



LIVING WITH PURPOSE

LOVING ONE ANOTHER



Now what?



DOCTRINE OF VOCATION

- VOCATION "IS THE NOTION THAT EVERY LEGITIMATE KIND OF WORK OR SOCIAL FUNCTION IS A DISTINCT "CALLING" FROM GOD, REQUIRING UNIQUE GOD-GIVEN GIFTS, SKILLS, AND TALENTS."
- "BUT ORDINARY LIFE IS WHERE GOD HAS PLACED US. THE FAMILY, THE WORKPLACE, THE LOCAL CHURCH, THE CULTURE, AND THE PUBLIC SQUARE ARE WHERE HE HAS CALLED US. VOCATION IS WHERE SANCTIFICATION TAKES PLACE."
 - GENE EDWARD VEITH

OUR GENERAL VOCATION

- ^{NIV} **EPHESIANS 2:10** FOR WE ARE GOD'S WORKMANSHIP, CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS TO DO GOOD WORKS, WHICH GOD PREPARED IN ADVANCE FOR US TO DO.

OUR SPECIAL VOCATION

- ^{ESV} **JEREMIAH 29:11** FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU, DECLARES THE LORD, PLANS FOR WELFARE AND NOT FOR EVIL, TO GIVE YOU A FUTURE AND A HOPE.
- ^{ESV} **1 CORINTHIANS 7:17** ONLY LET EACH PERSON LEAD THE LIFE THAT THE LORD HAS ASSIGNED TO HIM, AND TO WHICH GOD HAS CALLED HIM ...

ACTS 9:32-43

1. PETER HEALS AENEAS 9:32-35
2. PETER RAISES TABITHA 9:36-42
3. PETER ACCEPTS SIMON 9:43

PETER'S VOCATION

- GENERAL

- ^{NIV} **JOHN 15:12** MY COMMAND IS THIS: LOVE EACH OTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. ¹³ GREATER LOVE HAS NO ONE THAN THIS, THAT HE LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS ... ¹⁶ YOU DID NOT CHOOSE ME, BUT I CHOSE YOU AND APPOINTED YOU TO GO AND BEAR FRUIT-- FRUIT THAT WILL LAST ... ¹⁷ THIS IS MY COMMAND: LOVE EACH OTHER.

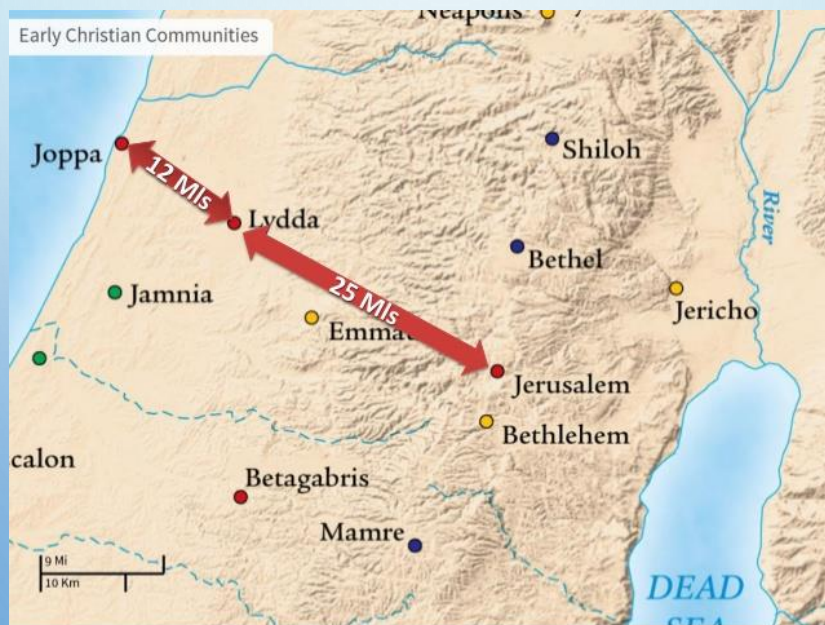
PETER'S VOCATION

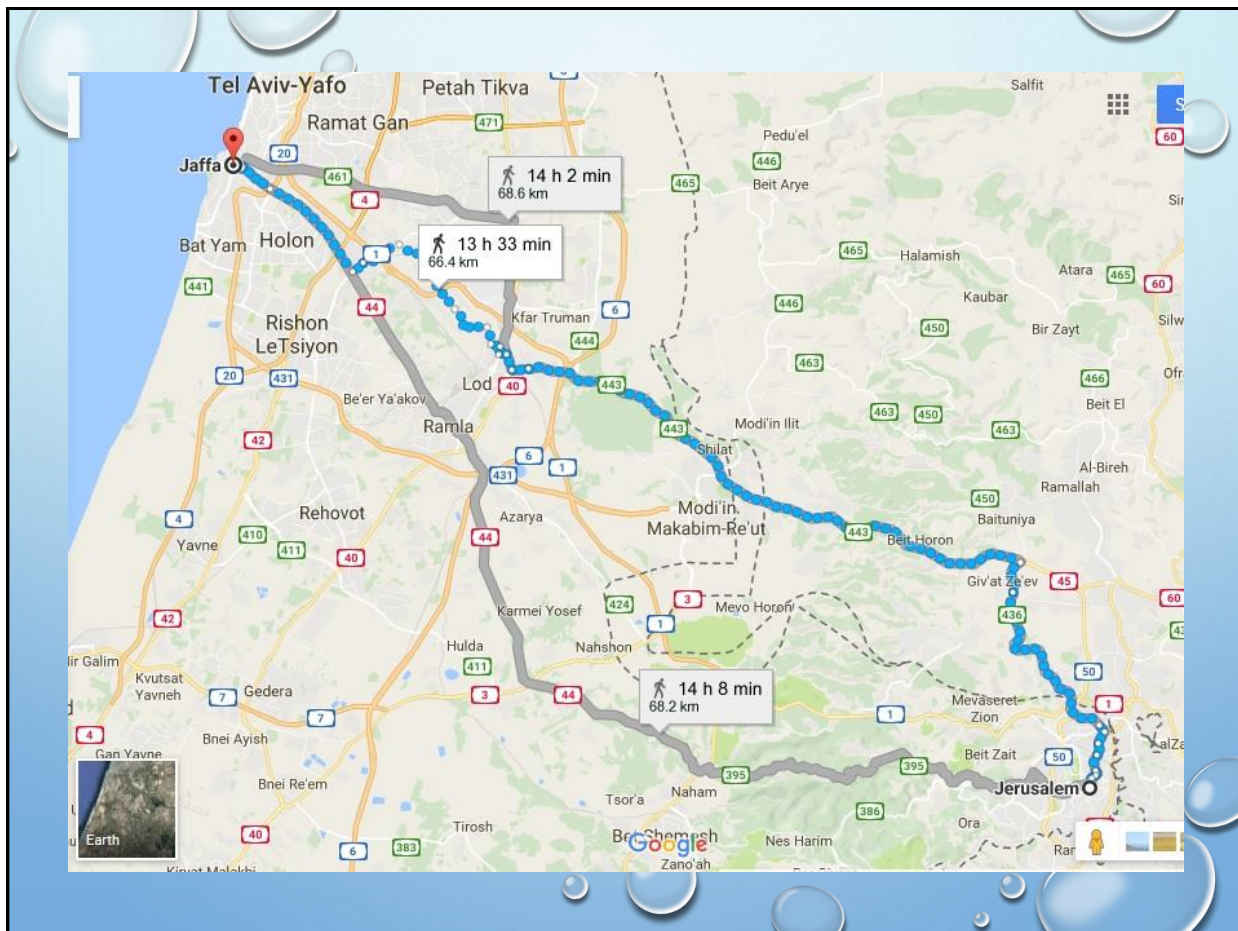
- SPECIAL

- ^{NIV} **JOHN 21:15** WHEN THEY HAD FINISHED EATING, JESUS SAID TO SIMON PETER, "SIMON SON OF JOHN, DO YOU TRULY LOVE ME MORE THAN THESE?" "YES, LORD," HE SAID, "YOU KNOW THAT I LOVE YOU." JESUS SAID, "FEED MY LAMBS." ¹⁶ AGAIN JESUS SAID, "SIMON SON OF JOHN, DO YOU TRULY LOVE ME?" HE ANSWERED, "YES, LORD, YOU KNOW THAT I LOVE YOU." JESUS SAID, "TAKE CARE OF MY SHEEP." ¹⁷ THE THIRD TIME HE SAID TO HIM, "SIMON SON OF JOHN, DO YOU LOVE ME?" PETER WAS HURT BECAUSE JESUS ASKED HIM THE THIRD TIME, "DO YOU LOVE ME?" HE SAID, "LORD, YOU KNOW ALL THINGS; YOU KNOW THAT I LOVE YOU." JESUS SAID, "FEED MY SHEEP.

PETER'S TRAVELS

- ^{NIV} **ACTS 9:32** AS PETER TRAVELED ABOUT THE COUNTRY, HE WENT TO VISIT THE SAINTS IN LYDDA ³⁶ IN JOPPA





1. HEALING AENEAS 9:32-35

- ^{NIV} **ACTS 9:34** "AENEAS," PETER SAID TO HIM, "JESUS CHRIST HEALS YOU. GET UP AND TAKE CARE OF YOUR MAT." IMMEDIATELY AENEAS GOT UP. ³⁵ ALL THOSE WHO LIVED IN LYDDA AND SHARON SAW HIM AND TURNED TO THE LORD.
 - *CAUSE*: PETER HEALS A CHRISTIAN
 - *EFFECT*: UNBELIEVERS BECOME CHRISTIANS

ANSWERED PRAYER

- ^{ESV} **JOHN 17:23** I IN THEM AND YOU IN ME, THAT THEY MAY BECOME PERFECTLY ONE, SO THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW THAT YOU SENT ME AND LOVED THEM EVEN AS YOU LOVED ME.

2. RAISING TABITHA 9:36-42

- ^{NIV} **ACTS 9:40** PETER SENT THEM ALL OUT OF THE ROOM; THEN HE GOT DOWN ON HIS KNEES AND PRAYED. TURNING TOWARD THE DEAD WOMAN, HE SAID, "TABITHA, GET UP." SHE OPENED HER EYES, AND SEEING PETER SHE SAT UP. ⁴¹ HE TOOK HER BY THE HAND AND HELPED HER TO HER FEET. THEN HE CALLED THE BELIEVERS AND THE WIDOWS AND PRESENTED HER TO THEM ALIVE. ⁴² THIS BECAME KNOWN ALL OVER JOPPA, AND MANY PEOPLE BELIEVED IN THE LORD.

- *CAUSE:* PETER RAISES A CHRISTIAN
- *EFFECT:* UNBELIEVERS BECOME CHRISTIANS

LOVING ONE ANOTHER

- ^{NIV} **ACTS 9:36** IN JOPPA THERE WAS A DISCIPLE NAMED TABITHA (WHICH, WHEN TRANSLATED, IS DORCAS), WHO WAS ALWAYS DOING GOOD AND HELPING THE POOR ...³⁹ PETER WENT WITH THEM, AND WHEN HE ARRIVED HE WAS TAKEN UPSTAIRS TO THE ROOM. ALL THE WIDOWS STOOD AROUND HIM, CRYING AND SHOWING HIM THE ROBES AND OTHER CLOTHING THAT DORCAS HAD MADE WHILE SHE WAS STILL WITH THEM.

3. ACCEPTING SIMON 9:43

- ^{NIV} **ACTS 9:43** PETER STAYED IN JOPPA FOR SOME TIME WITH A TANNER NAMED SIMON.



CONCLUSIONS

LIVING OUT OUR VOCATIONS

- TWO PRINCIPLES CAN GUIDE US WITHIN EACH OF OUR VOCATIONS
 1. MAKE GOD FIRST IN OUR HEARTS AND ABOVE ALL
 2. LOVE GOD AND LOVE LIKE GOD

GOD, OUR ABOVE ALL

- ^{KJV} **MATTHEW 6:33** BUT SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD, AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ...
- ^{ESV} **PHILIPPIANS 3:13** BROTHERS ... ONE THING I DO: FORGETTING WHAT LIES BEHIND AND STRAINING FORWARD TO WHAT LIES AHEAD, ¹⁴ I PRESS ON TOWARD THE GOAL FOR THE PRIZE OF THE UPWARD CALL OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS.
- ^{NIV} **HEBREWS 12:2** LET US FIX OUR EYES ON JESUS, THE AUTHOR AND PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH ...
- ^{NAS} **COLOSSIANS 3:1** IF THEN YOU HAVE BEEN RAISED UP WITH CHRIST, KEEP SEEKING THE THINGS ABOVE, WHERE CHRIST IS, SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD. ² SET YOUR MIND ON THE THINGS ABOVE ...

LOVE GOD AND LOVE LIKE GOD

- ^{NIV} **MATTHEW 22:37** JESUS REPLIED: "LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' ³⁸ THIS IS THE FIRST AND GREATEST COMMANDMENT. ³⁹ AND THE SECOND IS LIKE IT: 'LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' ⁴⁰ ALL THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS HANG ON THESE TWO COMMANDMENTS."
- ^{NAS} **ROMANS 13:8** OWE NOTHING TO ANYONE EXCEPT TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER; FOR HE WHO LOVES HIS NEIGHBOR HAS FULFILLED *THE* LAW ...¹⁰ LOVE DOES NO WRONG TO A NEIGHBOR; LOVE THEREFORE IS THE FULFILLMENT OF *THE* LAW.
- ^{NAS} **JAMES 2:8** IF, HOWEVER, YOU ARE FULFILLING THE ROYAL LAW, ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURE, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," YOU ARE DOING WELL.

LOVING ONE ANOTHER

- ^{NAS} **JOHN 15:12** "THIS IS MY COMMANDMENT, THAT YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER, JUST AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. ¹³
"GREATER LOVE HAS NO ONE THAN THIS, THAT ONE LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS.
- ^{NIV} **1 JOHN 3:16** THIS IS HOW WE KNOW WHAT LOVE IS: JESUS CHRIST LAID DOWN HIS LIFE FOR US. AND WE OUGHT TO LAY DOWN OUR LIVES FOR OUR BROTHERS.