

“Biblical Manhood and Womanhood”  
(Faithfulness in Your Calling, Part 13)

- I. Faithfulness in Your Calling. “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Ecc. 9:10).
  - A. First, if you don’t already have one, each of you should seek a calling.
    1. What is a calling?
      - a. That by which you will serve the Lord with your life.
      - b. Your vocation: what the Lord has made you to do.
    2. What kind of calling should you look for?
      - a. Something that isn’t sinful.
      - b. Something that is useful to others – not frivolous.
      - c. Something that will honor the Lord.
    3. How can you discover what the Lord has called you to do?
      - a. How has He gifted you?
      - b. What do you want to do?
      - c. What do others see as your gifts?
      - d. What opportunities has He given you?
    4. The importance of a calling before marriage.
      - a. This is something a young man should know and be pursuing before he asks for a woman’s hand in marriage.
      - b. This is something a father should insist on before he gives his daughter’s hand in marriage.
    5. You should strive to be the best you can be at that calling.
      - a. This is the way the Lord has decided that you will glorify Him.
      - b. “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Ecc. 9:10).
    6. Don’t forget to be faithful in your other responsibilities.
      - a. If you are still a young man or woman, your calling is to submit to your parents as they prepare you for life (Eph. 6:1-3).
      - b. If you’re unmarried and don’t have the gift of singleness, your calling is to seek a spouse (1 Cor. 7:9).
      - c. If you are married, your calling is to be faithful as a husband or wife (5:22-33)?
      - d. If you are a parent, your calling is to be faithful to raise your children in the ways of the Lord (6:4).
      - e. Don’t forget about your calling as a believer and part of Christ’s church to disciple the nations (Matt. 28:18-20).
  - B. Conclusion and closing exhortations.
    1. Finally, why should you do all these things?

- a. Why should you get the world – all that opposed to God – out of your heart and resist following those in the world?
  - b. Why should you go through the hard work of putting on Jesus Christ, of being conformed to His image, of following His example of love and devotion to His Father? Why should you devote your whole life to His service?
  - c. Why should you study the Bible to know what He wants you to do? Why should you fight hard at putting your sins to death?
  - d. Why should you submit to your parents as they seek to prepare you for life?
  - e. Why should you seek godly friends and avoid bad company?
  - f. Why should you seek to find a godly spouse if the Lord hasn't given you the gift of singleness?
  - g. Why should you seek to be godly parents, raising your children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord, and seeking to lead them to the Lord?
  - g. And why should you work hard to be faithful in following the calling the Lord has placed on your life?
2. Three reasons:
- a. Because this is what you owe God.
    - (i) For making you.
    - (ii) For taking care of you.
    - (iii) If you're a believer, for providing eternal life for you.
    - (iv) For giving you natural and spiritual gifts.
    - (v) It is your obligation to serve Him in return.
    - (vi) "For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body" (1 Cor. 6:20).
  - b. Because the time in which you have to do this is short:
    - (i) "Whatever your hand finds to do, do *it* with *all* your might; for there is no activity or planning or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol where you are going" (Ecc. 9:10).
    - (ii) "You are *just* a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away" (James 4:14).
    - (iii) All the glory you will give the Lord will be in the short time you have here. Seeing it is so short, do you best to make the best of it.
  - c. Finally, you must soon give an account of your life.
    - (i) "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad" (2 Cor. 5:10).
    - (ii) "Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil" (Eph. 5:15-16).
    - (iii) Any glory you hope to give the Lord and any reward you hope to gain for so doing must be gained in this life, and so use your time well. Amen.