## I HAVE CALLED YOU BY NAME Isaiah 43:2; 45:4

**F**ear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward. Genesis 15,1

God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses.Exo 3,4

And the LORD called yet again, Samuel.

And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel.

I Samuel 3,10

Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Jeremiah, what seest thou? Jeremiah 1,11

And the LORD said unto me, Amos, what seest thou? Amos 7,8 And he said, Amos, what seest thou? Amos 8,2

And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? Acts 9, 4.

Isaiah writes again and again that our God calls us by our name. The God who measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, who measured the Heavens with a span, who calculated the dust of the earth in a measure, who calls out the starry host by number and calls them by name, knows even my name.

Calling a person by name means you are personally care for them. Quite recently I went back to a college where I had been working and I taught in a class for barely three months. I was there after four years, and my first year students were now doing final year and unexpectedly I saw one of them and smiled and called his name. I would never forget the look in his face, joy surprise and all he could say was, "You still remember my name," again and again . Then I thought if my student could be so happy that a teacher of three months remembered his name, how ecstatic and thrilled should we be, to know that our BIG GOD, knows my name and your name. Yeah we all know the verse, but why doesn't it make us happy or ecstatic. Why do we go about mourning?

Why do the cares of this world, the pleasures and vanities of this world make us deaf to the voice of God calling out our names and speaking to us. Why is it so hard to believe the great big promises of God, and we so easily fall prey to the negative and discouraging words of our so called friends and well wishers.

Why when we read the Promises that God has once given , we just can't believe as we once believed?

Why amidst the din and the noise of this world, it is so hard to hear God calling out my/your name?

It sounds so improbable and impossible, that God would take a personal interest in me. But the truth is He does take a personal interest in me. Because the Word of God He does. The Psalmist writes that His eyes were constantly watching our still unformed body in our mother's womb(Psalm 139)

He tells Jeremiah that He knew him even before he was conceived.(1,5) I really don't understand why God should love so, and I can't comprehend why. But I do know He loves me and calls my name. Even when I forget Him, and walk my own ways, He still watches me , cares for me, loves me...

But when I stumble, grieve then I go back to my God, and He picks me up, comforts me and loves me again. He doesn't point the days when I went on as though He was never there.

He calls my name and celebrates. It's n't fair right? Yes not fair but that is HIS BIG GRACE O

Let's hold out our hands and receive His love and care like a child and just be happy and rest our heads in His heart. When we are that close, then we would hear His heart beat, His agony, His pain and our lives will not be the same again.

But before that we need to hear Jesus, call our names. He said, "My sheep know me and I call them by name."(John 10)

Dear Lord the GREAT BIG GOD of this universe, I believe sometimes against belief that you call me by my own name. Yes Lord that you call me by my name. Open my heart to receive the truth. Lord when you call me by my name, then let me know it is true, that you really really call me Lord. Thank you Lord that even if no one knows me, that you know me by name, and are there whenever I need you and even when I live as though I don't need you.

Help me believe and receive your love Jesus. Open my heart and help me receive your love and to hear your heart beat and run for you Lord. Revive me in your love Lord. In Jesus name. Amen. Amen. Amen.