



Series on the Acts of the Apostles #26
The Call to Serve

Acts 13:1-4, 5, 13-14
Pastor Jim Efaw
Sunday Morning, October 4, 2009

Introduction: *What if God called you today? How would you know it? What would it sound like? Would you be willing? Our passage today deals with some of these critical questions.*

- I. The call – “Set apart for me . . .” (13:1-4)
 - A. The human side – the leaders (13:1-2)
 1. Note their diversity.
 2. Note their direction. (13:2)
 - a. Ministry – they had given their lives to serving.
 - b. “To the Lord”
 - B. The divine side – “The Holy Spirit said . . .”
 1. Who did the Holy Spirit speak to?
 2. Who sends the missionary?
 3. Who calls the missionary?
 4. What is the missionary’s responsibility to the call? (13:4)

What is a call? What constitutes a call? How do you know if you are called?

A call has these elements:

- A need
- A burden for unbelievers headed for Hell
- A willingness to serve
- An ability to serve
- Scriptural conviction from the Lord
- A burning desire
- Confirmation from the church

- II. The obedient messenger - “Here am I, send me.” (13:4, 5, 13, 14)
 - A. Paul’s burning passion (Phil. 1:20-21)
 1. His condition (Gal. 4:13)
 2. His compassion. (2 Cor. 11:23 ff)
 - B. Barnabas’ sweet spirit and humility
 1. His previous position – leader (13:2)
 2. His present position (13:13, 42, 46)

Conclusion:

1. *To us, the church of the Living God, has been committed the responsibility to evangelize the world.*
2. *Are you willing to go if He calls you?*
3. *Have you lost your focus, your zeal, your burden for souls going to Hell everyday?*
4. *Have you become soft and spoiled with easy living?*