

**JEREMIAH 33:3 "CALL TO ME" GROUP BIBLE STUDIES – LEADER'S STUDY -  
LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES**

**LESSON #4 –Christian's Call and The Father Really Listens**

**A CHRISTIAN'S CALL** – When our Savior walked among us, He told us to have the faith of a little child. Truly the little ones believe those who are close to them. If dad says he can do something for a little child, the deed is as good as done. As we grow older, we come to believe that things aren't that cut and dried. Doubts creep in. We want to hold the reins of our lives. We want control. Far better, I believe to learn to follow our Savior and say, "not my will but Thy will be done." Our lesson looks at our need to trust the good and gracious will of God.

**THE PRAYER** – We begin with prayer: Dear Lord, send Your Spirit upon us so that we may know that You are always a loving Father. Remove all of the doubts that plague our questioning hearts. Let us trust that You have our best interests at heart and will always do what is right for Your children. This we pray in the Name of Your Son, Who taught us to pray, "Thy will be done." Amen.

**ILLUSTRATION** - It wasn't so long ago a young pastor who had gone to the hospital to pray with one of his older parishioners. All the authorities who had ministered to this lady were in agreement that she was near death. After a lengthy visit, the minister said, "I need to go, but would you like to have a prayer before I leave?" The lady agreed. The minister then asked, "And what would you like me to pray for today?" With a bemused look, she snapped: "I'd like you to pray I be healed, of course."

Knowing such a prayer was obviously not the will of the Lord, the young pastor, feeling a little like a hypocrite, began, "Lord, we ask Your healing be upon this our sick sister and that You restore her to health and service." At that moment, the lady opened her eyes, sat up in bed, threw her feet over the side and said, "I think I'm healed!" She walked to the nurses' station, saying, "Look at me; I think I'm better." The pastor left as quickly as possible. Sitting in his car, he looked heavenward and said, "Dear Lord, please don't ever do that again."

Do you think God can perform such a miracle?                      YES/NO                      Do you think He does?                      YES/NO  
 If you had been the pastor, would you have been surprised? \_\_\_\_\_  
 What would have surprised you? \_\_\_\_\_

**SATAN'S SUMMONS** – That pastor seemed surprised that his prayer for healing had been answered. Many times we would feel much the same way. For example, what would be the reaction if we prayed for people at early service, and they all showed up healthy at late? Satan likes it if we say our prayers without hope of reply. He loves it if our prayers remain merely human words, unconnected to God's will and removed from His power and grace.

Take a look at the public prayer list of your congregation. Then rate how sure you are of an answer...

<b>LIST PRAYER ITEM</b>	<b>WILL HAPPEN</b>	<b>MIGHT HAPPEN</b>	<b>WON'T HAPPEN</b>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

**THOUGHT:** We know that one of the joys and great comforts of being a Christian is to be positive that God **does** listen when we call upon Him. The Lord **does** takes an active interest in our lives. He did not create the world and walk away to leave us deal with the problems and pains of life all by ourselves. He is not a disinterested, Divine Spectator Who feels sorry for people but never bothers to get involved. God cares, and He is willing to show that care in any number of ways. Take a look at these Scripture passages and answer the questions which follow.

**SCRIPTURE SEARCH 1** – As we read the Bible, we expect God to respond to His prophets, people and Apostles when they call on Him. Take a look at Moses and see how the Lord responds

<b>TEXT</b>	<b>WHAT DOES GOD DO?</b>	<b>AND THEN.....</b>
Ex. 14: 15, 26-28	Tells the people to get walking	A lot of Egyptians die.
Ex. 15: 25	Gives him a piece of wood	The water becomes drinkable.
Ex. 17: 4-6	Gives the people water	And puts down a rebellion
Num. 12: 1-15	Strikes Moses' sister with leprosy	Moses prays that she is healed; She was confined outside camp for 7 days.

