

THE CALL OF GOD AND MY WORK

References:

Notes For Servants:

- 1.
- 2.

Objectives:

General:

Specific:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Instructions:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Bible Verse:

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”
(Matt 5:16)

Lesson:

See Attached Sheets.

The Call Of God And My Work

My father, the priest said:

The story I am going to tell you, my son, had happened a short time ago.....

One evening we were celebrating the engagement of John my old colleague in the Sunday School, to his fiance Mary, who also was with us in the same Sunday School. We were colleagues in the university and graduated in the same year. John continued his work as teacher while I was called by our Lord to be consecrated for his service, and received the Sacrament of Priesthood.

I met there three of my old colleagues, Luke. Paul and Mark, and we sat gladly together and rejoiced for the happy occasion which brought us together again.

I asked my friends:

- What do you do now, Luke ? and you Paul ? and you Mark ?

Paul answered:

- I am now a lawyer, Father, Luke is an engineer and Mark is a merchant.

Then Mark curiously asked:

- Could you tell me, Father, why did you consecrate yourself for the difficult service of priesthood ?

- It is God's invitation to me, my friend..... After finishing my studies, I felt a very strong tendency inside myself urging me to offer myself for the service of God. I felt that God is calling me to the service of priesthood. After that God is calling met my marriage, I was ordained prest in a near-by town and I have been there since three years.

Luke was astonished, and said:

- Father Joseph, we appreciate very much your sacrifice that you have left everything to become a priest.

Then Paul added:

- Whatever we may offer to God, what would be its measure beside the services of the priest?

I answered them:

- Don't say that, my friends. Do you think that any person can serve God only if he is a priest? I am sorry that this wrong idea is spread among many people. For sure, God does not want all the people to become priests. Or else, who is going to cultivate the land? Who is going to cure the sick? Or, who will care for the great projects for developing our country?

Paul said:

This means then that I can serve God in my work itself!

I answered:

Certainly, every-one can serve God through h's work. In fact this is our first responsibility.

In one voice, the three of them said:

How could this be, Father ?!

At this point, John and his fiance Phebe joined us and, they were anxious to hear the discussion. We told them what we were saying. They also cried: "How, Father?"

- Every person can serve God in his work in many ways. Honesty in work is service to God. The consecration of God's day in worship and serving others is also service to God. When

one offers of himself a good example before other colleagues in his work it is also serving the Lord. There are also special ways of serving our Lord connected with the particular profession or job of each one of us.

John asked:

- But, Father, I think that there are jobs through which one cannot serve God.

Then Paul added:

- Yes, Father, suppose a person comes to me and asks me to defend him in the court, and I know that he is not innocent I shall go to the court and defend him as if he is innocent while he has committed a crime ! Does this action serve the Lord ?

- Through your job, Paul, you should always defend truth against falsehood. You should defend those who are wronged and oppressed and those who fall under false accusation. If you do that, you will resemble our Lord Jesus Christ in caring for the people who are in need for help, till he brings justice to victory. Your profession gives you a chance to do peace among conflicting parties. You will become a maker of peace. "Blessed are the peacemakers.; for they shall be called the children of God" (Matt. 5:9).

- And you, Mark, you can offer the glory to God by your honesty with your customers, by not becoming a lover, of money, and by being "not greedy" (I Timothy 3:8).

Then Mary asked:

- Father, you have said much concerning the professions of men. But how could I serve the Lord, after I shall get married.

- You are right Mary, but don't you know that you will serve God when you fulfil your responsibilities in your own home, with your husband: You shall be the source of happiness to your husband and children. You will serve God also by bringing up your children into the knowledge of our Saviour. Saint Paul has said that the woman will be saved through bearing children, if they continue in faith and love and holiness with modesty".

(1 Timothy 2:15).

Father Joseph looked at all of them and said:

- I think that I have said enough for the moment. I hope that we shall meet in my home soon and we shall talk together more about what each of you has done to glorify our Lord in his work and in his life.

Conclusion:

- 1.
- 2.
3. .

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

(Matt 5:16)