

# God is Fighting the Battle

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Luke 9.

B. Background.

1. This takes place at the end of Jesus' ministry as Jesus is headed towards to Jerusalem.
2. Who was this Jesus? He is the worthy Lord who created all things. (Revelation)
3. God created this universe to be inhabited. (Psalm 145, Colossians 1:16)
4. Jesus purpose was to reveal God the Father and to destroy the work of the Devil. (1 John 3:8)
5. The world was hostile toward Christ and continues to increase in hostility.

C. Jesus came to recruit for His cause, and there are three responses to His call.

## II. Responses to the call of Jesus.

A. Mr. Too Quick.

1. This man was a scribe - he was a man educated in the law.
2. His quick response seems at first to be a good choice.
3. Did the man really know where Jesus would go? He was going into hostility, betrayal and death. The man did not consider the path of Jesus.
4. The path of Jesus is not about what one has. Christ puts "a new man in that suit of clothes" in contrast to a new suit on a man.
5. Christ may not take care of the burdens off our back, but He can take care of the burdens off our hearts.

B. Mr. Too Slow.

1. This call was probably different - one into vocational ministry.
2. He wanted to bury his father first.
3. The problem: "me first" and "Lord" do not go together. Christ must come first.

C. Mr. Half-Hearted.

1. Part of his heart was still back home, but Christ demanded the whole thing.
2. You cannot do a good job if you are half hearted and retreat conscious.
3. Christ wants our whole hearted commitment right where we are at.

**Application questions**

1. Summarize the responses to Jesus. What separates them all? What makes them all alike?

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2. Which of the three responders do you tend to be most like? Explain.

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3. Have you ever really made yourself available to Christ as a career? What is keeping you from doing so today? If you are willing to now, write your commitment down here and share it with a friend.

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