Where have you quit something too early? OPTIONAL

Looking at the passage

Read Philippians 2:5-13. The humility of Christ in verses 5-11 sets up verse 12.

- 4 Read Philippians 2:12-13. What are we told to do, and what is God doing at the same time?
- 5 Now read verses 5-11 for context. Verse 12 starts with therefore. What kind of life is the therefore pointing back to?
- 6 Read Matthew 6:33. What comes first, and what does Jesus say follows?
- 7 Read Hebrews 10:24-25. What reason does this passage give for gathering together?

OPTIONAL

Bringing it home

The five G's are the general calling. Ask people to locate themselves honestly.

- 8 Of gather, grow, group, give, and go, which one is strongest in your life right now?
- 9 Which of the five have you been avoiding, and what is behind the avoiding?
- 10 Pastor Matt said we do not work for our salvation, we work because of it. Which of those two actually describes your motivation most days?
- 11 If God is the one working in you, what does that change about the pressure you have been feeling? OPTIONAL

The group together

Clarity about calling usually comes from other people noticing something first.

- 12 What do you see in someone else in this group that they may not see in themselves?
- 13 Why do people assume a calling has to be dramatic?
- 14 Of the five, gather, grow, group, give, go, which one could this group take a step in together?

BEFORE YOU FINISH

Which piece of the puzzle is in front of you right now, and what will you do with it this week?

You might pray about

- For patience with a calling that is still unclear
- For people who feel aimless right now
- For a next step in one of the five