

It's For You—God's Calling

By Bettie Corbin Tucker

Cast:

Leader
Abram
Joseph
Moses
David
Esther

Props:

Large Table
Small Table
Seven Chairs
Cordless Phone

Setting: Leader is standing by small table—rest of cast is seated at larger table.

Leader: Welcome! Thank you for coming to share this worship time with us. It is our prayer that through this skit each of us will come to understand that we, as Christians, have been given a ministry to fulfill. God has blessed each of us with special gifts and unique talents that, up to this time, we may never have used. He may be calling on us to tell others about His Son, Jesus, to attend a Bible study, or help a neighbor in need. Whatever it is that God calls us to do, we need to be available to answer His call!

(Small Pause) Now, please travel with me into the past to meet our special guests. *(Each guest nods head or raises hand as they are introduced)* Noah—Abram—Joseph—Moses—David—Esther.

Each of these people, just like you . . . and me . . . has special gifts and unique talents . . . *(Cordless phone rings—leader has puzzled look)* I Wonder who this could be?

(Picks up cordless phone from desk) Hello! *(Small pause)* Long distance! Heaven! *(Small pause)* Yes operator, of course I'll hold! *(Places hand over mouthpiece—looks at audience)* I can't believe this! It's God calling!

Hello! *(Small pause)* Is it really You? *(Small pause—excited)* It is! *(Small pause)* Thank you! It's good to hear your voice, too! *(Small pause)* Noah? Yes, he's here. *(Walks over to table—tries to hand phone to Noah)* Noah, it's for you, God's calling!

Noah: *(Incredulous)* Me! *(Panic)* Tell Him I'm not here—that . . . that I'm on vacation!

Leader: I can't do that! I'm not going to lie to God! Besides, He knows that you're here—you have to talk to Him! Here! *(Leader hands phone to Noah—returns to small table—sits down)*

Noah: *(Reluctantly takes phone)* Hello! *(Small pause)* Noah speaking! *(Small pause—Noah smiles)* Thank You! Yes, I've always tried to obey You but it hasn't been easy! There's so much wickedness. . . *(Long pause—disbelief)* You're going to do what? All living things! *(Small pause)* But God, isn't there some other way? *(Long pause)* I understand . . . but how? *(Small pause)* Rain! God . . . what's rain? *(Small pause)* Water falling out of the sky! You've got to be kidding! I've never heard of such a thing!

(Long pause—disbelief) An ark! You want me to build an ark . . . because . . . there's going to be a flood? Ooookay! But why me? Why not the contractor who lives down the road? He's real good at building things! Why couldn't . . . *(Small pause)* Oh, I see—You're giving the responsibility to me and my family! Okay! How large should the ark be and what kind of design do You want? *(Places hand over mouthpiece—faces audience)* Something simple I hope! *(Small pause—incredulous)* Three stories! . . . Uh, God that contractor I told you about; I hear he's really good.

(Long pause) I see. I have the exact qualifications that You're looking for. And what's this about a male and female of every species! God, that's impossible, it would take forever to get them all . . . *(Small pause)* You're going to send them to me! That's cool! *(Small pause—smiles and speaks softly)* God, can we forget the flies? *(Small pause)* Nothing God, just a little humor! Is there anything else? *(Small pause)* A large supply of food—enough to last for a long time—and . . . and don't forget the shovels! *(Smiles)* I understand—anything else? *(Small pause)* Yes, I'll get started right away. Everyone will think I'm crazy but, if that's what You want me to do—then I'll do it! Goodbye!

(Noah stands—takes cordless phone to leader) God wants me to build an Ark! *(Exits muttering about having to explain rain, flood and ark to family and neighbors.)*

Leader: Happy sailing! *(Stands—faces audience)* That was certainly interesting, I wonder . . . *(Cordless phone rings)* Hello! *(Small pause)* Oh, it's You again! *(Small pause)* Who?

(Small pause) Of course! He's right here! *(Walks over to table—gives phone to Abram)*
Abram, it's for you—God's calling!

Abram: (Disbelief) Sure He is! You guys are always joking! This is another of your jokes, right? Well, this time I'm not falling for it! Just tell Him I'm busy and I'll call Him back later!

Leader: Abram, this is no joke! It really is God calling! And, when He calls, no one puts Him off until later! *(Insistent)* Come on! Take the call! *(Leader hands phone to Abram—returns to small table—sits down)*

Abram: You just won't give up, will you? You're going to play this joke out to the very end! Okay, I'll play along! *(Small pause)* Hello! Yes, this is Abram! Who is this? *(Small pause—disbelief)* Yeah, yeah, sure it is—you're probably some salesman from a tent remodeling company! You didn't call Noah and you certainly wouldn't call me. Come on. Who put you up to this?

(Small pause) Yes! . . . Yes! . . . *(Places hand over mouthpiece—faces audience—looking puzzled)* The voice . . . it sounds so . . . so awesome. It also sounds Holy. Maybe it is Him! *(Small pause)* It really is You, isn't it? I'm sorry that I didn't recognize your voice right away. But I understand lots of people have trouble with this.

(Long pause) You want me to go where? *(Small pause)* Canaan! But God, I don't have any idea where Canaan is! Why can't I serve You here where I'm established and comfortable instead of in some foreign land? *(Long pause)* Yes, I trust You . . . I'll go to... What's the name of that place? *(Small pause)* That's right—Canaan! *(Places hand over mouthpiece—looks at audience)* I wonder if triple "A" has a trip-tic for Canaan?

(Short pause) Okay, God, I'm on my way! Thanks for calling! *(Small pause)* What's that . . . what did You just call me? *(Small pause)* Abraham! *(Laughs with relief!)* God, I'm not Abraham, You must have the wrong number! My name is Abram, not Abraham! *(Small pause)* Oh, I forgot—You don't make mistakes! I guess that means my name is now Abraham! *(Small pause)* No I don't mind—Abraham's fine with me. *(Small pause)* I'll start right away. Bye!

(Abraham stands—takes cordless phone to leader) I'm going on a trip! *(Exits muttering)*
I'm going to have to pack clothes, rent a camel, buy a map . . .

Leader: Enjoy your journey! *(Faces audience)* This is sure a busy place! *(Cordless phone rings)* Hello! *(Small pause)* Yes, I'll put him on! *(Stands—walks over to table—hands phone to Joseph. Joseph, it's for you! I'm sure you know by now who is calling! (Returns to small table—sits down)*

Joseph: I know "Who" it is—it's the "why" that has me worried! He once called on Jacob, my dad. and his life was never the same. *(Small pause)* Hello! *(Small pause)* Yes, it's me! What's up? *(Small pause)* Oh the dreams about the sun, moon, and eleven stars bowing down to me! Why did you send them to me? What do they mean? *(Small pause—surprise)* Really! Me! You're going to make me a great ruler in a foreign country? What's that? I'll have expensive robes—jewelry—chariots! Wow! *(Places hand over mouthpiece and faces audience)* This is too good to be true!

(Small pause) I'll have a beautiful wife, too! Thank You, God! You know how much I've wanted a family and sons! *(Small pause)* A hero! I'm going to be a hero and save my people from starvation! *(Places hand over mouthpiece and faces audience)* A family man who's going to be a hero. Man, I'm getting it all. I wish He'd called sooner.

(Small pause) Okay, God, if that's what You want, then I'll do it. I really appreciate You calling—and any time you . . . *(Small pause—softly)* Oh! *(Small pause—pained and louder)* Oh! *(Small pause—anxious and still louder)* Oh! Yes, I understand—before I become a ruler, my brothers will betray me, I'll be sold into slavery, and imprisoned! Uh, God—I'm a man of simple tastes—if You want to choose someone a little more refined—uh . . . uh . . . I'll understand!

(Small pause—resigned) I see! I'm perfect for the job! Okay! It's Your decision, but I'm still afraid! In fact, I'm shaking in my boots! *(Small pause)* You promise? *(Excited)* You'll be by my side through it all! Thank You! With You at my side, I know I can do it! *(Joseph stands—takes cordless phone to leader—smiles)* I'm going to be a hero and a ruler of a great nation! *(Exits muttering that he won't be afraid.)*

Leader: Congratulations! *(Faces audience)* Joseph is very blessed for he knows that God will be with him even while he is in slavery and prison! We, too, have . . . *(Cordless phone rings)* Excuse me! Hello! *(Small pause)* Yes, he is! *(Leader stands—walks over to large table)* Here, Moses, it's for you!

Moses: *(Stands—starts to walk away from table)* I just remembered—no one is tending the flock. I've got to go! Tell Him I'll call Him back later!

Leader: *(Firmly)* Not for all the money in the world! Come on, take it! God's calling!

Moses: *(Slowly returns to table—takes phone—remains standing—leader returns to small table and sits down)* Hello! This is Moses, what can I do for You? *(Small pause)* You want me to what . . . lead the Israelites out of Egypt! Why me—I'm not a leader? No one would follow me. I even failed a course that was supposed to teach me "how to win friends and influence people!" But then, You're God and already know that! You must also know how terrible my voice is and the difficulty I have speaking! Why do You want

me God, when there are so many others? . . . *(Small pause)* I know I once wanted to save my people! But God—that was forty years ago when I was young—now, I'm almost eighty! It's too late for me!

(Long pause) What's that? It's never too late! You want people of all ages to serve you! *(Small pause)* I'll do it God! I've run out of excuses! Count on me to do the best I can! Bye for now! *(Moses takes cordless phone to leader)* I suddenly feel younger; it's good to be needed.

Leader: Beware of the Pharaoh! I understand he's one mean dude!

Moses: (Sarcastic) Thanks! I really needed to hear that! *(Exits muttering)* At my age, I sure hope God gives me a strong staff to lean on.

Leader: I can understand . . . *(Cordless phone rings)*

David: I bet that's for me.

Leader: (Smiling) What makes you think that?

David: (Looking around) Cause Esther and I are the only ones left and I've got a feeling that it's for me!

Leader: (Answers cordless phone) Hello! *(Small pause)* Yes, God, he's here! He's been expecting Your call! *(Stands—walks over to table—hands phone to David).* You were right David, it is for you!

David: Hi God, it's me—David! *(Small pause)* I'm just fine, thank you! Why? *(Small pause)* Am I strong? Yes, I'm strong—very strong—why do you ask? *(Small pause)* You want me to fight Goliath! *(Small pause)* Isn't he that . . . that big guy over at the Philistine camp? I've heard all about him. *(Small pause)* I thought so! God, uh . . . just how big is this guy, anyway? *(Small pause—softly)* Nine-feet-nine! *(Louder—incredulous)* Nine-feet-nine! *(Pushes button to disconnect call)*

(Panic—talking to self) Oh no! What have I done? I just hung up on God! What do I do now? *(Cordless phone rings)* Yes God, I'm still here. We must have gotten disconnected! The phone system isn't what it used to be. *(Small pause)* Is that you laughing, God? I'm glad to know You have a sense of humor. Now, about this giant—when I fight him—will You give me strong armor and a sharp sword?

(Small pause—places hand over mouthpiece—speaks to audience) You aren't going to believe this! He wants me to fight this guy with only a slingshot and five stones. *(Small*

pause) God, please, please, don't ask me to do this! Please! *(Small pause)* You say I'm not to be afraid—that when I fight in your name, You will be there to protect me! *(Small pause)* Okay, God, it's a deal! With You at my side, I can't lose! Bye! *(David takes cordless phone to leader)* I may not look like it, but I'm a formidable fighter!

Leader: David, whenever you're fighting for God, you're a champion! Keep your eyes on Him and your aim will be straight!

David: Thanks! *(Exits muttering—nine-feet-nine—but he is mine)*

Leader: *(Looking at Esther)* I'm sure there will be another call . . . *(Cordless phone rings)* See, I told you so! *(Small pause)* Hello God! Yes, I know who you want. She's right here! *(Stands—walks over to table—tries to hand phone to Esther)* Esther, God's calling you.

Esther: *(Talking to self)* I'm not a ship builder or a great leader—I'm really a nobody—why would He want to talk to me?

Leader: Esther, I'm sure He has a reason. He always does! Here, take it and find out! *(Hands cordless phone to Esther—returns to small table—sits down)*

Esther: Hello! Is that really You, God? *(Small pause)* Oh, my! *(Gasps—stands—places cordless phone on table—primps hair—straightens skirt)* Does my hair look alright? How is my makeup? *(Opens and searches around inside purse)* Where is that mirror? *(Looks at leader)* Am I presentable? Please say I am!

Leader: You look fine! Quit worrying! God looks at what's on the inside—not what's on the outside!

Esther: *(Picks up phone)* Yes, God, I'm still here! *(Small pause)* You want "me"—a Jewish orphan—to marry a king? *(Small pause)* I thought that's what You said! Me, in a palace! God, You're talking to me—Esther! Have you forgotten? *(Spells out Esther placing emphasis on each letter)* E S T H E R! From the tribe of Benjamin! *(Small pause)* I think You had better find someone else for this job! I'm just not queen material! *(Smiling)* Why, I'd need a whole new wardrobe!

(Long pause) Really! You think I have a quiet, mild spirit! *(Small pause)* And that I have a great deal of tact and self-control! That's a real laugh! Now I know for sure that you have the wrong person. Of course, I can understand how You could mix me up with someone else—after all, You have to keep track of everyone in the whole world. *(Small pause)* What's that? You say You also know all about my temper, boldness, and other faults! Oh, my! *(Places hand over mouthpiece—faces audience)* He really does know me!

(Small pause) Okay, God, I'm convinced—you have the right person! I'll do it! As a queen, will I have to be bold and fearless?

(Long pause) So that's why You want me there—to save the lives of the Jews living in my husband's kingdom. But God, what will happen, if, some morning I wake up and say to my husband, "Surprise Honey, I'm a Jew, too?" Will I really be able to convince him to spare my people? *(Long pause)* Okay! I believe you. And, I love You, too, God. Bye! *(Esther takes cordless phone to leader)*

Leader: Esther, don't worry, you will make a beautiful queen!

Esther: Thanks! *(Exits while primping—patting hair—muttering)* I can do it! I can do it!

Leader: (Stands—faces audience) We've had a lot of fun with these six well-known people. Yes, we may have stretched the truth a little; however, each person, in spite of reservations, doubts, and weaknesses, answered God's call and was greatly rewarded. For each, it was a new beginning! The members of our cast would now like to share with you, through their personal testimony, how God has changed their lives and given them new beginnings! (You may or may not choose to do this.)

(All members of cast return. Each, in turn, steps forward and gives brief personal testimony)

Leader: Often, when God tries to call us, He can't get through! Why? Could it be that no one answers, or, if they do, they put Him on hold? Sometimes all He gets is a busy signal! How many times have we put God on hold or given Him a busy signal? How many times have we taken our phones completely off the hook so He can't get through to us?

It is only when, through Jesus, we allow God to reach us, that we discover the special gifts and unique talents that He has given us and how to use them! It is my prayer that the next time He tries to call us, our phones will be working and we will be available.

(Leader and cast start to leave stage—cordless phone rings—

leader hurries back to answer it)

Leader: Hello! *(Small pause)* Yes, God, one moment please! *(Holds telephone out towards audience)* It's for you—God's calling!