

Love Life Ministry

Touching People with the Healing Power of God's Love[©]



Answering Your Calling

By Homer L. Crothers

In his book, "The Divine Romance,"¹ Gene Edwards' description of Jesus as a carpenter touched my heart and caused a memory to come to life. In chapter 29, pages 87 and 88 of "The Divine Romance" a small boy opens the door of the carpenter shop and says to Jesus, "I'm going to hear the desert prophet. Will you?" Yes, replied the carpenter, laying aside his finished work. It is time I visited this prophet causing such a stir out there. Perhaps I'll meet you there replied the little boy. The door began to close, then opened again suddenly. The little boy's head reappeared. Isn't he your brother, or something? He is my cousin, came the reply. Ohhh, you must be very proud! Was the awed response. Very, replied the carpenter. Very, very proud. The door closed. The young carpenter looked about the room slowly then—hesitantly—stored His mallet, His chisel, His tools of carpentry. Placing both hands upon the work table, He leaned forward and lowered His head. Once I had with Me the fires of love of a young God. Now to this have been joined the passion of the love of a young man. That love, dear earth, has now driven Me to your salvation. For a brief moment the Carpenter closed His eyes; then, drawing into Himself some unknown strength from some unknown source found in some unknown realm, He raised Himself to His full stature and stepped out into the dusty street. With a gesture of finality, He closed the door of His shop, turned, and spoke aloud. Well, brother John, it is time we met. I believe there is someone you wish to introduce to Me."

Jesus, at age 30, knew what He was called to do and went forth to begin answering His calling.

The memory that came to me after reading the above description parallels a portion of my life, which began in 2001. I was 62 when I began to build my woodworking shop. It was my dream to spend my retirement years making reproduced 17th and 18th century furniture. The shop building was completed and equipped by 2005. In 2003, a Christian brother asked me what I would do if God took my woodworking shop from me. I replied, "If God takes me out of my woodworking shop, I will accept His decision. The shop really belongs to Him. He gave me the money and knowledge to build it."

As much as I tried, I could not make the woodworking shop successful in meeting my dream. There were many distractions. Various attempts failed. Nothing I did would come together.

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In May 2008, as I read God's word in Psalm 71, I knew through verse 18 what Abba had called me to do. In my old age and gray head, He will keep me alive until I declare His strength to this generation and His power to all those who are to come.

It was June 2008, when I followed the Holy Spirit's guidance to attend an Andrew Wommack Gospel Truth Seminar in Duluth, GA. At the seminar, Abba spoke to my mind telling me to go to bible college. I spent five hours discussing this with Abba say, "I already have been through college", reminding Him I had a Ph.D. degree. Abba kept silent. Then I gave Abba a list of tasks that were unfinished including an addition I was putting on a house. As I pointed out each task, Abba simply stated, "You'll get that done." My final excuse was not knowing what bible college to attend and where I would stay. To those Abba remained silent.

Has there been a time in your life when you absolutely knew what God wanted you to do and tried to reason your way out of it with Him? Well, you already know that God's love for you always wins. I stood in those five hours under the shadow of His love and recalled all that He had done for me, in me, and through me. I had experienced Abba's protection at times in precarious times, His financial support in very troubled times, and His strength in caring for and attending to the needs of my sick wife until her death. I knew I could not say no without turning my back on my Abba Father and throwing away all He had done for me.

I sat in silence becoming aware of the environment around me. The oxygen had not depleted for I was still breathing. There were no known threats confronting me. I was immovable knowing I could not leave that spot without making a decision. In what seemed like hours, but in reality, were minutes, finally I said, "Yes, I will go to bible college." At that moment a peace I did not understand came over me. When I arose from the place where I sat, an excitement entered me. For the remaining time at the seminar, I was looking forward to my new adventure—going to bible college. In 24 hours, I knew that I would go to Charis Bible College in Atlanta, GA.

It was at that time I answered my calling.

At age 30, Jesus walked out of His carpenter shop knowing He would not return. In August 2008, at age 69, I closed my woodworking shop to attend Charis Bible College knowing I would not return to it. Since then, my path has been circuitous taking me through three years of premed studies; two years assisting with a healing school; two years of leading, managing, and growing a semi-political grassroots organization; two years of preparing to run for public office and losing; four years of being a homeowner's association president, and in between those tasks ministering to people who were and are struggling with life issues. Several ministry patients have died. A few have been healed. All of them have heard about God's strength and power.

Seventeen years ago, a Christian brother prophesied to me that God would remove me from my woodworking shop. Today, I see a parallel between Jesus leaving His carpenter shop and me leaving my woodworking shop. Jesus answered God's calling. I have answered God's calling. Jesus' calling lasted three years. My calling is in its 12th year. My expectation is that my ministry will continue for 40 more years. There is much to be done! Only my Abba Father can do it.

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He told me on January 30, 2010, to go where He sends me. To show up, for it is His work to do in me and His work to do through me.

Have you answered your calling? Everyone has come into this life with a calling. Do you know your calling? Seek Abba's face. Ask Him to reveal His calling for you. When you recognize it, embrace it. Allow it to become real in your life on this earth. By doing this you will be exceedingly abundantly blessed.

Endnote:

1. The Divine Romance, by Gene Edwards, Christian Books Publishing House, Scarborough, Maine MCMLXXXIV

You can find more Teachings on the Resources page of Love Life Ministry website at www.lovelifeministry.com.

I speak blessings over you that touch you with the healing power of God's love!

Shalom!!

Homer Crothers