

The Call

I journeyed to the village from which I had received the call. It wasn't Macedonia¹, but it was the mission I was given. I had received a request to lead a blessing ceremony for a newborn baby boy and the home in which he would begin his life. I had prepared a few words that I hoped would be special for the occasion.

My ministry was not only to help people understand the Kingdom: I performed marriages and funeral ceremonies, as well as blessings of various sorts. I helped people whenever and wherever I could, especially to those that were fellow believers².

When I found the house I was looking for, I knocked on the door and was greeted by the happy couple. I made my way inside, and was very surprised to see my artist friend inside, painting a mural on the wall near where the baby would sleep. The picture was a beautiful pastoral scene with peacefully resting sheep, nesting birds, and other comforting animals. It was clear that she had received a call very similar to mine.

The blessing ceremony and nursery dedication was brief, but the family considered it to be very meaningful and was overjoyed with the mural. We fellowshiped for a while with them and then took our leave.

This experience added to the many I had shared with my artist friend and I had come to realize that we had very much in common. And we complemented each other: I used words and she used pictures. We both used our skills to help comfort those with births and deaths, as well as generally working to strengthen people in the times in between. I saw that she contributed as much or more to this work as I did. She had such a personal touch (not necessarily physical) to all those that came close to her. I had seen her work her magic many times before.

When our work was done, I helped my friend pack her art supplies back into her cart. As I was tying things down so that they wouldn't fall off, our eyes met, and suddenly I realized that I had another type of call. I knew deep in my heart that she was "the one" for me.

1. Acts 16:9
2. Galatians 6:10