

I KNEW THEE

Jeremiah 1:4-10 NKJV

[4] Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying: [5] "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; Before you were born, I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations." [6] Then said I: "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I cannot speak, for I am a youth." [7] But the LORD said to me: "Do not say, 'I am a youth,' For you shall go to all to whom I send you, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. [8] Do not be afraid of their faces, For I am with you to deliver you," says the LORD. [9] Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me: "Behold, I have put My words in your mouth. [10] See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out and to pull down, to destroy and to throw down, to build and to plant."

Introduction

- One of the cardinal points to destiny realization is the discovery of your calling. If you are going to realize destiny then you have to discover your calling.
- In the Kingdom of God, no man or woman becomes great without discovering their calling. No man and woman become significant without discovering their calling. No man or woman becomes relevant without discovering their calling.
- If you study the scriptures, you will notice that there were many men and women who were ordinary until they discovered their calling. Some were timid, fearful, had crazy backgrounds but all that was wiped when
- You can never become a mighty man or woman in the Kingdom of GOD without discovering your calling. You can never become a giant in the Kingdom of GOD without discovering your calling.
- Now the big question is how do I discover my calling?

How to discover your calling

1.The voice of God

Genesis 6:13

[13] And God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth."

- Noah received his calling from God to build an ark when God spoke to him directly.
- You can receive God's vision when God speaks into your heart.
- Be sensitive to the voice of God and you will locate God's vision for your life.

- Reinhard Bonnke was ten years old when God spoke to his heart that he will preach the gospel in Africa.
- God can speak like thunder and God can speak in a still small voice.
- Train yourself to hear the voice of God and you will experience God more.

2. Prophetic word

Isaiah 40:3

[3] The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

Mark 1:1-4 NKJV

[1] The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. [2] As it is written in the Prophets: "Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You." [3] "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight.'" [4] John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

- John the Baptist was a man sent from God and his vision was to prepare the way of the Lord.
- Before he was born his calling was already prophesied in the book of Isaiah
- Prophetic words lead to the discovery of our visions.
- I have seen men that were at the end of their life being lifted in life and brought to a place of direction by discovering their calling through a prophetic word.

3. Prophetic dreams

Genesis 37:5

[5] Now Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and they hated him even more.

- Joseph located his calling through a prophetic dream.
- After dreaming he had an understanding that God wants me to have dominion and I shall rule over my father, mother and brothers. Through the dream he understood that the mantle of leadership was upon his shoulders.
- His calling was revealed through a dream.
- At times your calling is located through prophetic dreams whereby God takes you into a journey to reveal the plan and purpose of your life.

May you locate your vision through prophetic dreams

4. Burden

Nehemiah 1:1-4 NKJV

[1] The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah. It came to pass in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the citadel, [2] that Hanani one of my brethren came with men from Judah; and I asked them concerning the Jews who had escaped, who had survived the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem. [3] And they said to me, "The survivors who are left from the captivity in the province are there in great distress and reproach. The wall of Jerusalem is also broken down, and its gates are burned with fire." [4] So it was, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned for many days; I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.

- Nehemiah received the calling to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem through a burden.
- A burden is an unusual feeling about the sorrows and pains of others.
- A burden is a never-going feeling about the tears and troubles of others.
- A burden does not go away. You try to ignore it and it comes back again till you respond.
- The feeling is uncomfortable and you may start confessing sins of years back without realizing what exactly is going on.
- Always take note of permanent burdens that you have, They might be signals to your vision.
 - Burden for souls
 - Burden for orphans and the less privileged
 - Burden to build schools

5. Angelic visitations

Judges 13:3-5 NKJV

[3] And the Angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, "Indeed now, you are barren and have borne no children, but you shall conceive and bear a son. [4] Now therefore, please be careful not to drink wine or similar drink, and not to eat anything unclean. [5] For behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. And no razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb; and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines."

- The angel visited the mother of Samson and told her of the plans of God over Samson, the angel released God's calling over Samson before he was even conceived.
- Angels still do exist and still do visit people to release Godly visions.
- Gideon received his vision through an angelic visitation.

- Zechariah the father of John heard the calling of John through an angelic visitation.
- **I release angelic visitations upon your life.**

6. Word of God

Isaiah 61:1 NKJV

[1]"The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

- The word of God (Bible) has a way of revealing God's calling for your life.
- Jesus Christ was a man sent from God and his calling was well spelt out in the pages of scriptures.
- As you read the bible you will discover that God will allow certain scriptures to jump into your spirit and some of them might spell out your calling.

In 2005 i was reading the book of Isaiah and God spoke to me in Isaiah 50:4

- There is something written about your calling in the bible if you could read it with that eye.

Psalms 40:7

Then said I, lo, I come: in the volume of the book [it is] written of me.

7. Through a sermon

Ezekiel 2:1-3 NKJV

[1] And He said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak to you."

[2] Then the Spirit entered me when He spoke to me, and set me on my feet; and I heard Him who spoke to me. [3] And He said to me: "Son of man, I am sending you to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against Me; they and their fathers have transgressed against Me to this very day.

- Whenever a preacher stands to minister realize that he is being used by the Holy Spirit and he is therefore an oracle of God.
- If any man listens to a sermon and through that sermon discovers your calling then God has spoken to him.
- A certain lady called Mary Slessor received her calling to be a missionary while listening to a sermon.

- You can listen to a sermon and something hits your spirit that God has created me to minister to couples and marriages, that God has created me to write books on a certain subject, that God has created me to evangelize virgin territories, God has created me to be an intercessor.

8. Through a man of God

1 Kings 19:15-16

[15] Then the LORD said to him: "Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, anoint Hazael as king over Syria." [16] Also you shall anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi as king over Israel. And Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place.

1 Kings 19:19

[19] So he departed from there, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he was with the twelfth. Then Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle on him.

- God can release your calling through a man of God.
- Before Elijah went to heaven, God instructed him to anoint three men namely Hazael, Jehu and Elisha.
- Elisha received his calling through Elijah, Elisha discovered that he was not created to be a farmer but to be a prophet through Elijah.
- David knew that God created him to reign in Israel through a man of God.
- Peter, John and James were fishermen but Jesus called them to be fishers of men.
- Bishop Dag Heward Mills with a husband and wife who he said I want to change your profession

9. Through the inner man

Ephesians 3:16

[16] that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,

- There is an inner man in us which is our spirit man.
- It is that thing on the inside that talks to you, nudges you and pushes you to do something and usually, to do the right thing.
- It's not a voice, it's an inner feeling.
- Matthew Henry the famous bible commentator recounted that from an early age something inside would push him to comment on the scriptures and he would do that and we know the bible commentary that he wrote.

- Something on the inside that says “I’m created to minister to kids, I’m created to open rehabilitation centers for drug addicts and those abused, I’m created to open schools and offer free education to the less privileged.”

10. Encounters with God

Genesis 35:9

Then God appeared to Jacob again, when he came from Padan Aram, and blessed him. And God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; your name shall not be called Jacob anymore, but Israel shall be your name." So, He called his name Israel. Also, God said to him: "I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall proceed from you, and kings shall come from your body.

- There is a difference between a man of God and meeting God Himself.
- There is a difference between meeting an angel and meeting God Himself.
- Callings have been released when men encounter God directly.
- Jacob encountered God and he received his calling.
- Moses had an encounter with God in the burning bush experience.

Conclusion

- In the portion of scripture, we read we see God talking to Jeremiah and God says to him “Before I formed you in the womb, I KNEW THEE”

Psalm 40:7 NKJV

[7] Then I said, "Behold, I come; In volume of the book, it is written of me.

Hebrews 11:32-35 NKJV

[32] And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: [33] who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, [34] quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. [35] Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection.