

*External Calling*

June 17, 2012

Main Point:

Go proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ so that sinners may be saved!

1. God's elect will be saved.
2. God desires to bring His people to salvation through the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
3. Proclamation of the gospel includes the work of Christ, an earnest plea, and assurance.
4. Share the gospel with all people.
5. Share the gospel knowing that God's offer of salvation is sincere.

**C.H. Spurgeon** "I am persuaded that no joy of growing wealthy, no joy of increasing knowledge, no joy of influence over your fellow-creatures, no joy of any other sort, can ever be compared with the rapture of saving a soul from death, and helping to restore our lost brethren to our great Father's house."

**C.H. Spurgeon** "That is why we preach! If there are so many fish to be taken in the net, I will go and catch some of them. Because many are ordained to be caught, I spread my nets with eager expectation ... It seems to me to be the very thing that should awaken us to energy—that God has a people, and that these people shall be brought in."

**John 6:37-39** <sup>37</sup> "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. <sup>38</sup> "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. <sup>39</sup> "This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. (NKJV)

**John 10:27-29** <sup>27</sup> "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. <sup>28</sup> "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. <sup>29</sup> "My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of My Father's hand. (NKJV)

**WCF 3.5** Those of mankind that are predestinated unto life, God, before the foundation of the world was laid, according to His eternal and immutable purpose, and the secret counsel and good pleasure of His will, hath chosen in Christ unto everlasting glory, out of His mere free grace and love, without any foresight of faith or good works, or perseverance in either of them, or any other thing in the creature, as conditions, or causes moving Him thereunto; and all to the praise of His glorious grace.

**Romans 10:13-17** <sup>13</sup> For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." <sup>14</sup> How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? <sup>15</sup> And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!" ... <sup>17</sup> So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (NKJV)

**Matthew 28:18-20** <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen. (NKJV)

**RPCNA Testimony 10.6** Evangelism is the proclamation of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord as He is offered in the Gospel. Christ laid the responsibility upon the whole Church to make this proclamation. The task is not restricted to ordained officers. Each member is to take his share of the responsibility according to the gifts God has given him.

**WCF 10.3** Elect infants, dying in infancy, are regenerated and saved by Christ through the Spirit, who worketh when, and where, and how He pleaseth. So also are all other elect persons, who are incapable of being outwardly called by the ministry of the Word.

**Definition of External Calling:** "External calling is the presentation and offering of salvation in Christ to sinners, together with an earnest exhortation to repent and accept Christ by faith, in order to obtain the forgiveness of sins and life eternal." (Revised edition of Louis Berkhof's definition)

**Ephesians 7:8** <sup>8</sup> To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, (NKJV)

**2 Corinthians 5:20** <sup>20</sup> Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. (NKJV)

**Robert Reymond:** "It is *God himself*, in the church's proclamation of his Word, who outwardly summons all classes of people to repentance unto life and to faith in Christ ... And when the church proclaims the gospel correctly, it will make clear to its hearers that it is the summons of God that it is proclaiming."

**John 3:36** <sup>36</sup> "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." (NKJV)

**Isaiah 45:22** <sup>22</sup> "Look to Me, and be saved, All you ends of the earth! For I *am* God, and *there is* no other. (NKJV)

**Matthew 22:14** <sup>14</sup> "For many are called, but few *are* chosen." (NKJV)

**Isaiah 1:18-20** <sup>18</sup> "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool. <sup>19</sup> If you are willing and obedient, You shall eat the good of the land; <sup>20</sup> But if you refuse and rebel, You shall be devoured by the sword"; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken. (NKJV)

**Ezekiel 18:23** <sup>23</sup> "Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?" says the Lord GOD, "*and* not that he should turn from his ways and live? (NKJV)

**Louis Berkhof:** "It is blasphemous to think that God would be guilty of equivocation and deception, that He would say one thing and mean another, that He would earnestly plead with the sinner to repent and believe unto salvation, and at the same time not desire it in any sense of the word."