

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Sister Larry** would like to say a special thanks to everyone who donated supplies and to those who assisted with the backpack school supply giveaway and fun day last Sunday. A great time was had by all! Because of each of you, we distributed over 100 backpacks filled with supplies. Also, **tuition assistance** applications need to be completed and turned in to Sister Larry by August 24th. Information is on the table in the church foyer. Call Sister Larry at 971.219.2366 if you have questions.

**The State of Oregon** is launching a high priority hiring surge dedicated to filling more than 300 positions related to the Child Welfare Division of the Department of Human Services, to better serve our most vulnerable children and families. To ensure that these job opportunities get distributed to a diverse pool of candidates, they have asked us to help promote the job surge webpage. If you or anyone you know is interested in applying, please visit [www.oregon.gov/dhs/children/pages/careers.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/dhs/children/pages/careers.aspx).



## URGENT prayer

- **Stephanie Goodwin-Larry's family**, death of loved one
- **Donald Cobbs**, surgery recovery
- **Kent Ewell**, in hospital

## YOUR HIGHEST CALLING ISN'T WHAT YOU THINK

*By Amy Carroll at [www.crosswalk.com](http://www.crosswalk.com).*

"Action Amy," a nickname I earned on a mission trip for my constant drive for activity, didn't begin as a compliment, but I've certainly lived up to it. It describes me exactly — I'm always planning what to do next. Because of my "doer" wiring, I've often mistaken my highest calling as something I'm supposed to do rather than some place I'm supposed to be. The very word "calling" is fraught, isn't it?

One dictionary definition of calling is "a profession or occupation," but the one we most commonly think of is "a strong urge toward a particular way of life or career." Christians identify God as the source of that strong urge, so the word calling sometimes seems too big for us. But in today's story, found in Mark 10:46b-50, Jesus calls a very ordinary man.

"As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means 'son of Timaeus'), was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him.' So they called to the blind man, 'Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you.' Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus" (NIV).

Bartimaeus wasn't anyone special. In fact, he would have been considered sub-ordinary by a culture who prejudged his blindness as sinful. That could have been a barrier, yet when Jesus called, Bartimaeus rushed to Jesus' side. Bartimaeus didn't let anything deter him from Jesus' calling.

What barriers or obstacles have kept you from God's calling on your life? Sometimes doubt keeps us stuck, wondering if we really heard God or just imagined it. We can even doubt God would want to use us. Another stumbling block to calling is self-doubt, feeling certain that someone else is better or more equipped. Comparison kills calling. Some of us have let our callings die because of hard circumstances, the voices of naysayers or the diversion of busyness in our day-to-day lives.

The biggest obstacle to fulfilling our calling is that we often misidentify what our first calling really is. Our highest calling isn't what we usually think. It's not a job we do, a title we earn, or even a check we write. Our first calling is to respond to Jesus and go to Him, just like Bartimaeus did. We're called to come close. When we do, Jesus draws us near and calls us His brothers and sisters (Matthew 12:50). He erases the divide between our humanity and His divinity by calling us friends (John 15:15).



## LET'S CHAT!

with Pastor D

SHARON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

August 3, 2019



I always passed the nail care business with the chairs full of customers. They were mainly women all sitting calmly and seeming to enjoy their experience. On that day, my curiosity got the best of me, and I stopped and peered into the window. As a fly being caught in a spiders web, the receptionist motioned her hands for me to enter the doors. When I stepped into the business, she looked at my feet in my flip flops and said; "honey, you need a pedicure!"

All the customers immediately turned and stared at my feet. I walked to the massage chair, uncomfortable and embarrassed. She proceeded to soak, scrub and massage my feet. I must admit, it was a relaxing experience that arrived from shame.

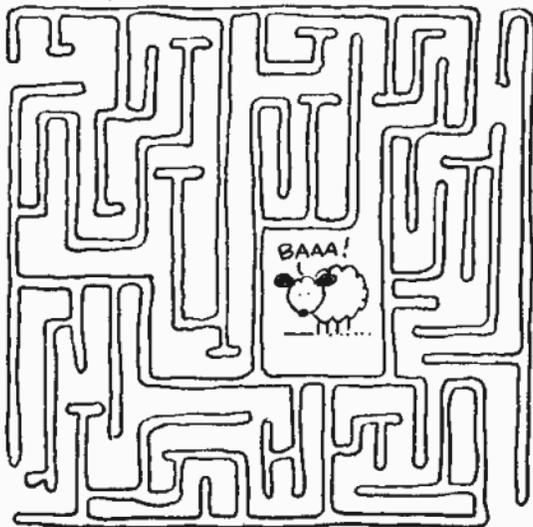
How could I have allowed for my feet to be neglected? The answer was simple. I had taken so much time for everyone else that I had forsaken myself.

Self care should never be avoided. In fact our first lesson in self care is to learn to treat yourself. **You are worth it!** Take time out to do something relaxing and fun. Go somewhere new or eat something different. More importantly, get involved in something you love.

You can't pour from an empty cup, take care of yourself first.

## KIDS CORNER

# BAAA!



HELP THE SHEPHERD FIND HIS LOST SHEEP ?



Read  
Matthew 18:10-14  
or Luke 15:3-7

Find the 10 differences in the pictures below.

