

## ***God's Calling Requirements Part 6***

### ***I thank God for ... Part 2***

Paul thanked God for certain workers, ministries and churches due to certain good things they had done to the Lord. Paul did not give thanks to God to people who were a source of trouble, naughty or uncommitted. Instead purposely and precisely, Paul thanked God, for people who were truly living their life to serve God, and Paul thank God for churches and ministries that were in line of God's will, God's Word and God's call. To understand the requirement of God's calling in our life let us continue to study of the saying of Paul, 'I thank God for ....' That he repeated in different epistles and in different circumstances. We had previously studied:

***1. Paul thanked God for Timothy:***

***2. Paul thanked God for Philemon:***

***3. Paul thanked God for Titus:***

***4. Paul thanked God for the Thessalonians:***

Now, let us in this message study further that famous saying of Paul and put it into practice in our lives to know better the requirements of God's calling.

***5. Paul thanked God for the Romans:*** From Paul letters to the Romans you can outline further requirements to fulfill God's calling in your life.

***A. "8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world." (Romans 1:8 KJV)*** The Romans were having a good kind of faith that was reported in other places in the world. For sure they were doing remarkable things for the Lord, that their faith which was accompanied by actions was reported all over the world. That what made Paul thanked God for their lives. ***God wants us and His church to have a remarkable faith, that accompanied by deeds and obedience that will impress others with it, and the testimony will be spread quickly to other places and challenge others to follow and do the same.***

***B. "17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you." (Romans 6:17 KJV)*** Further reason that made Paul give thanks for the Romans that they obeyed the pattern of teaching and the doctrine from their heart; they were not forced but willingly obeyed the Word of God, the pattern of life and the teaching that was delivered to them. And that obedience brought deliverance into their lives. Before they were servants of sins and they were disobedience, but when the grace of God reached them, they started to obey and live willingly the doctrine of God as was delivered to them. ***In the same way, we are called today to obey the Word of God and live the teaching and the doctrine of the Lord with full willingness and from the heart and not by force. The willingness in the heart to obey will give us joy and will impart to us peace and more abundance of God's blessings into our lives.***

Your commitment to keep the pattern of sound teaching and doctrine is the manifestation that you are achieving God's calling requirements.

But, nothing harmful more than perverting the sound teaching of the Lord because when you do that you are imparting rebelliousness to the people around you and you are misleading others and confuse them, and such will bring God's wrath and disapproval upon you.

***6. Paul thanked God for the Corinthians: "4 I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ; 5 That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge;" (1 Corinthians 1:4-5 KJV)*** Paul thanked God for the Corinthians because God was good to them for He had given them different kinds of speech and knowledge, and had receive various blessings. Paul was telling them you had received much from God, then you need to be faithful to Him. Paul thanked God for what God had given to the Corinthians, but when he wrote that to them, it was a kind of a rebuke, exhorting them to continue to be true to God and to pay back for His faithfulness toward them. ***In the same way, as we received much from the Lord then we are called to be faithful to Him and to pay back to God what He gave us and that is how you respond and achieve God's calling requirements.***

Faithfulness is much needed toward God, toward the church of God, toward the brethren and toward our families and the places that we are working and living. As we receive from God good things, we need to act and use all these blessings of God for His glory, and that how we will be enjoying the blessings of God in our lives, and the ministry that He is giving to us to do.

***7. Paul thanked God for the Ephesians: "11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: 12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. 13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory. 15 Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, 16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; 17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him." (Ephesians 1:11-17 KJV)*** Paul was seeing in the life of the Ephesians the good plan of God and how His will is accomplished in their lives. The Ephesians were chosen by God and they had accepted and complied and went along with God's call. Paul spoke and told them, ***"In whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise." (Verse 13)*** therefore for sure they were marked with the Holy Spirit because their belief was in line with God Word and will, ***"Who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will." (Verse 11)***

For this reason, Paul has not stopped giving thanks to God, remembering the Ephesians in His prayers. Paul gave thanks for the genuine believers who accepted the ***"word of truth"***, as we read in verse 13, ***"after the counsel of his own will"***, as we read in verse 11. Paul went further and prayed and kept asking in prayers, ***"That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him." (Verse 17)*** Paul was glad to see the members and the church in Ephesus were moving forward to do God's will and He was seeing clearly how God's will is manifested in their lives. Therefore he even told them in his letter to them the way he is praying for them.

Therefore, God called you to do and to be the same; as you believe, then you need to consent to God's will and purpose for you in life, and that is how you achieve the requirements for God's calling.

We as a church need to work out that the whole church should go forward doing the whole will of God, and this will take place when everyone of us be faithful to God in achieving the plan of God that He has for each one of us.

**8. Paul thanked God for the Colossians:** *"3 We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, 4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints."* (Colossians 1:3-4 KJV) Paul here gave thanks to God in his prayer for the Colossians people because of the followings:

**A. Their faith and action in Christ Jesus:** *"Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus."*

**B. Their love for all the saints:** *"And of the love which ye have to all the saints."* Here the Love of the Colossians not to everyone but to *"all the saints."* The saints are those who live in holiness and had committed their lives to follow God and do His will

The Colossians as a church was not planted by Paul. It was planted by Epaphras, who went to Paul while he was in prison and opened up to him certain issues in the church that needed to be corrected and rectified. Epaphras had mentioned to Paul the love of the Colossians for all the saints. Furthermore, Paul said about Epaphras to the Colossians. **"8 Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit."** (Colossians 1:8 KJV) And that had encouraged Paul, that if he will send his letter to them, they would accept him and respect his instruction since they love the saints whom Paul is one of them. So Paul gave thanks to God for the Colossians who were open to correction and further teaching, for they showed their love to him from the first time they heard about him. **Are you a person or a church open for correction and rectification? If your response is 'Yes,' then you are attaining God's calling requirements and I am giving thanks unto God because of such Godly actions and attitudes in you.**

**9. Paul gave thanks for the Philippians:** *"3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."* (Philippians 1:3-5 KJV) Paul thanked God for the Philippians because they were in partnership with him from the first day they met him and heard the Gospel from him. Such persistent and long term commitment and without wavering or turning back had encouraged and Paul to give thanks to God. **Your perseverance in your long term commitment and partnership to the Church of God that God had placed you in it showed your willingness to achieve God's calling requirements and for this reason I give thanks unto God.**

**My Dear and Beloved:** Let us summarize what we had discussed so that you can find by yourself the qualities and the various aspects that God had called you to achieve in your life in your response to His calling to you.

God wants us and His church to have a remarkable faith, that accompanied by deeds and obedience that will impress others with it, and the testimony will be spread quickly to other places and challenge others to follow and do the same.

We are called today to obey the Word of God and live the teaching and the doctrine of the Lord with full willingness and from the heart and not by force. The willingness in the heart to obey God will give us joy and will impart to us peace and more abundance of God's blessings into our lives.

Our commitment to keep the pattern of sound teaching and doctrine is the manifestation that we are achieving God's calling requirements.

We should be aware that nothing harmful more than perverting the sound teaching of the Lord because when you do that you are imparting rebelliousness to the people around you and you are misleading others and confusing them, and such will bring God's wrath and disapproval upon you.

Faithfulness is needed. As we received much from the Lord then we are called to be faithful to Him and to pay back to God what He gave us and that is how you respond and achieve God's calling requirements.

Faithfulness is much needed toward God, toward the church of God, toward the brethren and toward our families and the places that we are working and living. As we receive from God good things, we need to act and use all these blessings of God for His glory, and that how we will be enjoying the blessings of God in our lives. and the ministry that He is giving to us to do.

As God called you, you need to consent to God's will and purpose for you in life, and that is how you achieve the requirements of God's calling.

We as a church need to work out that the whole church should go forward doing the whole will of God, and this will take place when everyone of us is faithful to God in achieving the plan that He has for each one of us.

As a church or an individual worker if you are open for correction and rectification, then you are attaining God's calling requirements, and for this reason I am giving thanks unto God because of such Godly actions and attitudes in you.

Your perseverance and your long term commitment and partnership to the Church of God that God had placed you in it showed your willingness to achieve God's calling requirements and for this reason I give thanks unto God.

**My Prayer:** *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life.*

*Lord thank you for your clear Word to me and the good example that I learned from the Scriptures about the Romans, Corinthians, Ephesians Philippians and Colossians churches, on how I fulfill your call to me in my life as a worker you placed me in your Church.*

*Lord I commit myself to change my life and attitude and to conform to the pattern of the Scriptures that we studied in this message.*

*Lord I repent from the following sins \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Let us confess and renounce our sins to God \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Let us repent of the sin of unfaithfulness, the sin of selfishness and the sin of doing our own will.*

*Lord I commit myself to be a blessing to others. Lord, give me more love and faith and sincerity in serving you, and fill me with the Holy Spirit and give me the spiritual gifts that I need for my service and ministry unto you.*

*Lord I commit myself to be at the level of expectation that you want me to be. Lord, I commit myself to the principle of laboring and serving you in faith and love and in doing what you prepare for me to do; remembering and applying the good example that I learned today from this message. Lord I commit myself to be open for correction and for instructions. Lord I commit my life to love all the saints who delight to live their lives to you. Lord give me perseverance and protect me as I determined to stand firm in keeping and applying the very Word of God.*

*Lord I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who committed their lives to the Word of God, Lord fill them with the Holy Spirit and give them the Holy Spirit gifts that they need so they can serve you and do your work in the way that you wanted to be done. Lord help them to be a blessing to others, and lead them to live a life of being good example to others to bring them into your Kingdom.*

*Lord help us as a church to evangelize and to spread your Word and reach others with the Gospel of Jesus and disciple them. Lord helps us to plant more Bible studies and new congregations for your church. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.*

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