



High Calling

What do you consider the highest calling? Is it being president, CEO, a parent? Well, the answer should not surprise you. For us to think that the positions and accolades of this world would represent the high calling is to deceive ourselves. Giving up the highest calling to pursue anything else is more like a downgrade.

Text: Philippians 3:14 *I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*

- a) Paul said that he pressed toward the mark.
 - i) The word "mark" is speaking of a "goal". We do not just realize the goal. We need to pursue it and press toward it.
- b) Prize
 - i) Paul also mentioned that goal is a prize or an award. It is important that as we are pursuing anything we keep the prize in sight. This is one of the ways we will be able to attain or achieve it.
- c) High calling of God.
 - i) This passage is very telling about what the high calling is. This is not to say that we do not have a personal calling or purpose to accomplish in addition to this. Nonetheless, this is the most important calling—the most important prize. **If we never accomplished our personal calling, we would still receive the prize of the high calling—the most valuable prize.**
 - ii) This calling is an upward calling. It is a vertical calling, not a horizontal calling. It is the most important calling, and it is higher than all.
 - iii) What is this high calling specifically?

- 1 Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.
- This passage reveals what we are called unto—eternal life.
- John 17:3 tells us what eternal life is. “And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”
 - It is knowing God the only true God and Jesus Christ whom He sent. It is not just knowing God. No! It is knowing God and Jesus Christ.
- I believe the high calling is not all these physical things—not even our career, or personal call of God on our lives, rather knowing God, relationship with Him and intimacy with Him.