



ELDER ORDINATION

THE EMBODIED CALL

LEAD Class

Digital Liturgies: Rediscovering Christian
Wisdom in an Online Age

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**A
CONFERENCE
FOR 18-25
YEAR OLDS
AND THEIR
LEADERS**

**JAN 3-5, 2024
LOUISVILLE, KY**











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- incarnational teaching
- prophetic show-and-tell

1. Isaiah 20:1-6

Act: **Go naked** for 3 years.

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Message: Don't **trust in** Egypt and Cush;
they will be **exposed** and exiled.



stele = slab or monument
recording a triumph

Kush Empire, 700 B.C.



“Then the Lord said, ‘As my servant Isaiah has walked naked and barefoot for three years as a sign and a portent against Egypt and Cush, so shall the king of Assyria lead away the Egyptian captives and the Cushite exiles,’

“both the young and the old, naked and barefoot, with buttocks uncovered, the nakedness of Egypt.”

Isaiah 20:3-4

“Then they shall be dismayed and ashamed
because of Cush their hope and of Egypt their
boast.

“And the inhabitants of this coastland will say in that day, ‘Behold, this is what has happened to those in whom we hoped and to whom we fled for help to be delivered from the king of Assyria! And we, how shall we escape?’”

Isaiah 20:5-6

2. Jeremiah 13:1-11

Act: Buy, **bury**, bring back a **loin cloth**.

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Act: Buy, **bury**, bring back a **loin cloth**.

Message: When you follow your **heart** rather than the Lord, you become like this **loin cloth**.

“Thus says the LORD: Even so will I spoil the pride of Judah and the great pride of Jerusalem.

“This evil people, who refuse to hear my words, who stubbornly follow their own heart and have gone after other gods to serve them and worship them, shall be like this loincloth, which is good for nothing.

“For as the loincloth clings to the waist of a man, so I made the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah cling to me, declares the LORD, that they might be for me a people, a name, a praise, and a glory, but they would not listen.”

Jeremiah 13:9-11

3. Jeremiah 16:1-13

Act: Do not marry, mourn, or be merry.

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Act: Do not marry, mourn, or be merry.

Message: The Lord will silence the voice of mourning and joy.

“For I have taken away my peace from this people, my steadfast love and mercy, declares the LORD.”

Jeremiah 16:5

“... then you shall say to them: ‘Because your fathers have forsaken me, declares the LORD, and have gone after other gods and have served and worshiped them, and have forsaken me and have not kept my law,’

“and because you have done worse than your fathers, for behold, every one of you follows his stubborn, evil will, refusing to listen to me.

“Therefore I will hurl you out of this land into a land that neither you nor your fathers have known, and there you shall serve other gods day and night, for I will show you no favor.”

Jeremiah 16:11-13

4. Jeremiah 19:1-13

Act: Break a **potter's jug**.

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Act: Break a **potter's jug**.

Message: The Lord will shatter Jerusalem.

5. Jeremiah 27-28

Act: Make and wear **yoke-bars**.

6. Jeremiah 32

Act: Buy a **field** during a **siege**.

“For thus says the LORD: Just as I have brought all this great disaster upon this people, so I will bring upon them all the good that I promise them. Fields shall be bought in this land ...”

Jeremiah 32:42-43a

“For I have made you a sign for the house of Israel.”

Ezekiel 12:6b

9. Ezekiel 3:1-15

Act: Eat the **scroll**. (sweet ➡ bitter)

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Act: Eat the **scroll**. (sweet → bitter)

Message: Feed on God's Word,
but God's people will not listen.

10. Ezekiel 3:26-27

Act: You will be **mute** except
when I open your mouth.

11. Ezekiel 4:1-8

Act: Simulate **siegeworks** with a brick, and lie on your side.

12. Ezekiel 4:9-17

Act: Eat the food of **rations**.

13. Ezekiel 5:1-17

Act: Shave your **head** and weigh the hair.

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Act: Shave your **head** and weigh the hair.

Message: Jerusalem will be a **message of judgment** for the nations.

15. Ezekiel 12:1-6

Act: Pack your **luggage**.

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Act: Pack your **luggage**.

Message: Prepare to be scattered.

16. Ezekiel 12:17-20

Act: Eat and drink with **trembling**.

20. Ezekiel 24:15-24

Act: Your wife **will die**,
 but do not **mourn**.

“Thus shall Ezekiel be to you a sign; according to all that he has done you shall do. When this comes, then you will know that I am the LORD GOD.”

Ezekiel 24:24

22. Hosea 1:2-11

Act: Marry a **prostitute**.

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Act: Marry a **prostitute**.

Message: The land is characterized by
unfaithfulness.

“Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered.

“And in the place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ it shall be said to them, ‘Children of the living God.’”

Hosea 1:10

23. Jonah 4:1-11

Act: Jonah enjoyed the shade until
the worm, wind, and sun
made him angry.

23. Jonah 4:1-11

Act: Jonah enjoyed the shade until the worm, wind, and sun **made him angry.**

Message: Jonah (Israel) is far more concerned about shade than souls.

- God's call is **comprehensive**.

“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.”

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Three vital parts of 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

- **presence**

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- **presence**

“Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you”

Three vital parts of 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

- presence
- **ownership**

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“You are not your own, for you were bought with a price.”

Three vital parts of 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

- presence
- ownership
- **action**

Three vital parts of 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

- presence
- ownership
- **action**

“So glorify God in your body.”

“Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.

“Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you.

“Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress.

“Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.”

1 Timothy 4:13-16

- God's call is comprehensive.
- God rarely **duplicates** Sign-Acts.

* Godly leaders are to be imitated,
but they will never be replicated.

“For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.

“And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.”

1 Thessalonians 1:4-7

- God's call is comprehensive.
- God rarely duplicates Sign-Acts.
- God's call can seem terribly **inefficient**.

“Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains.

“You also, be patient. Establish your hearts,
for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

“Do not grumble against one another,
brothers, so that you may not be judged;
behold, the Judge is standing at the door.

“As an example of suffering and patience,
brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the
name of the Lord.

“Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.”

James 5:7-11

- God's call is comprehensive.
- God rarely duplicates Sign-Acts.
- God's call can seem terribly inefficient.
- Living out God's message is **vital** but **dangerous**.

“Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money.

“He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God’s church?”

1 Timothy 3:2-5

“In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

Matthew 5:16

“In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

Matthew 5:16

* Live to be seen.

“Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.”

Matthew 6:1

“Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.”

Matthew 6:1

* Don't live to be seen.

* Your good deeds need to be seen
but can never be done
simply to be seen.

- Sign-Acts can be **misinterpreted** without God's clear word.

“And coming to us, he took Paul’s belt and bound his own feet and hands and said, ‘Thus says the Holy Spirit, “This is how the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.”’

“When we heard this, we and the people there urged him not to go up to Jerusalem.

“Then Paul answered, ‘What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be imprisoned but even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.’

“And since he would not be persuaded, we ceased and said, ‘Let the will of the Lord be done.’”

Acts 21:11-14

They interpreted binding = warning.

Paul interpreted binding = calling.

“And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention....”

2 Peter 1:19a

- Sign-Acts can be misinterpreted without God's clear word.
- The life and death of Jesus is the **ultimate Sign-Act!**

“For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

“He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

“For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.”

1 Peter 2:21-25

“So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed:

“shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly;

“not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

“Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for ‘God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.’”

1 Peter 5:1-5