

Acts Part 15 Set Apart And Called
Pastor John Carmichael

[Act 13:2 NASB95] 2 While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

- **One of the most important things a person needs to discover what is the will of God for their lives. God has a unique purpose for which you are set apart and called to fulfill.**
- **In Acts 13, we see how Paul discovers the purpose of what God has set him apart and called him to fulfill.**

What can we learn about the discovery and fulfillment of what we are set apart and called to do from Acts 13?

There are four important lessons we can learn about the discovery of and fulfillment of what we are set apart and called to fulfill.

- I. There are conditions in finding what you are set apart and called to fulfill.**
 - a. V. 1-4
 - b. [1Ti 4:14 NASB95] 14 Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery.
 - c. Three environmental aspects
 - i. Surrounded by the right people. Godly. Wise. Love you. Psalm 1.
 - ii. Minister to the Lord. Be in His Presence. Pray. Fast.
 - iii. Receive impartation. Seek for those who will pour into your life. To invest in you.
 - d. Stay in the right conditions to discovery and to fulfill what you are set apart and called to.
- II. There will be mixed responses and successes in what you are set apart and called to fulfill.**
 - a. V. 5-12
 - b. Success or failure... acceptance or rejection... these have nothing to do with whether you will fulfill your what you are called and set apart to do. Do not be addicted to the approval of humans. Seek for God's approval.
 - c. [Pro 29:25 NASB95] 25 The fear of man brings a snare, But he who trusts in the LORD will be exalted.
 - d. Your success will not always look like what is typically valued as success.
 - e. [Jer 1:8, 17 NASB95] 8 "Do not be afraid of them, For I am with you to deliver you," declares the LORD. ... 17 "Now, gird up your loins and arise, and speak to them all which I command you. Do not be dismayed before them, or I will dismay you before them.
 - f. You are not responsible for the results just the obedience.
- IV. Focus on the Word of God as you proceed in what you are set apart and called to fulfill.**
 - a. V. 13-42 – Paul preached the Word of God to the people.
 - b. [Jos 1:8 NASB95] 8 "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.
 - c. Two focuses
 - i. Scripturally
 - ii. Specifically
 - d. Your focus on what God has spoken is vital to your success.

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- V. It is important you get in your place and walk in your grace as do what you are set apart and called to fulfill.**
- a. Acts 13:43-52
 - b. Acts 14:1-7
 - c. Grace: [Rom 12:4-8 NASB95] 4 For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, 5 so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6 Since we have gifts that differ **according to the grace given to us**, [each of us is to exercise them accordingly:] if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; 7 if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; 8 or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.
 - d. Place: [1Co 12:15-18 NASB95] 15 If the foot says, "Because I am not a hand, I am not [a part] of the body," it is not for this reason any the less [a part] of the body. 16 And if the ear says, "Because I am not an eye, I am not [a part] of the body," it is not for this reason any the less [a part] of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But now **God has placed the members**, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired.
 - e. In the Body of Christ, it is vital we know the grace and the place which God has set us apart and called us.
- **God wants us to fulfill what He has set us apart and called us to by living in the right environment, refusing to judge external results, staying focused on what He is telling us and abiding in our grace and place.**