

# **I Think God Is Calling Me to Write.**

## **How Can I Know for Sure? What Should I Do Next?**

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1. You feel a tug.

A draw.

A stirring.

A desire.

A compulsion

2. Others affirm your writing.

3. You sense confirmation from God as you seek Him in prayer and His Word.

4. As you explore your call,

Your desire grows stronger over time.

Opportunities come your way. This is seldom automatic. You have to work at this. They don't just fall from the sky.

People may pay you.

The desire to write grows until you can't not write.

Important to Note: Not everyone who enjoys writing or who writes well is called to write professionally. Natural ability alone doesn't equal a calling. Some of you will never publish a book or

write for paid publication. It's okay to be a hobbyist. There's no shame. I'm a hobbyist in many areas of my life. But to some degree, we're all called to write. (More on this later.)

Once you take steps to follow the call, you'll begin to struggle with insecurity, doubt, and fear. These aren't signs you're not called. They're probably signs you are.

# The Who, What, When, Where, and Why of Writing

## Who?

Writers in all stages often suffer from I problems.

How did the Lord cure Moses' I problems?

Exodus 4:12: "Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say."

Whenever we struggle with insecurity, we need to have our I's checked. Instead of focusing on ourselves and the real or imagined inadequacies we have, we need to exchange our "I's" for "He's."

We must examine the valid and unwavering sources for our confidence—God's calling, God's empowering, and God's Truth.

First Corinthians 1:9: "He who called you is faithful."

Second Corinthians 4:7: "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us."

Isaiah 51:16: "I have put my words in your mouth and covered you with the shadow of my hand-- I who set the heavens in place, who laid the foundations of the earth, and who say to Zion, 'You are my people.'"

First Corinthians 4:2: "Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful."

## The Evil Twins: Doubt and Fear

Fear is the biggest enemy of authors. It can ruin their writing. It can ruin their marketing. Doubt walks hand in hand with Fear.

How do Fear and Doubt ruin our writing?

1. They ruin our output.
2. They ruin our craft.

3. Fear disguises itself as perfectionism.

4. Fear disguises itself as humility.

## How to Find Your Courage

### **What?**

What message has God entrusted you with?

If you only had one chance to share one message (other than the gospel), what would it be?

What are you passionate about?

What life experiences has God allowed to prepare you to deliver this message?

What do you know that you can share with someone else?

### **Our greatest pain can become our greatest ministry.**

Joni Earekson Tada said, “God allows what He hates to accomplish what He loves.”

God doesn’t call us to write INSPITE of \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank), but perhaps BECAUSE of.

## **When?**

First Peter 3:15: “But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”

Ephesians 5:15:16: “Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.”

## **Where?**

What circles of influence do you have that others don't? Start close to home and work your way out. Family, church, your kids' school, people you interact with on a daily basis, Facebook and Instagram friends.

What if something you wrote touches one of those lives and changes it forever. Would it be worth it?

Alton Gansky, founder of the BRMCWC says,

“When you write for God, and you really mean it, your work may never show up on the shelves of Lifeway. It may never find its way into bound print at all. But when you write for God, when you write with the heart of a servant, you may find out that your words are only meant for the guy sitting next to you. If you can accept this, live with it, then you can truly write for God.”

## **Why?**

Galatians 6:9: “Don't be weary in doing good, for you will reap a harvest if you don't give up.”

## **How?**

## 5 Step Personal Analysis and Mission Statement Exercise

- 1. What part of your message are you most passionate about?**
- 2. Do you believe God has given this to you to share or keep to yourself?** (He who has been given a trust must prove faithful.)
- 3. What unique life experiences has God allowed to prepare you to deliver this message?**  
“Our greatest pain can become our greatest ministry.” ~ Beth Moore  
“God allows what he hates to accomplish what he loves.” ~Joni Earekson Tada
- 4. Who needs your message?** Write with them in mind. Let this person or audience drive and motivate you.
- 5. What circles of influence do you have that no one else has?** Start close to home and work your way out. (Family, church, your children’s school, people you interact with on a daily basis, Facebook friends) What if your story touches one of those lives and changes it forever. Would it be worth it?

## My Personal Mission Statement

I am \_\_\_\_\_.

I write to \_\_\_\_\_ (verb)

\_\_\_\_\_ (to whom are you writing?)  
to/with \_\_\_\_\_ (purpose).

My \_\_\_\_\_ (background, skills, interest, knowledge, challenges) give(s) my words credibility and power, but, ultimately, \_\_\_\_\_ is responsible for the results.

I commit to be the best writer I can be for God's glory and trust him to use my words to accomplish his purpose.

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date