new york Time

CALL FOR GOD by Karl Barth

These twelve sermons by the world-renowned theologian sparkle with the warm sincerity of his personality. Originally they were delivered to convicts in a prison at Basel in Switzerland, and it speaks volumes for Karl Barth's deep compassion for all humanity that his unvarying salutation is, was "My dear brothers and sisters."

Throughout each sermon the author identified himself with his listeners, on the theory that although their predicament was dramatically intensified, it was not essentially different from that of all men and women.

Each sermon is based on a short Scripture text, and is accompanied by a prayer before and after. Each 17 prayers is profoundly relevant and beautifully simple. For men and women trying to cope with temptation and sometimes near-despair kkixxkisik in the complex living of today, this book is as relevant as it was to those prisoners in Basel.

Karl Barth does this by showing us ourselves -- our life in the past, the present, and the future -- in the light of the Gospel. A soul, he believes, that is directly in touch with God through the Gospel is bound to come closer to Him than it could through any amount of preaching and moralizing.

Also by Karl Barth:

## DELIVERANCE TO THE CAPTIVES

"Displays the grave, generous, and -- often -- genial humanity of 'antihumanist' theology's living Olympian. These sermons might have been preached any time in the last two millenga. Their dominant note--an unusual one in contemporary Christian literature-is of hope, of joy in the Lord, of an ardor that can assert, concerning the faith that 'no human being has ever prayed for this in vain.