



**PASTOR'S LESSON TO LIVE BY**  
**WHEN LIFE GETS IN THE WAY**  
**OF YOUR CALLING**

I don't think that my title needs much explanation, especially to the Christian thirty plus age group. All of us who have lived for any length of time understand how our desires and dreams for life easily give way to world reality. When I was called into the Ministry, the excitement and anticipation of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ gave me the awesome feeling of acceptance from God. My calling was so plain and powerful within my Spirit that there was no doubt in my mind that God had touched me with His Blessed Call. I was overwhelmed with excitement. I just knew that everyone associated with me would be as excited as I was. Boy was I ever wrong! The first days, weeks and months after publically announcing my call, was the loneliest and most difficult period in my life. As far as I could tell, everyone within my small world of friends and relatives rejected my assertion of God's Call.

The empty feeling I was experiencing was quickly being refilled with Hurt - Dismay - Disappointment and Disbelief. My cries to God for help in understanding why so many were so certain that I was mistaken, or that I was hearing voices other than from God, seemed to go unheard by Him. Sometimes I would hurt so bad that I simply sat and wept. During this period, there was **Not** one moment that I doubted God's call for me to Preach. What I was experiencing is what I call a "**Bad Life Experience**". I have written on and preached on the subject many times. It's when "**Life Gets In The Way**" of you "**Living Your Call**". Each and every one of us have a "Call" in life. It is either a Call to a secular position, or to the Ministry. As Christians, either one remains a call from God. That Call is normally expressed through our actions in doing what we are gifted by God to do. When God gives us that special Call, then He will give us the special ability to perform our Calling. He has given each of us "**Life**". He has also given us the freedom to live that life without dictating each step. Although He always points us in the right direction, He will also allow us to hit the ditch when we make the wrong choices. The ditch is, "**Life Getting In The Way**".

Often the ditches in our life are well meaning people, who think that they know what is best for us. Other personalities definitely **Do** play an important roll in our life Calling! But, the main personality we must always focus on and listen to, is God. We must become **steadfast** in our **listening** and **solid** in our **convictions** concerning God's Call for our life. I have found the following statement to be an awesome fact in my Call.

**It is impossible for "Bad Life Experiences"  
to conquer over "God's Call",  
if we remain faithful to "His Will".**