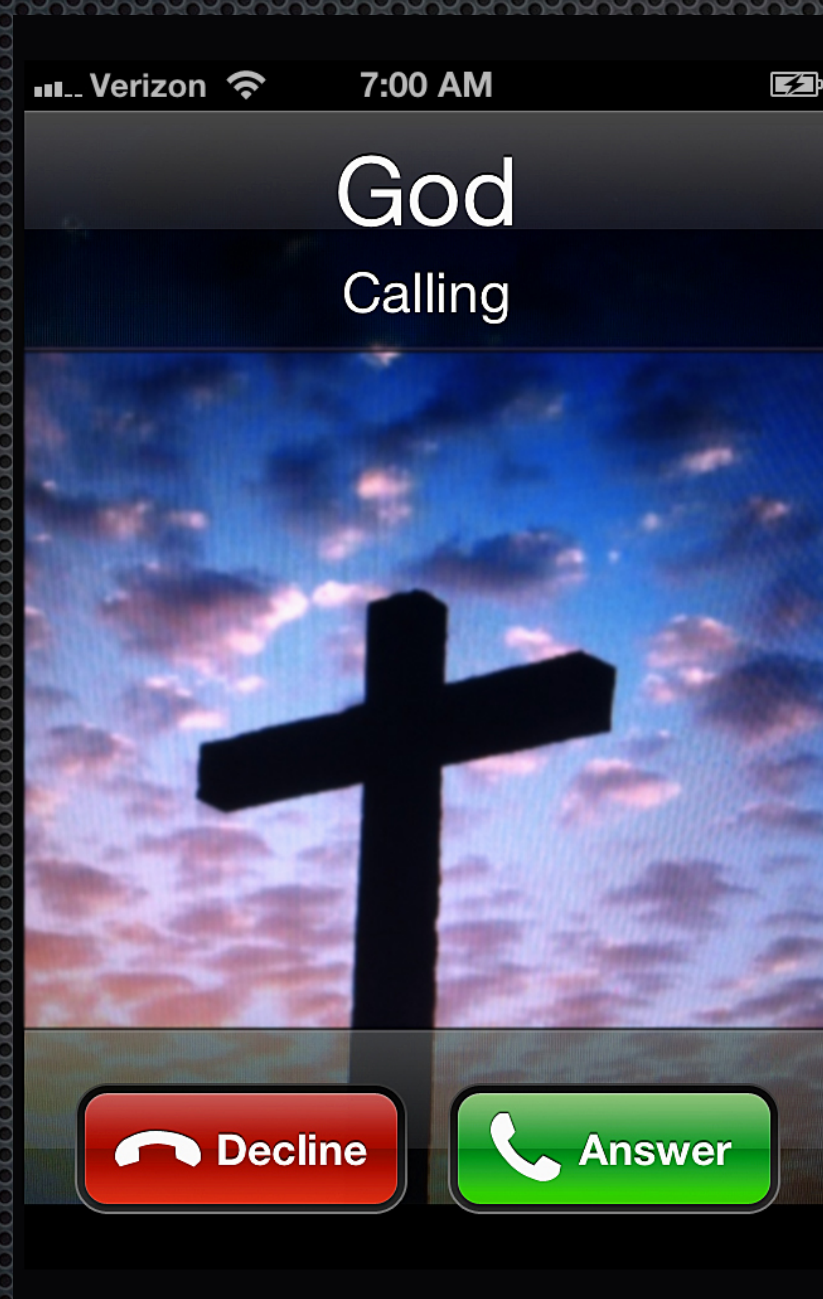


“The Call”



1st Presentation

“A Voice Crying For Mercy”

- ✦ [Click here for video](#)

Joshua's Call

1 After Moses, the servant of the Lord, had died, the Lord said to Moses' aide Joshua, son of Nun: 2 Moses my servant is dead. So now, you and the whole people with you, prepare to cross the Jordan to the land that I will give the Israelites. 3 Every place where you set foot I have given you, as I promised Moses. 4 All the land of the Hittites, from the wilderness and the Lebanon east to the great river Euphrates and west to the Great Sea, will be your territory. 5 No one can withstand you as long as you live. As I was with Moses, I will be with you: I will not leave you nor forsake you. 6 Be strong and steadfast, so that you may give this people possession of the land I swore to their ancestors that I would give them.

Joshua's Call

7 Only be strong and steadfast, being careful to observe the entire law which Moses my servant enjoined on you. Do not swerve from it either to the right or to the left, that you may succeed wherever you go. 8 Do not let this book of the law depart from your lips. Recite it by day and by night, that you may carefully observe all that is written in it; then you will attain your goal; then you will succeed. 9 I command you: be strong and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord, your God, is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:1–9 (NABRE)

Everyone Is Called

The desire for God is written in the human heart, because man is created by God and for God; and God never ceases to draw man to himself. Only in God will he find the truth and happiness he never stops searching for: (355, 170; 1718)

The dignity of man rests above all on the fact that he is called to communion with God. This invitation to converse with God is addressed to man as soon as he comes into being. For if man exists, it is because God has created him through love, and through love continues to hold him in existence. He cannot live fully according to truth unless he freely acknowledges that love and entrusts himself to his creator.

Catholic Church. (2000). Catechism of the Catholic Church (2nd Ed., p. 13). Washington, DC: United States Catholic Conference.

The Desire For Happiness

“Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.”
Although man can forget God or reject him, He never ceases to call every man to seek him, so as to find life and happiness. But this search for God demands of man every effort of intellect, a sound will, “an upright heart,” as well as the witness of others who teach him to seek God.

Catholic Church. (2000). Catechism of the Catholic Church (2nd Ed., p. 14). Washington, DC: United States Catholic Conference.

We Have To Respond

- We are not merely spectators but makes choices everyday that either seek God's will for our lives or seek our own will.
- The Gospel is a radical re-orientation to live one's life for Christ. It requires changes in our thinking and lifestyle. (Romans 12:2, 2 Timothy 3)
- Discernment isn't just between good and evil but often between two good things and figuring out which one is of God.
- The basic orientation is moving away from slavery and fear to a spirit of love and adoption.

Joshua's Legacy

- ✦ Learned about the faithfulness of God.
- ✦ Faced many challenges and difficulties
- ✦ Helped his people renew the Covenant and wanted that to be his last act to help the people.
- ✦ Kept his focus on his destiny and vocation.

Joshua's Challenge

21 But the people answered Joshua, "No! We will serve the Lord." 22 Joshua therefore said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen to serve the Lord." They replied, "We are witnesses!" 23 "Now, therefore, put away the foreign gods that are among you and turn your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." 24 Then the people promised Joshua, "We will serve the Lord, our God, and will listen to his voice."

25 So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem. 26 Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God. Then he took a large stone and set it up there under the terebinth that was in the sanctuary of the Lord. 27 And Joshua said to all the people, "This stone shall be our witness, for it has heard all the words which the Lord spoke to us. It shall be a witness against you, should you wish to deny your God." 28 Then Joshua dismissed the people, each to their own heritage.

Joshua 24:21–28 (NABRE)

In Summary

- Everyone has a calling placed within their heart. We must listen to the Lord and respond to this calling.
- We all get distracted and face “detours”. Through the perseverance and the mercy of God we can find our way back.
- We have a God-given dignity and must live out of that.
- We help others by embracing our own destiny.