



# Our Calling

A Bible study for the WELS National Broadcast by the Rev. Jonathan E. Schroeder

## Leader's Guide

### *Preparation*

The class will begin at 7:30pm Eastern, and will run again at 9:30pm Eastern. The channel will go live fifteen minutes before the class begins. When you open the channel during that fifteen minutes, you will see an opening slide and hear some music playing. This will help you adjust video and audio settings before the beginning of class.

Print copies of the student guide in advance of the class.

### *Class procedure*

The class will be taught with two lecture sections, two discussion sessions, and one wrap-up segment. A estimated schedule will be:

1. Intro and lecture (15 minutes)
2. Discussion (15 minutes)
3. Lecture (10 minutes)
4. Discussion (10 minutes)
5. Wrap-up (10 minutes)

The schedule may be modified to meet the lesson needs.

**Congregations meeting as groups with their pastor** or lay leader will use the discussion sections as time to explore and expand on the questions.

**Participants who are not part of a larger group** will use the discussion sections as time for reflection and study. Questions can be directed to Pastor Schroeder by means of the chat tool.

### *Questions*

Questions can be submitted using the chat tool. Try and enter your questions before the ending of your discussion period, so the presenter has a moment to read and prioritize them.

*The student guide is on the following page.*

Looking forward to it--JES



# Our Calling

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## Our calling to be the children of God

*Rev. Jonathan E. Schroeder, Faith, Sharpsburg, Georgia.*

God created Man and Woman to be holy and righteous, but it didn't take long for them to fall. Though they were made in the image of God, they lost it all when they worshipped themselves and ate the fruit. Adam's children have never changed: we wander away from God and are rightly only children of wrath. But then God opens his mouth wide and calls us back to him. What does God intend to give us? God is inviting us to be all that he has planned for us. God's call is the promise that invites us to be his children again—children that are just like his Son.

### Presentation Notes

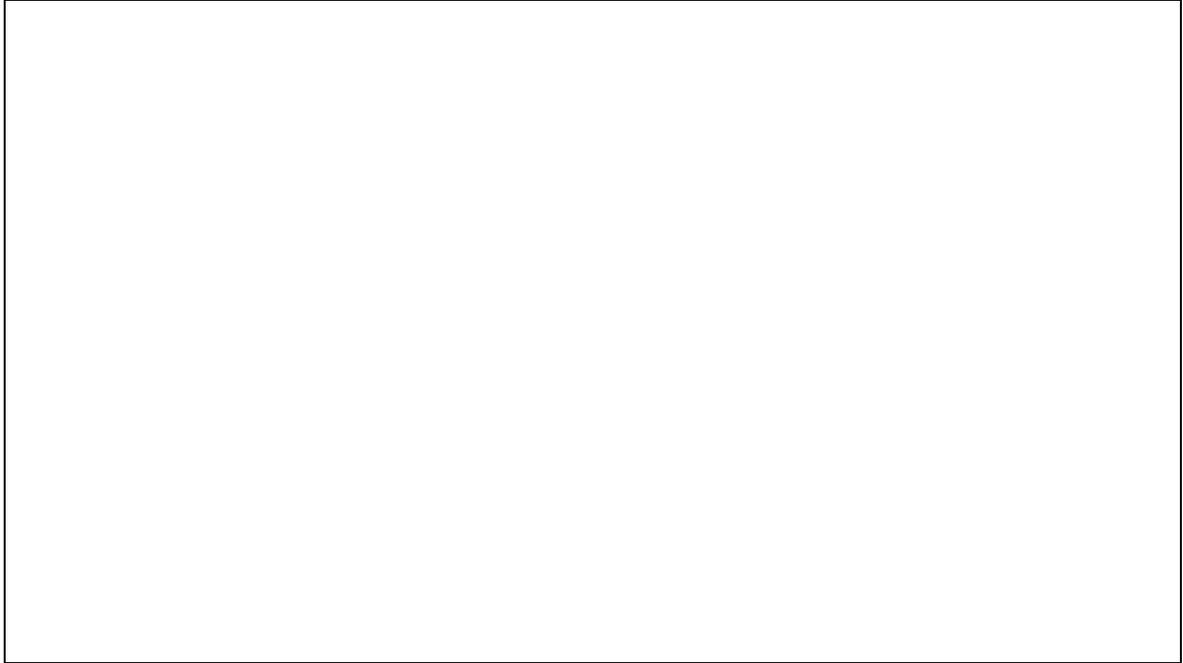
### Discuss



**Two minute drill:** Talk to the people nearest to you and find out who has worked at the most interesting job. Tell the whole group what you've learned. You have two minutes.

1. **Job; hobby; role; position.** What are some aspects of each of those terms that differentiate them from each other? How do they describe our calling? How don't they?
2. Defend this statement: Our calling is not primarily about what we do, but about what God gives us.
3. Look again at Romans 8:28ff. How does our calling invite us to be children of God that are just like Jesus?
4. Explain: Our calling is more than what we do; our calling is more than what we are, our calling is...
5. Abraham Calov said, "Our calling is the efficacious invitation, proclaimed by the gospel, to participate in the community of salvation." Explain why each phrase is true.

## **Presentation Notes**



## **Discuss**

6. Our calling is free, through means, universal, and efficacious. What implications does that have for the plan of outreach in your congregation? Review the major aspects of your plan to find the lost in the community and share the Gospel with them. What aspects of your outreach plan could be changed to better reflect those truths about God's Calling?
7. Martin Luther said, "God's love doesn't not find an object it can love; God's love creates it." How does that statement run counter to popular opinion? To Evangelical theology? To Roman Catholic theology? What makes this so important to true Christian theology?
8. Sinners must die, says Romans 6:23, either eternally or baptismally. How do your congregation's baptismal practices reflect this truth? In your personal devotional life, how do you remember your baptism? What corporate actions does/could your congregation do to remind people of this truth regularly?
9. The call of God to be his children is efficacious. How then do we explain Jesus's words, "Many are called, but few are chosen"?

## **Wrap-up**

*Questions can be submitted for Pastor Schroeder via chat.*

***Next Week -- Our Calling to be the mask of God (7:30pm and 9:30pm Eastern)***