Sermon Notes for September 29, 2013

Calling or Comfort

Mark 10:17-31

Introduction

What is the most dangerous item in your house?
Could it be that our desire for personal comfort is keeping us from doing what God wants us to do?

I. God’s call is not easy or comfortable. Mark 10:17-21

The rich young man came to Jesus because he had a question.
“What must I do to inherit eternal life?”
Jesus identified the one thing that was holding him back – his possessions.
The rich young man needed to resign as Master of the Board.
God’s call is usually to something bigger than we think we can do.

II. Our initial response to God’s call is often one of fear, doubt or questions. Mark 10:24-27

Moses said, “I am slow of speech and tongue.” Exodus 4:10
Gideon said, “My clan is the weakest in Manasseh and I am the least in my family.” Judges 6:15
Esther said, “Everyone knows that to go to the king unsummoned means death?” Esther 4:11
Jesus knows how hard it is for us to surrender everything to God.
“With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.” Mark 11:27
If you aren’t being stretched at all, maybe you’ve been sitting in your EZ chair too long.

III. God reassures us with the promises of his Word.

God said to Moses, “Who gave man his mouth? Who makes him deaf or mute? Who gives him sight or makes him blind? Is it not I the Lord? Now go. I will help you to speak and will teach you what to say.” Exodus 4:11-12
God said to Joshua, “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord you God will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

Jesus said to the disciples, “And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:20

God is the one who makes us adequate. And his power is made perfect in our weakness.

IV. We don’t get to see what God will do until we step out in faith. Mark 10:28-31

A decision must be made.

What did the rich young man do?

“He fell and went away sad because he had great wealth.” Mark 10:22

The disciples made the opposite decision. They left everything to follow Jesus.

“I tell you the truth,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age (homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—and with them persecutions) and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.” Mark 10:29-31

Conclusion

What is God asking you to do?

What will your decision be?