

**Many are called but few are
chosen.**

Matt. 22:14.

God called us

- Various parables of Jesus mentioned this.
- Marriage feast. **Matt.22:2-14**, as many as you find, bid to the marriage.v.9.
- Laborers in the vineyard.**Matt.20:1-7**. called us even at the eleventh hour.v.6.
- The prodigal son. **Luke 15-20**. the father saw him a great way off.v.20.
- Peter and Andrew. **Matt.4:18**.Jesus said, Follow me.v.19
- James and John. **Matt.4:21**. Jesus called them.
V.21

How are we called and chosen?

- We are called by the gospel of Christ. **Rom.1:16.**
The gospel is power of God for salvation.
- **Rom.10:14.** Know and believe through Christian brethren who taught us the Word.
- **Rom.10:17.** Faith comes from hearing God's word.
- We are chosen because of our obedience to the Word, heeding the commands regarding salvation.
Eph.2:8.

How do we hear and respond to the word of God?

- How well we hear depends on the conditions of our hearts.
- This will determine how we respond to the Word. **Matt.13:3-8**.as described in the parable of the sower.
- Our response can be indifference to the Word, due mainly to our **neglect** of our spiritual life or,
- The Word can spur us to deeper commitment in God because of our willingness to listen and change our lifestyle.

Aspects of neglect

- What is neglect?
- Neglect is putting away what needs to be done now to a later time or to a more convenient time.
- We can stray from the faith when we neglect the great salvation. **Heb.2:3**. Can lose the joy of salvation. **Psa.51:12**.
- Dull of hearing. **Heb.5:11-12**. Our hearts are hardened by the deceitfulness of sins **Heb.3:13**, ears are shut, eyes are closed and not receptive to the Word. **Matt.13:15**.
- The parable of the sower is a good reminder that we need to check the state of our spiritual health frequently. **Matt.13:3-8**.

Spiritual checklist

- Counting the cost of **discipleship**. **Matt.16:24**. Are we counting the cost daily? Discipleship involves denying self and setting our attention on spiritual things. **Col.3:2**.
- Apostle Paul amplified what is discipleship? **Gal.2:20**.
- Our **devotional life**, feeding daily on the Word?, faithfulness to Christ? prayerfulness to God?
- Our **discipline** in Christian living. Are we too entangled by affairs of everyday life? **2 Tim.2:4**. Are we equipped for spiritual warfare? **Eph.6:11**. Are we prepared for this? **1 Peter 5:8**.
- Are we lively stones in the kingdom of God? **1 Peter 2:5**.
- Do we seek first the Kingdom of God and its righteous? **Matt.6:33**.

Prepare to meet God?

- Life is short on this earth. **James 4:14**. We look for a heavenly country God has prepared for us. **Heb.11:16**.
- We know that we are accountable for our action and the way we live. **Gal.6:7-8**.
- Regardless of our achievements, are we living pleasing to God? Are we fervent in His service or are we lukewarm? **Rev.3:15-16**.
- Each one of us have to give our account to God. **2 Cor.5:10-11**. Are we prepared? Have we a broken and contrite heart before God and let him restore to us the joy of salvation? **Psa.51:12,17**.
- We are comforted in that God is patient and love us. **2 Peter 3:9**. Does it mean we can carry on living life as we pleased?