Four Ways to Respond to the Calling
11/14/26

- Today – Opportunity to give a Bible study
- Title – "Four Ways to Respond to the Calling"
- General purpose – Reminder of 4 different aspects to approaching the Calling
- (Additional benefit – I am taking the opportunity to honor Dixon Cartwright – whose memorial is tomorrow)

- A few scriptures about the Calling

John 5:21	Christ – "For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will"
22-23	Christ – "For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son – that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father – He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him"
John 6:44	Christ – "No one can come to Me unless the Father (who sent Me) draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day"
Rev. 17:14	John – "those who are with Him [Lamb] are called, chosen and faithful"

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1. Focusing on the Torah
   All believers should value the Torah
   Some believers put additional emphasis on the Torah

Luke 24:44 "These are the words which I have spoken to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses, the Prophets & the Psalms [Writings] concerning Me"

2. Focusing on end-time Prophecy

Matt. 24:3 "When will these things be?" – "What will be the sign of Your coming and of the end of the age?"

3. Focusing on Christian-living

Matt. 20:25	beware of people who seek to lord it over you and who seek to exercise authority over people
26-28	do not be a person who seeks to lord it over others and who seek to exercise authority over people
Matt. 22:36-40	the 2 aspects of the great commandment

4. Focusing on Perceptive Observation
(This concept could be called human reasoning)
Many controlling Pharisees often call "human reasoning" a sin
Obviously, "human reasoning" can be a sin
But God created you – to observe – to think – to analyze

Psalm 8:4 "What is man that you are mindful of him? And the son of man that You visit him?"
5-8 a little lower than angels – crowned with glory and honor – dominion

· At this time – I want to compare Dixon Cartwright to C.S. Lewis
"Writer and scholar C.S. Lewis taught at Oxford University and became a renowned Christian apologist writer [1898 to 1963] – using logic and philosophy to support the tenets of his faith."
From *The Weight of Glory* – "I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen; Not only because I see it, but because by it, I see everything else."
· C.S. Lewis – taught Jesus Christ in a unique way
In his book *Mere Christianity*, addressed the identity of Jesus Christ through his "liar, lunatic or Lord" argument – asserting that Jesus could not merely be dismissed as a great moral teacher. He challenged readers to choose whether Christ was a madman, a demon or the Son of God.
· C.S. Lewis – addressed the elephant in the room about pain
From *The Problem of Pain* – "Pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our consciences, but shouts in our pain. It is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world."

· Dixon Cartwright (and Linda Cartwright) – helped people to connect with our Lord
To be knowledgeable about what the Bible actually says
To be knowledgeable about how professing Christians interpreted the Bible
To be helpful and to be kind – in discussing differences of interpretation
· I have enjoyed many Bible discussions with Dixon Cartwright – here are basic reminders
  · Believed in the Almighty and Believed in the Bible
  · Believed in Perceptive Observation
  · Believed in reading, studying and thinking
  · Believed in Quantum Physics
  · Believed – that people should **not** allow anyone to **force** you how to think
  · Believed in nudging people – to read – to think – to discuss
  · Believed in respectful discussions
  · Believed in respectful differences of opinion
  · Most of all – he wanted you to have a true relationship with our Lord

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1. Focusing on the Torah
2. Focusing on end-time Prophecy
3. Focusing on Christian-living
4. Focusing on Perceptive Observation