

ANSWER GOD'S CALL; DECLARE THE GOOD NEWS

John 13:13-17; Acts 1:6-8

Introduction: Our mission acrostic is L.E.A.D.: Love God; Equip Believers; Answer God's Call; Declare the Good News. What is it going to take for you to Answer God's Call to serve Him?

Five steps to Answer God's Call

1. Serve in the unique ways God planned for you. *Ephesians 2:10, For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*
2. Serve God with the gifts the Holy Spirit gave to you. *1 Corinthians 12:4-7, Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit*
3. Serve with humility. *John 13:13-17, a servant is not greater than his master*
4. Serve motivated only by love. *1 Corinthians 16:14, Let all that you do be done in love.*
5. Seize the opportunity now. *John 9:1-7, night is coming, when no one can work*

Declaring the Good News...Cornerstone's worldwide priority - *Matthew 28:18-20, make disciples of all nations*

What do we need to know and do in order to succeed in declaring the Good News?

1. Understand that the harvest is ready and workers are needed. *Matthew 9:36-38 ;John 4:35*
2. Tear down the fences that block us from declaring the Good News.
 - a. Fear – Fear is not an excuse. *1 Corinthians 2:1-4*
 - b. Extreme separation – Step out of your comfort zone. *John 17:15-18*

- c. No preparation – Know the plan of salvation step-by-step. **2 Timothy 2:15**
 - d. Clock crunch – Set declaring the good news as a priority. **1 Corinthians 9:16-17**
 - e. Edification overdose – Don't substitute Bible knowledge for obedience. **Hebrews 5:12**
 - f. Stereotypes – Don't be put off by bad witnessing examples...hard sell, obnoxious preachers, etc. **1 Corinthians 10:32-33**
3. Learn to plant seeds (seed thoughts and good deeds); be patient and let God do the transforming work. **1 Corinthians 3:5-7**
 4. Cultivate relationships. **John 3:16**
 5. Answer honest questions. **1 Peter 3:15**
 6. Pray about your witness to others. **Colossians 4:3-4**
 7. Trust the Holy Spirit to make you a confident witness. **Acts 1:8**
 8. Do not be timid about asking for a decision. **2 Corinthians 6:2**
 9. Move decisions on to discipleship. **Matthew 28:19-20**