

Important Preliminaries

- God's plan of redemption.
- Man's utter helplessness and the role of the Holy Spirit.
- The order of salvation.

The Gospel Call

1. The general gospel call
2. An effective gospel call

*At the right time, appointed by him,
God effectually calls all those and only
those whom He has predestined to life.
He calls them by His Word and Spirit
out of their natural state of sin and
death into grace and salvation through
Jesus Christ. He enlightens their minds
spiritually with a saving understanding
of the things of God.*

He takes away their heart of stone and gives them a heart of flesh. He renews their wills and by His almighty power leads them to what is good. And so He effectually draws them to Jesus Christ. But they come to Jesus voluntarily, having been made willing by God's grace.

(Westminster Confession of Faith 10:1)

What is effectual calling? Effectual calling is the work of God's Spirit, whereby, convincing us of our sin and misery, enlightening our minds in the knowledge of Christ, and renewing our wills, He doth persuade and enable us to embrace Jesus Christ, freely offered us in the Gospel.

(WCF Shorter Catechism 31)

Effective calling is an act of God the Father, speaking through the human proclamation of the Gospel by the inward work of the Holy Spirit, in which He summons people to Himself in such a way that they respond in saving faith.

(Wayne Grudem)

God is the Author of an effective
call.

(John 6:44; 1 Corinthians 1:9)

The Holy Spirit is the
Agent of an effective call.

(1 Corinthians 2:10-15;
Ephesians 1:17)

An effective call cannot ultimately
be resisted yet the response to it is
voluntary.

(John 6:37)