

By Kiara Mobile

Theme:

Sensing that you are **Called** into ministry can sometimes overshadow a greater calling that you have. As believers, we are **Called** to *a life of total dependence on the Lord*, and in our complete reliance *on* Him, we find sufficiency *in* Him meeting our every need as we walk our **Called** journey. As we grow older, we tend to discover more and more unmet needs in our lives. As we grow in Christ, we *should* become more and more reliant on God to fulfill every need. However, if we are honest and perform true self-reflection, we will find that we depend on ourselves to satisfy those unmet needs instead of relying on God to provide for us as He said He would.

Our mortal attempt at satisfying our own needs is just that, an attempt. We will never, even on our best day, be able to compare to the sufficiency and adequacy the Lord has in supplying everything we need. Yes, that includes the often unspoken felt needs, such as eradicating the loneliness you feel, your desire to be desired, the craving of an intimate relationship, the forgiveness you need to give the person who took something precious from you, the friend you desperately want, the wisdom you need for dealing with that difficult teacher, the help you need in being obedient to your parents, or the direction you need for decisions concerning your future. All these can be delivered to you by God if you let Him.



A Note To Leaders



You, like many other believers, may be more familiar with asking God to meet needs that are provisional to your future—finances, jobs, or household and family needs. This familiarity comes from the wisdom we have in knowing that there are things in life that just won't happen unless God does it. Unless God speaks to me, I won't know where He wants me in ministry. Unless God moves on the heart of my boss, I won't get a raise. Unless God opens the door, I won't get the job. Unless God intervenes, my family won't come to know Jesus, or we won't have enough in our budget to cover our household expenses. These are not bad thoughts. In fact, we should think this way. However, our reliance on God should go much deeper and wider. I encourage you, along with your students, to think deeper and wider, trusting that there is no need too great or too insignificant for the Lord to meet along your Called journey.



Completely relying on the Lord to meet your needs when you've built a habit of "getting things done yourself" can be difficult to do. We think to ourselves, "I know what I need; therefore, I must know how to meet that need, or I know someone or something that can." We may never admit to this way of thinking; however, the history of our actions will prove repeatedly that this is our primary thought instead of considering *God first and God only*.

As someone walking her **Called** journey, this is a dangerous place to be. If we begin to rely on ourselves to figure out how to supply *any* need, whether it's the lack of feeling desired or the lack of direction for where God wants you to be in ministry, we begin to take God's place in our lives by concluding that we have the best solution when we never do. If we can rely on God to meet our needs concerning being **Called** to ministry, then He is just as faithful to meet the often unspoken felt needs in our daily lives that we so desperately try to fulfill ourselves. Ministry is not *separate* from our daily living; ministry *happens within* our daily living, and God deserves His rightful place in it.

Scripture verses to help guide your discussion:



Read Proverbs 3:5-8

- Does the history of your actions prove that you trust God with all your heart?
- What does it mean to acknowledge or submit to God in all your ways?
- In what ways have you been wise in your own eyes?

Read Colossians 1:25-29

- What does it mean to teach others with the wisdom God has given us?
- In what ways do we gain wisdom?
 Considering our challenge in allowing
 God to meet all our needs.

Read Philippians 4:19

- What does God will meet our needs "in Christ Jesus" mean?
- Who or what have we depended on more than God?



Go A Little Deeper: Read Colossians 2:4-9

One of the biggest threats to Christianity is secular humanism. What is that? It is a system of thought that believes humanity is capable of self-fulfillment and of deciding values, characteristics, and behaviors that focus on what is best for human beings devoid of God or any spiritual input. This way of thinking has become a significant cause of the secular belief system in education, in government, and in society in general. The philosophy of humanism began with Satan in the Garden of Eden. It is the articulation of his lie that humans can be like God. If we are not careful to *totally depend on God for everything*, we run the risk of becoming sinful by exchanging the truth about God for a lie and by worshiping and serving created things rather than the Creator (Romans 1:25). Being **Called** to vocational ministry is wonderful, but above that calling, we are **Called** to *a life totally dependent on the Lord*. In our complete reliance on Him, we find sufficiency in Him meeting our every need as we walk our **Called** journey.

Prayer:

Focus your prayer time on asking God to grant you the strength to let go of self-reliance and dependence on others or material possessions to fulfill unmet needs. Ask God to take His rightful place back in the center of your life. Then, pray for one another to trust God with your everyday needs and the details of your **Called** journey.

From The Author

I know that God **CALLED** me to help others see that bold steps of faith don't always have to make sense to others or even you sometimes, but that it's important to obey God and trust that He will work every detail in our lives together for the good of those that love Him and have been **CALLED** according to His purpose."

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CALLED GIRL | PART TWO: A Life Of *Total*Dependence On The Lord

Completely relying on the Lord to meet your needs when you've built a habit of "getting things done yourself" can be difficult to do. We think to ourselves, "I know what I need; therefore, I must know how to meet that need, or I know someone or something that can." We may never admit to this way of thinking; however, the history of our actions will prove repeatedly that this is our primary thought instead of considering *God first and God only*.

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LEADER GUIDE



CALLED GIRL | PART ONE:

A *Divine Call*To Ministry

By Jahrina Jahin

SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

CALLED GIRL | PART ONE: A *Divine Call* To Ministry

Theme:

A divine Call into ministry implies a unique vocation for every person, a purposeful path designed by a loving God. It shows us that that our lives are not arbitrary but are part of a grander narrative crafted by the Creator. This narrative, I believe, is rooted in the very essence of our being and aligns with God's intention for us, His calling for us, and His design for us. As we navigate through life, discerning and embracing our Call into ministry becomes a journey that requires self-reflection, spiritual awareness, and a willingness to surrender to a purpose larger than ourselves. Surrender is often made to seem like weakness. We see in movies, books, and stories that once someone surrenders, they have given up or have lost something. It's so beautiful how the Lord shows us that once we surrender, its rather the opposite of weakness. It's an acknowledgment of the limitations of human understanding and a courageous leap into the vastness of all that the Father has for us. When you choose a life with God, you are choosing a lifetime of surrender. From the moment of your salvation, it's an acknowledgment that you surrender your life to the plans God has for you. There is a reason that from the moment of your salvation, you first had to surrender. God was preparing you for a lifetime of giving up control and having faith in Him.



A Note To Leaders



In the hustle and bustle of our daily tasks, it's easy to become entangled in the details and lose sight of the bigger picture—the divine purpose we serve. Surrendering to the Lord is a powerful act that not only aligns us with His will but also opens the floodgates of His grace and guidance.

As we lead others on this spiritual journey, I believe our personal surrender to the Lord sets an example that speaks louder than words. It's a testament to our faith and a source of inspiration for those we shepherd. In surrender, we find strength, and in yielding, we discover true freedom.

I propose that, as a leader, we take intentional steps to cultivate an atmosphere of surrender. This could involve regular prayer and reflection sessions where we lay our burdens before the Lord and seek His wisdom. Additionally, fostering a culture of vulnerability and openness will allow us to share our struggles and triumphs, creating a community where surrender is not just encouraged but celebrated. May our ministry be a shining beacon of surrender, a place where individuals encounter the transformative power of yielding to the Lord.



CALLED GIRL | PART ONE: A *Dívíne Call* To Ministry

Embarking on the journey of being Called is one that carries its own set of challenges, yet the reward is great far surpassing anything the world or our plans could ever promise. The allure of planning our own destiny is painted as glamorous and exciting by the world, but in truth, it often leaves us with an emptiness and a lack of fulfillment. The idea of personal aspirations can turn into a constant internal battle of questioning our existence: Why am I here? What am I doing? Perhaps most crucially, why am I doing it?

Choosing our own paths can lead to a realization that, despite the initial appeal, there's a void in our plans. There is an absence of purpose that is evident in our self-made plans. Here, purpose and surrender intertwine, each dependent on the other. To discover the true purpose behind our actions, we find ourselves needing to surrender to a higher power-to God, who holds the master plan. Surrendering to God doesn't mean forsaking our gifts, talents, or desires. On the contrary, it's an acknowledgment that God, who intimately knows the desires of our hearts, has our best interests in mind. It's an understanding that by giving up control, we open ourselves to a divine guidance that not only aligns with our gifting's but often reveals aspects of ourselves that we never knew existed.

Through surrender, we find purpose infused into our pursuits. It's the transformative realization that what we do is not merely a self-serving endeavor but a partnership with God. Surrender allows God to unveil the layers of meaning behind our actions, showing us the connections between our talents and a purpose that extends beyond our immediate understanding. In surrender, we trust that the desires of our hearts when aligned with God's plan will lead to a fulfillment that surpasses our own limited vision. It's an acknowledgment that the journey of being Called, though challenging, is a gateway to a purposeful and deeply rewarding life. Through the lens of surrender, we not only discover the richness of our gifts but also experience the joy of unveiling passions and purposes that God, in His infinite wisdom, had intricately woven into the fabric of our creation.

Scripture verses to help guide your discussion: Read Jeremiah 29:11



- What does Jeremiah 29:11 mean to you personally?
- In your own words, how would you define surrender when it comes to your relationship with God?
- Can you share a personal experience where surrendering to God's plan brought about unexpected blessings or growth?
- What are some ways that you can overcome fear when it comes to surrendering to the Lord's plan over your own?

Read Ephesians 2:10

- In what ways do you see yourself as God's masterpiece, created for doing good things?
- Can you think of a time when you felt you had to give up your plans for something better that God had in mind?
- Are there times when you find it hard to let go of your plans to do good things? What makes it challenging?



A Divine Call To Ministry

Leave Room For Discussion:

We just discussed the topic of surrendering to God. Let's reflect on the beauty of trusting in His plans. Each of us is a unique masterpiece, designed by the Creator for a purpose outlined in Ephesians 2:10. It's heartening to know that God has crafted us for good works and that *through surrender, we align ourselves with His divine design.* I want to encourage each one of you to embrace this truth with confidence. In surrender, there is strength, and in recognizing ourselves as God's cherished creations, we find the courage to live out His purposes. Let's discuss together how we can support and uplift one another in this journey of surrender, celebrating the uniqueness and potential that God has placed within each of us.

Prayer:

Let your prayer time be a moment where you admit your dependence on God and recognize the areas in your life where you struggle to surrender control. Pray that your surrender would reveal God's purpose in your life. Make time to pray for one another and your surrender to the Lord and the **Calling** that He has on each of your lives.

From The Author

I was **CALLED** to ministry at a young age and I didn't understand what that would look like or how I would start achieving this call God had given me at such a young age. God made it clear to me over time that pastoral and women's ministry is the calling over my life. I haven't turned back since and I can easily say full time ministry isn't just my job it's my life."

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STUDENT GUIDE



CALLED GIRL | PART ONE:

A *Dívine Call* To Ministry

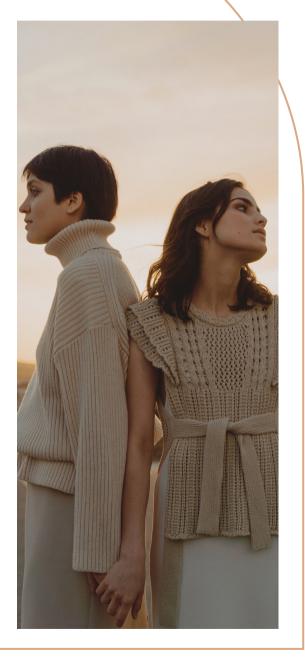
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A Divine Call To Ministry

SMALL GROUP
STUDENT GUIDE

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SMALL GROUP STUDENT GUIDE

A Divine Call To Ministry

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