

## Introduction: Discover Your Calling

“It takes great courage for men and women to discover their calling. After all, it may not be what you are doing now, and to face your calling squarely may cause some significant disruption in your life.”

~  
- *Prioritize* by Joe Calhoun and Bruce Jeffrey

“Somehow we human beings are never happier than when we are expressing the deepest gifts that are truly us.”

~ *The Call* by Os Guinness

“The vast majority of individuals spend most of their lives focused on activities where they are either incompetent or merely competent. Only rarely do their excellent abilities come into play, and almost never do they experience uniqueness.”

~ *Business Consultant* by Dan Sullivan

### Two Diagnostic Questions to Ponder:

1. What would you really like to do if you could do anything in the world?
2. What are a few things that “you’re good at” and “you really enjoy doing?”

### Two Facts to Remember

1. You are fearfully, wonderfully, and uniquely made by God. (Psalm 139)
2. Your unique design (abilities, gifts, and desires) was fashioned by God to equip you to fulfill your unique purpose and calling in life. (Eph 2:10)

## How to Discover Your Calling in Life

### 1. Examine Your S.H.A.P.E.

- Spiritual Gifts—What are yours? Primary or Motivational Gift? (Rom 12; 1 Cor 12, 14; Eph 4)
- Heart—What are you passionate about? What are your deepest desires? What do you dream about? (Ps 37:4)
- Abilities—What are you good at? What are your strengths, natural gifts, talents? (Romans 12:3)
- Personality—How are you wired as you relate to people? Are you an introvert? Extrovert? What recharges your emotional battery? (Ps 139)
- Experience—What have you done? How has God been preparing your life as you look in the “rearview mirror” for what He has called you to do?

2. Get honest, wise \_\_\_\_\_ about who you are, your gifts, and abilities, where you fit, and how to move forward. (Prov 22—in the multitude of counsel there is safety)
3. Be willing to move out of your \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ to fulfill your divine purpose on earth. (Heb 11:16)
4. Make a personal commitment to discover God's calling on your life so you can honor your Creator and Designer and impact your world and beyond. (Eph 2:10)

**I \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ commit to discover God's calling for my life so that I might fulfill His highest purposes in me and through me for His glory and my joy.**

## Discussion/ Application Questions

1. On a scale of 1 (low) – 10 (high), how satisfied and fulfilled are you in your present occupation?
2. On a scale of 1 (low) – 10 (high), how much do you consider your job as actual “calling” from God versus merely a means of income?
3. List 5 friends that would give you honest feedback concerning your strengths, gifts, passions, and abilities.
4. What would you really like to do if money and opportunity were not a problem? What have you done in the past that highly motivated you and served and helped others as you did it?

### **Additional Resources:**

1. *The Call* by Os Guinness (book)
2. *Your Divine Design: How to Discover Your Spiritual Gift* by Chip Ingram (CD/DVD series)
3. *Priorities* by Calhoun and Jeffrey (book)
4. *Half-time and Gameplan* by Bob Buford (book)