

CALLED *to* CONQUER

Finding Your Assignment
in the
Kingdom of God

DEREK PRINCE

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FOREWORD

I believe there are two great moments in a person's life. The first is the moment you were born. The second is the moment you discover *why* you were born.

We are all born for a reason, and it is our responsibility to discover that reason—the “why,” the *Calling*, of our lives. Then we can redirect our path toward God's optimal purpose for our lives. It is when you reach this second moment that your life—your Calling—starts to take shape.

Yet many of us miss this, and we live in a perpetual state of survival, of shallowness, of conformity. We forget, deny or never take the time to realize what we were truly born to do. We turn to parents, family, popular culture, want ads or maybe even the path of least resistance to tell us what would make our lives valuable. We wait for a divine voice to boom from the clouds, “You there! Yes, you! This is what I am calling you to do!”

But that is not how it works. You need to take action. And when you do, your life will never be the same.

If you want to turn an ordinary life into an extraordinary one, you have to take the first step. It starts with a single recognition. Your Calling is given to you at birth. But you need to discover it like a treasure, recognizing it for the significance it possesses.

I'm not talking strictly about a spiritual calling or only finding your spiritual gifts. I'm talking about a total reawakening, a full realization of your full potential in every aspect of your life. Think of a lunar eclipse. In one perfect moment, the sun and moon align to create a wonder of nature. A Calling is like that. It is the optimal alignment of your mind, body and spirit with God's primary purpose for your life.

When this happens, something "clicks" within you, and you know you have found what you were created to do. It is an instinctive, gut-level, spiritual experience. You'll know it when you see, hear and feel it.

Derek Prince was a man who knew his Calling. Educated at the most prestigious academic institutions, he spoke numerous languages and was schooled in both ancient and modern philosophy. Yet it was not until he was serving with the British army in World War II that he received his ultimate marching orders: to preach the Word of God to all in a simple way, making it accessible for everyone to understand.

His life was changed by his discovery. Suddenly he found himself on a completely different trajectory than he had ever envisioned while pursuing his earlier academic career. Yet Derek was faithful to his Calling, and his legacy is evidence of this. Countless lives have been changed and blessed by his ultimate obedience to the Lord and the Lord's plan for him.

You picked up this book for a reason. Like Derek, you feel that pull deep down in your soul. The pull to something greater—something better than what you have right now. You might have a perfect life on paper: a loving spouse, obedient kids, a comfortable home, a high-paying job, the cars and clothes that draw stares of envy. Or you might not have any of that and are left with empty hands wondering, *What am I here for?*

Wherever you are right now, you picked up this book because you feel a stirring inside of you to live a life of divine importance. Yet somehow, you are not able to put into words what that importance is or what it is supposed to look like. You need a guide, a helper, a friend, to walk you through this process of discovery. And I can't think of a better person to come alongside you than Derek Prince.

Foreword

Contained in this book is a wealth of simple, solid guidance from a life lived inside God's plan. Not only will Derek's words help you discover God's Calling, they will also equip you to realign your path to follow the one God has laid out for you.

Remember: You have to know your mission before you accomplish it. May the Lord bless you as you read these pages, and may you seek, find and fulfill His Calling for your life.

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The Upward Call

Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” They immediately left their nets and followed Him. Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James . . . and John . . . in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

MATTHEW 4:18–22

I find it interesting that the first four men Jesus called were fishermen. In some measure, I think I understand the wisdom of God in His choice. Fishermen are a breed apart. If you are reading this and you are a fisherman, you know that fishermen are fanatics.

Sometimes when I have gone for a walk, I have passed by men who are fishing. I notice that the fish are not biting. But then I think, *That doesn't matter—they're fishermen.* Circumstances never bother them. Discouragement never affects them. Adverse weather is not a problem for them. They have a vision for fish.

The Lord gave us a wonderful message when He began His ministry with fishermen: Christians should be like that. We should be so passionate about answering His call that nothing else matters.

Notice, too, that Jesus did not waste a lot of words in calling His disciples: “Follow Me.” This may be the shortest sermon on record! As we will discover, He did not—and does not—do a great deal of explaining. This shows us that there is no compromise in this commitment to Jesus. There is no middle ground.

Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.”

Matthew 16:24–25

Later in His ministry Jesus gave this same call to another man: “Follow Me.” The man hesitated. “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.” Jesus replied, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and preach the Kingdom of God” (see Luke 9:59–60). When Jesus says, “Now,” tomorrow is not good enough. He challenges us directly and lets us decide how we will answer Him.

I grew up in the Anglican Church in Britain, and I was a member for the first part of my life. They made it pretty easy to belong (as many churches do) by saying, “You don’t have to do much, but you do have to do just these few things.” I did all the things that I was supposed to do, but I never found reality in my life.

At the time, I did not know my own heart, but what I was looking for was a challenge. The first time I was confronted by the challenge of Jesus, I responded with total commitment. I suspect that many other people have not grown too excited by conventional religion. They are not fully satisfied, but they do not know what would satisfy them. I want to suggest that what they are looking for is the challenge of the unequivocal, uncompromising call of God. If you receive that call, do not let anything keep you back from the excitement of responding.

God’s call is holy and it is heavenly. It is an upward call. It is as if we move along a horizontal plane, and God’s vertical call comes