



INTRODUCTION

For our first word of the month, Harry Gardner takes us on a journey of being called by God in his own life and ministry. He delves into the challenges and hopes that we face in discerning and ultimately following where God leads us, even if it's to places we did not expect.

For 150 years, Canadian Baptists have responded to God's calling to serve Him through faithful witness. Our mission is borne out of the fact that there is a caller—God—and that we have been called. Our mission is our act of obedience to the one who has called us.

EXCERPT

For individuals and for churches, His call is often well outside our comfort circle...Being called requires corporate and careful listening to the Spirit. Sometimes we need to wait before we engage the work, and to worship and pray before we manifest the muscle of our efforts, as good as those efforts might be. Sometimes, it is not only knowing what we are to do, but when and with whom.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. When have you experienced a sense of God's call as an individual or a church?
2. Have you always recognized the significance of God's people *calling out* your gifts for service; that your identity and calling is in Christ and His church?
3. What do you think of the statement that *the primary means of fulfilling the Great Commission is to live out the calling found in the Great Commandment*?
4. Have you ever experienced the disappointment of an unrealized or unfulfilled calling when you were initially confident of God's leading?
5. Can you think of an experience when you or your church were prevented by the Spirit of Jesus as Paul had been when he tried to enter Bithynia?
6. What are you most drawn to as an individual or as a church when you consider the prayer of Jesus "may your Kingdom come and your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven"? What is the next step in moving towards that area of mission?



We encourage you to share your own reflections using #CABA150, as well as follow along for the latest news and events on our website.

