

CALLED by NAME

Isaiah 43:1

We belong to God; He has called us by name.



Called By Name: Sermon Notes

Materials Needed:

One large "Hello, My Name Is" nametag, the words CHILD, OF, GOD printed or written on three separate pieces of paper, an easel or place to hang nametag, tape.

Purpose:

This is a sermon outline to assure people they have a loving God who has created them, redeemed them, loves them and calls them by their own name, making them his.

Basic Text:

Isaiah 43:1 (NRSV) Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name, you are mine.

Goal, Malady, Means Statements

Goal:

People will know they have a personal God who loves them, has saved them from their sins and knows them by name.

Malady:

People fear many things in life, even fearing that God does not love them, care about them, or even know who they are. This may be especially true for someone with a disability.

Means:

Through the use of Scripture and biblical illustrations, the Holy Spirit will guide people to realize and believe God personally loves and cares about them. God has proven this through the redemption accomplished by Jesus Christ on the cross. It should be made clear that all people, with or without disabilities, are sinners in need of Jesus as their Savior.

Opening Prayer:

Lord God, you called us by name before we were even born. You called us by name in our baptism and made us your child through faith in Jesus Christ. You will call us by name when it is time to come home. Until that day, continue to guide, guard and direct us all our days, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sermon Introduction:

How often have you been introduced to someone and forgotten their name before your conversation was even completed? Or maybe you ran into them later and avoided calling them by their name because you

weren't certain you remembered it correctly. How often have you been called by the wrong name? Have you ever been introduced to someone several times because they can't seem to ever remember meeting you? There are probably hundreds of reasons people forget meeting each other or forget names, but the good news is God never forgets our name. Our text from Isaiah assures us we belong to God; we are called by name into his family.

Called by Name:

- I. God has called us by name through creation
 - **God knew you before you were born.**
 - **God created you in his image.**
 - **God has great plans for you.**
 - **God gave you gifts and abilities to use and enjoy.**
- II. God has called us by name through redemption
 - **God promised a Savior would be born to save us from our sins.**
 - **Through Christ's death and resurrection we are saved from sin.**
 - **We have been redeemed so the work of God may be displayed in our lives.**
- III. God has called us by name; we are his
 - **We are called to tell others about Jesus.**
 - **We are called to enhance lives through the Gospel.**
 - **We are called to serve God together with people of all needs and abilities.**
 - **We are called to live in God's grace and peace.**

Conclusion:

The pastor should emphasize that all Christians have been called to faith in Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit, and this includes people of all abilities. God's grace, love and mercy are for everyone. God has personally created and redeemed each of us. God loves each one of us and has individually called us to himself by name. This knowledge gives us comfort for now and eternity.

Closing Prayer:

Thank you, Lord, for creating us, redeeming us from sin and death, loving us and forgiving us. Thank you for all the gifts, abilities and blessings you lavish upon us every day. Help us all, regardless of abilities, to work together in your harvest fields to bring the life-enhancing Gospel to people around us. Thank you for calling us to mission and ministry together for Christ, and for having sought us out and called us by name. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Supporting Scriptures could include some of the following:

Note: The Scripture references are listed in three groups which correspond to parts I, II and III of the sermon outline.

Section I: Jeremiah 1:5; Genesis 1:27; Psalm 51:5; Jeremiah 29:11; I Corinthians 12

Section II: Genesis 3:15; John 3:16-17; Matthew 1:21; John 9:3, 20:31; Romans 6:8-11; I Corinthians 15:22

Section III: Matthew 28:19-20; Luke 24:46-47; II John 3; Romans 6:14