COMFORT vs. CALLING

Fight Club: Round 10 of 12: MANUP.org

COMFORT

Comfort is pursuing personal happiness whatever the cost.

CALLING

Calling is choosing to follow Jesus whatever the cost.

COMFORT (AKA) : Easy, Complacent, Apathetic, Entertained

Ecclesiastes 2

¹ I said to myself, "Come on, let's try pleasure. Let's look for the 'good things' in life." But I found that this, too, was meaningless.

The Problem with Comfort.

- Comfort <u>INVITES</u> you to be <u>SELFISH</u>.
- Comfort <u>DISTRACTS</u> you from what <u>MATTERS</u>.
- Comfort KEEPS you from living on MISSION.

Jesus didn't call you to be <u>COMFORTABLE</u>
He called you to be on <u>MISSION</u>.

Matthew 4

19-20 Jesus called out to them,

"Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men!" And they left their nets at once and followed him.

FOLLOW = "GO where I go, DO what I do, SAY what I say."

The 7 Callings of Jesus.

1. Jesus is calling you to

GO to the **HARD** places.

Matthew 10

⁵⁻⁸ Jesus sent out the twelve apostles with these instructions: "Don't go to the Gentiles or the Samaritans, but only to the people of Israel - God's lost sheep. Go and announce to them that the Kingdom of Heaven is near. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cure those with leprosy, and cast out demons. Give as freely as you have received!"

Jesus isn't calling you to the <u>SAFE</u> places, He's calling you to the places that need <u>SAVING</u>.

2. Jesus is calling you to

<u>LEAVE</u> your <u>STUFF</u> behind.

Matthew 10

9-10 "Don't take any money in your money belts - no gold, silver, or even copper coins. Don't carry a traveler's bag with a change of clothes and sandals or even a walking stick. Don't hesitate to accept hospitality, because those who work deserve to be fed."

God will provide everything you <u>NEED</u> to do everything He's called you to <u>DO</u>.

3. Jesus is calling you to

<u>GIVE</u> without being <u>OFFENDED</u>.

Matthew 10

¹¹⁻¹⁴ "Whenever you enter a city or village, search for a worthy person and stay in his home until you leave town. When you enter the home, give it your blessing. If it turns out to be a

worthy home, let your blessing stand; if it is not, take back the blessing. If any household or town refuses to welcome you or listen to your message, shake its dust from your feet as you leave."

Sometimes the most <u>SPIRITUAL</u> thing you can do is <u>MOVE ON</u>.

Jesus is calling you to be <u>READY</u> for your <u>OPPORTUNITY</u>.

Matthew 10

"Look, I am sending you out as sheep among wolves. So be as shrewd as snakes and harmless as doves. But beware! For you will be handed over to the courts and will be flogged with whips in the synagogues. You will stand trial before governors and kings because you are my followers. But this will be your opportunity to tell the rulers and other unbelievers about me. When you are arrested, don't worry about how to respond or what to say. God will give you the right words at the right time. For it is not you who will be speaking - it will be the Spirit of your Father speaking through you."

God can turn your biggest <u>CHALLENGE</u> into your biggest <u>OPPORTUNITY</u>.

5. Jesus is calling you to be COMMITTED to the MISSION.

Matthew 10

²² "And all nations will hate you because you are my followers. But everyone who endures to the end will be saved."

God doesn't reward the <u>SUCCESSFUL</u> He rewards the <u>FAITHFUL</u>.

6. Jesus is calling you to be

BOLD with your **MESSAGE**.

Matthew 10

²⁶⁻²⁷ "But don't be afraid of those who threaten you. For the time is coming when everything that is covered will be revealed, and all that is secret will be made known to all. What I tell you now in the darkness, shout abroad when daybreak comes. What I whisper in your ear, shout from the housetops for all to hear!"

When God gives you a <u>WORD</u> don't be <u>SILENT</u>.

7. Jesus is calling you to be

PUBLIC with your **FAITH**.

Matthew 10

³²⁻³³ "Everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But everyone who denies me here on earth, I will also deny before my Father in heaven."

Your faith is PERSONAL but it's not PRIVATE.

Group Discussion.

Q: What is God calling you to leave behind?

Q: What risk is God calling you to take?

Q: Which 1 of these 7 callings needs your attention?

- 1. Go to the hard places.
- 2. Leave your stuff behind.
- 3. Give without being offended.
- 4. Be ready for your opportunity.

- 5. Be committed to the mission.
- 6. Be bold with your message.
- 7. Be public with your faith.