

## Come Up Higher

**Exodus 24:1** - Now He said to Moses, "Come up to the Lord, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and worship from afar.

*Explain: God was calling Moses to a place he had never been before.*

- *He was calling him to the un-ordinary.*
- *He was calling him to the uncommon.*
- *He was calling him to a higher purpose.*

In **Exodus 4:1** we find Moses saying to God...

"But suppose they will not believe me or listen to my voice; suppose they say, 'The Lord has not appeared to you.' "

In **Exodus 4:10** we hear him complaining...

Then Moses said to the Lord, "O my Lord, I *am* not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I *am* slow of speech and slow of tongue." (***cannot talk very well***)

**But later on in the book of Exodus...**

- We find Moses stretching forth his rod upon the Red sea and we see the entire nation of Israel crossing through it on dry ground.

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**Thomas Watson**, chairman of IBM said in 1943

- "I think there is a world market for **maybe five computers**."

**An Engineer** at the Advanced Computing Systems Division of IBM, 1968, commenting on the microchip.

- "But **what is it good for?**"

**Ken Olson**, president, chairman and founder of Digital Equipment Corp., 1977

- "There is **no reason** anyone would want a computer in their home."

**Western Union** internal memo, 1876.

- "This 'telephone' has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication. **The device is inherently of no value to us**.

**A Yale University management professor** in response to Fred Smith's paper proposing reliable overnight delivery service.

(Smith went on to found Federal Express Corp.) said,

- "The concept is interesting and well-formed, but in order to earn better than a 'C,' the idea must be feasible."

**H.M. Warner, Warner Brothers, 1927.**

- "Who the heck wants to hear actors talk?"

"**Apple Computer Inc. founder Steve Jobs** talked about their attempts to get Atari and H-P interested in his and Steve Wozniak's personal computer.

- "So we went to Atari and said, 'Hey, we've got this amazing thing, even built with some of your parts, and what do you think about funding us? Or we'll give it to you. We just want to do it. Pay our salary, we'll come work for you.' And they said, 'No.' So then we went to Hewlett-Packard, and they said, '**Hey, we don't need you. You haven't got through college yet.**'"

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**John 1:46** Nathanael sarcastically asks Phillip about Jesus...

**And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"**

- **What** has been said of you?
- **What** has been said of your life?
- Better yet, **what** do you think of you?

Do you realize that there is **a divine purpose** and **call upon your life**?

**God is calling you up Higher**

- There is **a higher purpose** for your life.
- As God called Peter and his brethren to become '***Fishers of men***', **God is calling you** to **a higher purpose**.

What we fail to realize most often is that we were not born into this world to carry on our father's deeds.

We were not born into this world to continue in the generational mindset ***that eludes the will of God for our lives.***

## **We have a higher purpose**

- There is a reason we were born into this world.
- **God has called us** up higher.
- **God has ordained unto us** His will and reason for our existence.

**WE come from varied backgrounds here today.**

**But our purpose *is the same* – to let our lives become ***what He has ordained us to be.*****

- **Our will** today is to allow His will to be done in us.
- **Our will** today is to enter into the riches of his perfect design for our lives.

**The saddest thing** in the world to me is a life that has not yet *found its purpose in God.*

**The saddest thing** in the world is a life that is full of potential and yet it has not yet found what it is God would have them to do.

**What is sad** to me is *someone like Peter* going back to fishing in his father's boat **after Christ was crucified.**

- **Thank God** for his Grace. **Thank God** for his love.
- For **had Jesus not** called unto Peter as he returned to his career as a fisherman, **Peter never would have** become the anointed Apostle who **preached the Acts 2:38 message of salvation.**

**Acts 2:38** - Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission (forgiveness) of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

**Who could have known –**

- That the naked man throwing the net into the sea to catch fish that night
- Would just days later be the man who threw the net of the Gospel into the sea of humanity?

**Jesus is calling unto us this morning.** - He is asking us - ***“will you come up higher?”***

- ***Will you allow me*** to take your life to a higher place of purpose and meaning?

*I doubt* that there is a person here today who at some point in their life didn't say, "God why am I here?"

- "What is my purpose?"

When you look into the Bible, you'll find person after ordinary person *who appears to have no talent or purpose* for his or her life.

- *After hearing the voice of God* in their Life, they become something amazing.
- It's the little **shepherd boy David** tending his father's sheep.
- It's **young Joseph** telling his brothers about a dream he just had.
- I hear **Mordecai** saying to Esther "who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"
- I hear **Jesus** telling **Peter**, "I'm going to make you a fisher of Men".
- I hear him **telling Saul**, "**I am Jesus** whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

*Sometimes we wonder why everything seems to be going wrong in our lives.*

- Sometimes we wonder why it just seems like our lives are going nowhere.
- **Could it be** that we are spending our energy kicking against the very thing that God is calling us up to?
- **Could it be** that we are running from our calling and our purpose?

I wonder today what could happen if each and every one of us could somehow **find our purpose?**

- I wonder what would happen if somehow each and every one of us could not only **hear the Will of God** spoken into our lives, but that *we also would begin to walk in that Purpose*?"

**Here is what I believe...**

- Here is what I know to be true...
- Each and every one of us here today has a divine purpose.
- Each and every one of us here today has a reason and call of God upon our lives.
- Not a one of us are an accident. None of us come from happenstance.

- **None of us** are without purpose.
- **Each and every one of us** was created of the purpose and will of God.

The scriptures declare to us that **He knew us** “*while we were yet in our mothers womb.*”

- **Don't think** for one moment that He is not concerned about you.
- **Don't think** for an instant that He doesn't know right where you are at this morning.

David said, **Psalm 139:8** - If I ascend into heaven, *You are there*;  
If I make my bed in hell, behold, *You are there*.

**What this world does not understand** is that no matter how hard you try, *you cannot escape the presence and purpose of God* in your life.

- Each of us here today was **created in the image of God** Himself.

You say, you don't know the depth of sin and depravity I have gone to.”

**Romans 5:8** - But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that **while we were still sinners**, Christ died for us.

- **Don't think** for one moment that you could stoop so low that **God could not** pick you back up.
- One old song says, “**He brought me out of the Miry Clay. He placed my feet on the rock to stay.**”
- Sure our lives get off track.
- Sure we lose our direction.
- But I hear him saying today, “**Come Up!**”

**CLOSE:**

**When you've lost your direction in God, there is only one direction to go.**

- **It's not** to the left or right.
- **It's** to the North or South.
- **The only direction you can go to find God is UP!**

Jesus is telling someone here this morning, “**look up**, and lift up your head; for your redemption draweth nigh.”

- **Up might mean** a time of repentance for someone here today.
- **Up might mean** being filled with the Holy Ghost for someone else.
- **Up might mean** a deeper commitment for you today.
- **It could be** walking away from something that you know is keeping you from His will in your life.
- **Going up signified** to Moses that he was separating himself from the carnality of the common people.
- While they were forging molten gods of silver and brass, **he was up on the mountain top** seeking the face of the One True Living God.

There's a reason why you are here this morning.

- **There's a reason** why you have found yourself in this place today.
- **There is something** in you that is searching.
- **There is something** in you that is reaching for its purpose in God.
- It's the soul crying out, “**Help me find my direction.**”

**I wonder today if anyone here would like to come up higher?**

I wonder if anyone here is ready to move away from the ordinary and **into the extraordinary**.

I wonder if you would be willing to make a commitment to go higher in God today.

**PRAISE TEAM:**

Right where you are standing – **lift your hands**.

**If you feel comfortable**, find a place to pray where you are or let's **COME TO THE ALTAR**.

**Let's find our place in God.**

**Let's find our purpose here today.**