

## **“Son” Flowers... A Devotional by the members of New Hope Church in Cooper, TX**

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Scripture Verse Reference: 1 Peter 4:10 ***“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”*** (NKJV)

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### ***Heeding His Calling***

As each week passes, my excitement grows. Soon, I receive the first book of which I am an author. Albeit a contributing author of only a few pages, the upcoming devotional *Called* is a compilation of numerous authors, some award-winning, others with multiple publishing credits. Still, it will be the first book in which I am an attributed, published author. That word, author, still sounds funny and still requires getting used to. Although I’ve written hundreds of books, thousands of proposals, and dozens of published magazine and newspaper articles in the past forty years, I never considered myself an author until just a few months ago.

Discovering writing as one of God’s gifts in my life at a young age, I’ve been writing since I was six years old. In fact, in my twenties, I found writing was the best way for me to earn a living and make a difference in this world. Yet with millions of written words behind me, it wasn’t until 2016 that God called me to use my God-given talents in His service. For some, the discovery of their godly talent immediately launches them into a life of service, using the gifts God gives them. For others, like me, God takes His time to mold and shape us until we become a usable piece of clay. He then molds us into the vessel He always intended us to be. I often wonder how many of those years God spent waiting on me. Whatever the future holds, my sole prayer for myself is that God continues to use me in the way that best glorifies Him and brings my best to His kingdom.



Are you answering God’s calling in your life? I think of our new friends from Volunteer Christian Builders who are helping construct our Fellowship Hall. These amazing people travel the country helping to further God’s kingdom by using their many talents. I think of our dear pastor, who spends countless hours each week preparing lessons, visiting parishioners, and counseling, all as an unpaid volunteer. Through God’s eyes, I see the selfless devotion of these and so many others in my world. They freely give of their skills, talents, gifts, and hearts to show others Christ’s presence in their lives. I am humbled to see them give so much in the name of our Lord.

Whether a pastor, builder, church volunteer, or the best leader or follower you can be at work or school, God calls each of us for a specific service in the body of Christ. I pray you find and cherish your calling as you follow God’s leading in your life.