



Let's Go | *When God Calls* | Shawn Johnson | 4.23.17

LG Weekly

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer these two questions:

What is one thing you have always wanted to do but are too scared to ever give it a try?

SHARE

In this series, we are going to be challenged.

Throughout Scripture, God continually says, "Let's go." From Abraham, Moses and Gideon to Mary, Joseph, the disciples, and the apostle Paul; all had moments of God asking them to trust him. "Going" is not always a destination, but it does take obedience and faith. For some of us, *let's go* can mean it is time to stay right where you are and dig in. For others, *let's go* means drop what you are doing, turn the other direction, and go where Jesus is leading you. God truly speaks to us through his word, prayer, and through the Holy Spirit who guides and counsels.

God can do anything you know --- far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around, but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.

Ephesians 3:20

It is such a beautiful paraphrase in The Message translation: “He does it not by pushing us around, but by working within us.” God is at work inside each of us who have a relationship with Jesus. When we take a moment to grasp that the Holy Spirit is within us and wants to guide our lives, a whole new world opens up to us. So let’s chase down the plans God has for us, the dreams that he has given us, and the life he has in store for us to live. It is God who calls us to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. We get our identity from him alone. It comes from no one and nothing else. When God whispers *let’s go*, we can trust him completely.

This week, Shawn begins our series with the title “When God Calls.” Moses knows something about hearing God’s voice. We pick up the story after Moses has fled his prestigious life in Egypt. The Israelites have endured 400 years of slavery; Moses had become a shepherd working under his father-in-law. He is tending sheep in the remote wilderness when he is called.

Read Exodus 3:1-4

We can’t predict where God might speak to us, but many times he speaks in the wilderness moments of our lives. In Moses’ case, it was literally the physical wilderness. Why do you think we tend to hear God better in the wilderness moments of life?

Moses noticed something that had to be from God. What was it and why did he go near it?

How did Moses respond to hearing his name? Why is this so important in our lives? Do you see dangers in not responding when God speaks to us?

G R O W

God can communicate to us however he desires. Whether it is through a burning bush, a song, movie, painting, sermon, book, or a person, God can choose any form of communication to get through to us in a way that we know it is God speaking. We also have the entire unshakeable word of God – the Bible – that contains the truth of who he is and what he is like. God wants to communicate with us individually because he loves us and has a plan. For Moses, he spoke through a burning bush and Moses said, “Here I am.” If we are to start following, we need to let God know we are ready; we need to say “Here I am.” We need to respond.

Let's read Jeremiah 29:11 and then Exodus 3:4-10

God says, "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." Moses walks right into a holy moment and as he realizes it, he hides his face. When God speak to us, we can experience a mixture of excitement, amazement, and even fear. Moses looked away and listened. God told Moses that he knew the situation Moses ran from, and now he is sending him specifically to go get his people. God is saying, "Let's go, Moses!" Imagine that for a moment. How would you respond?

Continue reading Exodus 3:11-17

How do you think you would react if God called you to something like that?

What was Moses' reaction? Is it similar to how you have answered God? How you will answer him?

Moses thought God got it wrong, that there must be a more qualified person out there to send, but God chose him.

In verse 12, God says "I will be with you." Why is this so significant when it comes to following God's calling in our lives?

M O V E

When God says *let's go*, we need to understand the contraction. It means 'let us go' together. When God calls us, he reminds us that he will be with us as we go. We aren't sent alone, but in the power and protection of God himself. God told Moses, "I will be with you," and we can be certain that when God is calling us to something that he will not leave us. In fact, he will not only be with us; he will equip us to do what we are called to do.

Read Romans 11:29, Philippians 1:6 and Isaiah 43:1-3

According to Scripture, God has redeemed, called, equipped, gifted and promised us that he is not leaving us, but will help us no matter what we face until Christ Jesus returns. It is a good work he is doing in our lives.

Is there an area of your life where you sense God might be calling your name and saying *let's go*? If so, how are you feeling about it?

Is there anything going on in your life where you feel confused and need direction?

If you are having trouble hearing God's voice, what can you begin doing this week to change that? *(Get in the word, meet with a Christian mentor or counselor, begin praying more, giving up something that is hindering your walk with Jesus, etc.)*

P R A Y

As a group, spend some time praying for each other and the struggles we all face. If you are in a co-ed group, consider breaking up into men and women's groups to talk more freely.

T O G O

Isaiah 41:10 ESV

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.