

THE NEED FOR PURITY IN A CALL TO MINISTRY

“Keep yourselves pure.” (1 Timothy 5:22b NIV)

Many Christians still fail to realize that after becoming disciples of Christ, our primary calling is to serve the Lord Jesus and minister to others. The Lord Jesus Christ made us new for the purpose of serving Him. And He transforms and purifies each of us so that we can serve Him in a unique way. Nothing under heaven happens by chance or is unimportant before God. Humans were originally created for His purpose. God never does anything without a clear and concrete purpose. He also never wastes anything on inefficient things. He would not have given us abilities, interests, talents, gifts, personalities, and life experiences if He did not intend to use us for His glory. “For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things” (Romans 11:36a). Therefore, we need to recognize and understand the factors that shape our lives. We must be ready to be transformed and purified to discover God's will for our present purpose on earth and our future in heaven.

In admonishing his spiritual son, Timothy, the apostle Paul said in 1 Timothy 5:22b, “Keep yourself pure.” This means that purity is crucial in our calling to ministry. We were not created simply to use and exhaust the energy and resources of this earth; rather, we have all been placed on this earth by God to make a contribution. He wants us, as His chosen people, to do something as an expression of our gratitude and appreciation to the Creator of heaven and earth and all that is in them. And what we do can be summed up in the phrase, “the need for purity in our calling to ministry.” Over the past months, we have reflected and studied extensively on how we, as His disciples, can be transformed into His image with ever-increasing glory (2 Corinthians 3:18). When Jesus lived as a human, he once said, “Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:28). The service we provide to God and others not only pleases God but also transforms us, transforming and refining our motivations as God's disciples until we become servants like Christ.

As a continuation of the GMI annual theme for 2025 (“Becoming a church purified and filled with the glory of God” - Revelation 3:18; Ezekiel 43:5), in September-October 2025, we will explore the importance of utilizing all the resources God provides so that we can fulfill our respective ministry vocations with purity. Serving others or ministry is the ultimate goal of our journey to become His true disciples. The aspect of purity in the calling to ministry is so important that the Lord Jesus said in the Gospel of John 12:26: “Whoever serves Me must follow Me, and where I am, there My servant will be also. Whoever serves Me, the Father will honor.” Beloved congregation of God, let us continue to be transformed and purified by God, so that we can serve Him to the fullest for the glory of His name. God longs for those of you who have not yet taken part in the work of ministry to step forward. We must always be ready to be transformed and purified to serve Christ! Amen!

By Ps. Silwanus Obadja