

HOW TO WALK IN YOUR CALLING WITHOUT FEAR

THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO LIVING YOUR PURPOSE
WITH BOLD FAITH



DBA MINISTRIES

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Overcome Doubt and Step Into God's Assignment

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DBA Ministries (MNdeals LLC) · 30 N Gould St Ste R, Sheridan, WY 82801

dbaministries.org · support@dbaministries.org

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INTRODUCTION

GOD STILL USES FEARFUL PEOPLE

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”

— 2 Timothy 1:7

If you picked up this book, chances are you’re hearing something deep within your spirit—a divine whisper, a holy nudge, a persistent pull toward something greater than your current reality. Maybe it comes in quiet moments of prayer, or perhaps it interrupts your daily routine with an urgency you can’t explain. You know God is calling you to something, but there’s just one problem: you’re terrified.

Let me start by telling you something that might surprise you: that fear doesn’t disqualify you. In fact, it might be the very proof that God is about to do something extraordinary through you.

The Myth of the Fearless Saint

Somewhere along the way, we bought into a lie. We believed that God only uses the confident, the qualified, and the courageous. We look at the giants of faith—the preachers on platforms, the missionaries in foreign fields, the business leaders transforming industries for Christ—and we assume they must have always been fearless. We imagine they woke up one day with unshakeable confidence and perfect clarity about their calling.

But here’s what we miss when we put God’s chosen vessels on pedestals: Moses stuttered and begged God to send someone else. Gideon was hiding in a winepress when the angel called him a “mighty warrior.” Esther trembled at the thought of approaching the king. Peter denied Jesus three times. And Paul? He described himself as the chief of sinners.

If God waited for perfect, fearless people to accomplish His purposes, He’d still be waiting.

What Is a Calling?

Before we go any further, let's get clear on what we mean by "calling." Your calling isn't just about vocational ministry—though it certainly can be. Your calling is the unique way God has designed you to glorify Him and serve others. It's the divine assignment written into your DNA before you took your first breath.

Your calling might be:

- Starting a business that operates on Kingdom principles
- Teaching children with the love of Christ
- Creating art that points people to eternity
- Leading in the marketplace with integrity
- Ministering to the broken and forgotten
- Writing words that heal and inspire
- Building families that reflect God's design
- Pioneering solutions to societal problems

The specifics matter less than this truth: You were created on purpose, for a purpose. And that purpose is bigger than your fear.

The Calling Contradiction

Here's where it gets interesting. Almost everyone I've met who is walking powerfully in their calling will tell you the same thing: they didn't feel ready. They weren't confident. They battled imposter syndrome, insecurity, and sometimes paralyzing fear.

In fact, the presence of fear might be one of the clearest indicators that you're on the verge of something significant. Why? Because the enemy of your soul has no reason to intimidate you if you're not a threat to his kingdom. Fear often shows up strongest right before breakthrough.

Think about it. Would you be afraid to speak if your words had no power? Would you hesitate to step out if your obedience wouldn't make waves? Would you question your qualifications if God wasn't preparing to qualify you for something beyond your natural ability?

Your fear might actually be evidence of your calling, not proof against it.

Why This Book?

Over the next seven chapters, you're going to meet some remarkable people. But I want to be clear—they're not remarkable because they're superhuman. They're remarkable because they're just like you: flawed, afraid, and sometimes failing. The difference is they learned a secret that changed everything.

They discovered that God doesn't call the qualified—He qualifies the called.

You'll meet Christine Caine, who discovered her adoption as an adult and could have spiraled into an identity crisis. Instead, she founded one of the world's most effective anti-trafficking organizations. You'll hear from Nick Vujicic, born

without limbs, who was told he'd never have a normal life. Today, he preaches to millions about the God who makes all things possible.

You'll walk with Sarah Jakes Roberts through her journey from teen pregnancy and public shame to becoming one of the most powerful voices in this generation. You'll sit with Jeremy Camp as he buried his young wife and wondered if he'd ever sing again—then watched God use his deepest pain to touch millions.

These aren't superhero stories. They're stories of ordinary people who said yes to an extraordinary God, even when their knees were shaking.

The Journey Ahead

This book isn't just about inspiration—though you'll find plenty of that. It's about transformation. It's about moving from paralysis to purpose, from fear to faith, from knowing you're called to actually walking in that calling.

In each chapter, you'll discover:

- A real story of someone who overcame fear to fulfill their calling
- Biblical principles that anchor their journey (and yours)
- Practical steps you can take today
- Prayers and declarations to strengthen your faith
- Action items to move you forward

And because I believe in the power of consistent action, this book concludes with a 90-day breakthrough program designed to launch you into your calling with boldness and clarity.

A Personal Word for You

Before we begin this journey together, I need you to hear something. That thing you're afraid of? That calling that seems too big, too bold, too impossible for someone like you? That's exactly where God does His best work.

He specializes in using the unlikely, the unqualified, and the uncertain. He delights in taking our weakness and displaying His strength. He's not looking for perfection—He's looking for surrender.

You might be thinking, "But you don't know my past. You don't know what I've done, where I've failed, how far I've fallen." You're right, I don't. But God does. And He's calling you anyway.

Maybe you're afraid you'll fail. Join the club—every person in this book felt the same way. Maybe you're worried about what people will think. So was Moses. Maybe you feel unworthy. So did Isaiah. Maybe you think you're too young, too old, too broke, too broken. God has heard it all before, and His response remains the same: "My grace is sufficient for you."

The Time Is Now

Here's what I know to be true: You didn't pick up this book by accident. In a world full of distractions and endless content, something drew you here. I believe that

something is Someone—the same God who formed you in your mother’s womb, who knew you before the foundation of the world, who has plans to prosper you and not to harm you.

He’s been preparing you for this moment longer than you realize. Every experience, every struggle, every victory and defeat has been shaping you for your divine assignment. And now, He’s inviting you to step into it.

Yes, you might be afraid. Yes, you might feel unqualified. Yes, you might have a thousand reasons why someone else would be better suited for whatever God is calling you to do.

But here’s the beautiful truth: God doesn’t make mistakes. If He’s calling you, He will equip you. If He’s sending you, He will go with you. If He’s chosen you, He will empower you.

The only question is: Will you say yes?

Over the coming pages, you’ll discover that you’re in good company. Every giant of faith started as someone small, scared, and uncertain. But they took the first step. Then another. And another. And before they knew it, they were walking in the fullness of their calling, watching God do through them what only God could do.

That’s your invitation. That’s your destiny. That’s your time.

Welcome to the journey of walking in your calling without fear. It won’t always be easy, but I promise you this: it will be worth it.

Let’s begin.

Prayer: Father God, I thank You for the person holding this book. I thank You that You have called them by name, that You have a purpose and plan for their life that is good and perfect. I pray that as they read these pages, fear would lose its grip, faith would rise like the dawn, and courage would flood their heart. Show them that You don’t need their perfection—just their willingness. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

CHAPTER 1

CHRISTINE CAINE - OVERCOMING INSECURITY AND ABUSE

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

—Jeremiah 1:5

The manila envelope sat on Christine Caine’s kitchen table like an unexploded bomb. At 33 years old, she thought she knew who she was—a Greek woman from Sydney, Australia, with a passion for Jesus and a growing ministry. But the contents of that envelope would shatter everything she believed about her identity and send her on a journey that would ultimately free millions.

“I remember my hands shaking as I opened it,” Christine recalls. The adoption certificate inside bore her name, but everything else was foreign. Unknown mother. Unknown father. Unknown medical history. Unknown heritage. In one moment, three decades of assumed identity crumbled like a house of cards.

For someone who had built her life on knowing who she was in Christ, suddenly not knowing who she was in the natural felt like standing on quicksand. The questions rushed in like a flood: Who am I really? Why was I given away? Was I unwanted? Am I who I thought I was?

But Christine’s story doesn’t begin or end with that envelope. It begins with a girl who grew up in an immigrant family in Australia, experiencing abuse that would have destroyed most people’s ability to trust, let alone lead. It continues through years of feeling like an outsider—too Greek for the Australians, too Australian for the Greeks, too passionate for the reserved, too bold for the traditional. And it culminates in a woman who would stand before world leaders, rescue trafficking victims, and inspire millions to find their purpose despite their past.

The Early Years: When Shame Speaks Louder Than Purpose

Christine Bakalakos (her maiden name) grew up in a working-class Greek immigrant family in Sydney. From the outside, they looked like any other family trying to make their way in a new country. But behind closed doors, Christine endured sexual abuse that began when she was just three years old and continued for years.

“I learned early that the world wasn’t safe,” she shares. “I learned to build walls, to protect myself, to trust no one fully. When you’re a child and the people who should protect you become sources of pain, it rewires something deep inside you.”

The abuse left scars that ran deeper than skin. It whispered lies that would take decades to fully silence: You’re damaged goods. You’re worthless. No one will want you if they knew the truth. You’re too broken to be used by God.

These lies became the soundtrack of her childhood and teenage years. While other kids worried about grades and friendships, Christine battled shame that threatened to suffocate her dreams before they could even form. She excelled academically—perhaps trying to prove her worth through achievement—but inside, she felt like she was dying.

“I thought if I could just be good enough, smart enough, successful enough, maybe I could outrun the shame,” she reflects. “But shame is a relentless pursuer. It doesn’t care about your achievements. It wants your identity.”

Finding Faith: When Light Breaks Through

At 22, Christine encountered Jesus in a way that changed everything. It wasn’t a subtle shift—it was a radical transformation. For the first time in her life, she heard a voice louder than shame. It was the voice of her Creator, calling her chosen, loved, and set apart for a purpose.

“When I gave my life to Christ, it was like someone turned on the lights in a room I didn’t know was dark,” she explains. “Suddenly, I could see that my past didn’t have to define my future. But knowing that in your head and believing it in your heart? That’s a journey.”

Christine threw herself into church life with the same intensity she’d applied to everything else. She served, she studied, she grew. But even as she began teaching Bible studies and leading youth groups, the old voices would resurface. Who do you think you are? If they knew your past, they’d never let you lead. You’re playing a role you were never meant to play.

The enemy has a way of using our deepest wounds as weapons against our calling. For Christine, every step toward her purpose felt like a battle against her past. But she kept walking, kept serving, kept saying yes to opportunities that terrified her.

“I learned that courage isn’t the absence of fear,” she says. “Courage is feeling the fear and doing it anyway because you know God has called you to it.”

The Envelope: When Everything You Know Becomes Unknown

By the time Christine was 33, she had married her husband Nick, moved into full-time ministry, and was beginning to see the fruit of years of faithful service. She was teaching at conferences, writing curriculum, and watching God use her story to bring healing to others. The shame of her past, while not completely silent, had at least been muffled by the louder voice of purpose.

Then came the envelope.

Christine's brother called with news that would upend everything: while handling some government paperwork, he'd discovered documents indicating Christine had been adopted. The family secret, kept for over three decades, was suddenly exposed.

"I felt like I was falling," Christine remembers. "Everything I thought I knew about myself—my heritage, my medical history, my identity—was suddenly a question mark. It wasn't just about being adopted. It was about being lied to, about having such a fundamental part of my identity hidden from me."

For many people, this would have been the breaking point. After surviving abuse, fighting through shame, and building a life of purpose, to have the very foundation of your identity shaken could have sent everything crumbling. Christine spent days wrestling with God, with anger, with a grief she couldn't quite name.

But in that wrestling, something powerful happened. God began to speak to her about identity in a way she'd never understood before.

The Revelation: Your History Doesn't Determine Your Destiny

"God began to show me that I had been building my identity on the wrong foundation," Christine shares. "Yes, I knew I was a child of God. But underneath that, I was still holding onto earthly markers of identity—my family name, my Greek heritage, my natural history. God was inviting me to a deeper level of freedom."

She began to study Scripture with new eyes, seeing how God consistently chose people with questionable backgrounds, unknown origins, and complicated histories:

- Moses was adopted into Egyptian royalty but was actually a Hebrew slave's son
- Esther was an orphan who became a queen
- Jesus himself was born under scandalous circumstances, with questions about his parentage following him throughout his ministry

"I realized that God often obscures our natural identity so He can reveal our spiritual destiny," Christine explains. "If I had always known I was adopted, would I have had the confidence to step into ministry? If I had known my biological parents had given me away, would I have believed I was chosen by God? Sometimes God protects us from information until we're strong enough in Him to handle it."

The Birth of A21: When Personal Pain Becomes Global Purpose

As Christine processed her adoption, God began connecting dots she couldn't have seen before. Her experience of abuse. Her journey through shame. Her questions about identity and worth. Her discovery of being "unwanted" by her biological parents. It all started to form a picture of preparation for something bigger than personal healing.

During a trip to Greece with Nick, Christine noticed posters of missing children everywhere. When she asked about them, she learned about the horrific reality of human trafficking—modern-day slavery happening in her parents' homeland and around the world. As she researched more, the statistics overwhelmed her: millions of people trafficked, bought and sold like property, stripped of their identity and worth.

"I couldn't shake the parallel," she says. "These trafficking victims were experiencing on a massive scale what I had experienced personally—abuse, shame, stolen identity, being treated as less than human. And I knew God was calling me to do something about it."

But the fear was immediate and intense. Who was she to take on something so big? She wasn't a lawyer or a police officer. She didn't have experience in international justice. She was just a Bible teacher from Australia with a complicated past.

The voices of inadequacy roared: You're not qualified for this. You'll fail. You'll make things worse. Stay in your lane. Teach your Bible studies and leave the big problems to bigger people.

The Decision: Qualified by the Called, Not Called by the Qualified

"I remember the moment I had to decide," Christine recalls. "I was standing in my kitchen, and I felt God asking me a simple question: 'Christine, will you trust that I know what I'm doing?' Not 'Do you feel qualified?' Not 'Do you have a plan?' Just 'Will you trust me?'"

This is the pivotal moment in every calling—the moment when we have to decide if God's voice is louder than our fear. For Christine, years of healing and growth had led to this point. She could choose to let her past, her insecurities, and her lack of qualifications keep her silent. Or she could believe that the God who had rescued her from shame could use her to rescue others.

"I realized that God doesn't call the qualified—He qualifies the called," she says. "My job wasn't to be ready. My job was to be willing."

In 2008, Christine and Nick founded A21, a global anti-trafficking organization. They started with a big vision but no idea how to accomplish it. They faced criticism from people who said they were naive, that they didn't understand the complexity of the issue, that they should leave it to the experts.

“Every fear I’d ever had about not being enough came rushing back,” Christine admits. “But I kept remembering Jeremiah 1:5—God knew me before I was formed in the womb. Before my biological parents gave me up, before my adoptive parents took me in, before the abuse, before the shame, before any of it—God knew me and set me apart for this purpose.”

The Fruit: When Obedience Unleashes the Impossible

Today, A21 operates in 18 locations across 13 countries. They’ve helped rescue thousands of trafficking victims, prosecute traffickers, and prevent countless more from being trafficked through education and awareness. What started as one woman’s willingness to face her fears has become a global movement of abolitionists.

But Christine is quick to point out that the fruit didn’t come without fierce battles against fear and insecurity along the way:

“Every new country we wanted to enter, I heard the voices: You don’t understand their culture. Every time we faced opposition: You’re in over your head. Every time a rescue operation was dangerous: You’re putting people at risk with your inexperience. The enemy never stops trying to use our insecurities against our calling.”

So how did she press through? Christine developed what she calls “spiritual disciplines for defeating insecurity”:

1. Anchoring Identity in Scripture, Not Circumstances “I had to become obsessive about renewing my mind with God’s Word. Every time insecurity whispered, I countered with Scripture. ‘I am chosen’ (Ephesians 1:4). ‘I am God’s workmanship’ (Ephesians 2:10). ‘I can do all things through Christ’ (Philippians 4:13). I literally wrote verses on cards and carried them everywhere.”

2. Choosing Obedience Over Confidence “I stopped waiting to feel confident and started choosing to be obedient. Confidence is often the fruit of obedience, not the prerequisite for it. Every time I did something scared, I grew a little stronger.”

3. Surrounding Herself with Faith-Builders “Nick was crucial in this journey. When I wanted to shrink back, he pushed me forward. I also intentionally sought out people who had done hard things for God. Their stories reminded me that fear is normal but not final.”

4. Focusing on the One, Not the Overwhelming “When I looked at the millions trafficked, I wanted to quit. It was too big. But when I focused on one girl who needed rescue, one survivor who needed aftercare, one community that needed education—suddenly it was doable. God doesn’t call us to save the world. He calls us to faithful obedience in our assignment.”

The Deeper Work: Healing That Enables Calling

What many people don't realize about Christine's story is that stepping into her calling didn't instantly heal all her wounds. In many ways, the calling exposed wounds she didn't know were still bleeding.

"When you're rescuing girls from sexual exploitation, your own sexual abuse memories don't conveniently disappear," she shares vulnerably. "When you're fighting for the voiceless, your own voicelessness as a child resurfaces. God was calling me to minister from my pain while still healing from it."

This is a crucial understanding for anyone walking toward their calling while still working through their past: God doesn't wait for you to be fully healed before He uses you. Often, He heals you through using you.

Christine found that every girl they rescued was also rescuing her. Every survivor who found their voice helped her find hers more fully. Every trafficker brought to justice was justice for her own childhood self. God was weaving her pain into purpose in real-time.

"I used to think I had to be completely whole before God could use me," she reflects. "Now I know that God uses broken vessels best because His light shines brightest through the cracks."

The Multiplication: When Your Yes Releases Others

Perhaps the most powerful aspect of Christine's story is how her willingness to overcome insecurity has released thousands of others to do the same. Through A21, ordinary people who feel unqualified are becoming abolitionists. Through her books and speaking, countless individuals are finding courage to face their calling despite their fears.

"Every time I speak, I meet people who say, 'If God can use you with your past, maybe He can use me with mine,'" Christine shares. "That's when I know every battle with insecurity was worth it. My willingness to be vulnerable about my journey gives others permission to begin theirs."

This is the kingdom principle we often miss: our individual obedience has exponential impact. When we overcome our insecurities to step into our calling, we don't just fulfill our own purpose—we create a pathway for others to fulfill theirs.

The Principle: God Qualifies the Called

The foundational truth of Christine's story is this: God doesn't look for the qualified. He looks for the available. He doesn't search for the confident. He searches for the willing. He doesn't need our perfection. He needs our surrender.

Consider how God responded when people felt unqualified:

- To Moses' "I am not eloquent," God said, "I will be with your mouth" (Exodus 4:10-12)

- To Gideon’s “I am the least in my family,” God said, “I will be with you” (Judges 6:15- 16)
- To Mary’s “How can this be?” God said, “Nothing is impossible with God” (Luke 1:34- 37)

The pattern is consistent: God’s presence is the qualification. His power working through our weakness is the strategy. As Paul discovered, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness” (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Your Turn: From Insecurity to Impact

Christine’s story isn’t meant to make you think, “Wow, she’s amazing.” It’s meant to make you think, “Wow, God is amazing, and if He can use her, He can use me.”

Whatever is making you feel disqualified from your calling—your past, your pain, your lack of education, your personality, your mistakes—these are not obstacles to God. They’re opportunities for Him to show His power.

But you have to make the same choice Christine made in her kitchen that day. Will you trust that God knows what He’s doing? Will you believe that He who began a good work in you will complete it? Will you let His voice be louder than your insecurity?

Practical Steps: Moving from Insecurity to Obedience

1. Identify Your Core Insecurities Take time to write down what makes you feel unqualified for your calling. Be specific. Is it your education? Your past? Your personality? Your experience? Get it all on paper so you can see what you’re really battling.

2. Find Your Counter-Scriptures For each insecurity, find a Scripture that speaks truth. If you feel too damaged, claim Isaiah 61:3—“beauty for ashes.” If you feel too weak, claim Joel 3:10— “Let the weak say I am strong.” Write these on cards and review them daily.

3. Take One Terrifying Step What’s one thing you could do this week that moves you toward your calling but terrifies you? Make the phone call. Send the email. Sign up for the class. Share your testimony. Do it afraid.

4. Share Your Real Story Find one trusted person and share the real story of what God is calling you to and what makes you feel unqualified. Let them speak faith over your fear. Often, our insecurities lose their power when we bring them into the light.

5. Start Where You Are You don’t have to found a global organization tomorrow. What’s the smallest version of your calling you could start today? If you’re called to teach, start with a small group. If you’re called to write, start with a blog. If you’re called to lead, volunteer somewhere. Faithfulness in little things leads to greater things.

The Promise: Your Past is Your Preparation

As Christine often says, “Your past is not your problem—it’s your preparation. Your mess is not your shame—it’s your message. Your test is not your defeat—it’s your testimony.”

God isn’t looking for perfect people with pristine pasts and unshakeable confidence. He’s looking for imperfect people who will trust His perfect love. He’s not waiting for you to feel qualified. He’s waiting for you to say yes.

The same God who took an abused, adopted girl from Sydney and used her to rescue thousands is looking at you right now. He sees your insecurities, your fears, your complicated past—and He says, “Perfect. I can work with that.”

Your Jeremiah 1:5 moment is now. Before you were formed in the womb, He knew you. Before your parents, your past, or your pain, He set you apart. Before you felt qualified, He appointed you.

The only question is: Will you believe Him?

Christine did. And the world has never been the same.

Neither will yours when you do.

Prayer: Father, I thank You that You don’t call the qualified but qualify the called. I bring You every insecurity, every fear, every reason I feel disqualified from my calling. I choose to believe that Your grace is sufficient, that Your power is made perfect in my weakness. Give me the courage to take the next step, even when I’m shaking. Use my past as preparation, my pain as purpose, my mess as a message. I trust that You know what You’re doing, even when I don’t. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Declaration: I am chosen before the foundation of the world. I am appointed for such a time as this. My past does not disqualify me—it prepares me. I am qualified by the blood of Jesus and empowered by His Spirit. I will not let insecurity silence my calling. I will obey afraid and watch God do what only He can do. I am who God says I am, and I can do what God says I can do.