

Finding your **life calling**





How to find your **life calling?**





PART I

The ABC of finding your life calling

Finding your **life calling**

A. The Goal



Finding your **life calling**

Matt 28:16-20



A. **The goal** of the life work

4T p.53 - To **save souls** should be **the life work of every one who professes Christ**. We are debtors to the world for the grace given us of God, for the light which has shone upon us, and for the discovered beauty and power of the truth.

A. **The goal** of the life work



MYP p.227 - The business above all others which should draw and engage the energies of the soul,--is **the work of saving souls** for whom Christ has died. Make this the main, the important work of your life. **Make it your special life work.** Co-operate with Christ in this grand and noble work, and become home and foreign missionaries. Be ready and efficient to work **at home** or in **far-off climes** for the saving of souls.

A. **The goal** of the life work

**Is “disciplemaking” the primary
Goal for my lifework? If not, do I
want it to be?**

A. **The goal** of the life work



B. The Confidence



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John 16:4-7



B. **The confidence** we have

HDL p.12-13 - Our plans are not always God's plans. He may see that it is **best for us** and **for His cause** to refuse our very best intentions, as He did in the case of David. But of one thing we may be assured, He will bless and use in the advancement of His cause those who sincerely devote themselves and all they have to His glory.

If He sees it **best not to** grant their desires He will counterbalance the refusal by giving them tokens of His love and entrusting to them another service. In His loving care and interest for us, often **He who understands us better than we understand ourselves** refuses to permit us selfishly to seek the gratification of our own ambition.

B. The confidence we have



HDL p.12-13 - He does not permit us to pass by the homely but sacred duties that lie next us. Often these duties afford the very training essential to prepare us for a higher work. Often our plans fail that God's plans for us may succeed. We are **never called upon to make a real sacrifice for God**. Many things He asks us to yield to Him, but in doing this we are but giving up that which hinders us in the heavenward way. Even when called upon to surrender those things which in themselves are good, **we may be sure** that God is thus working out for us some higher good.

B. The confidence we have



Am I sure that God really wants my best? Also when I do not see the logic in how he is leading?

B. **The confidence** we have



C. A good reason



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Acts 15:37-40 | 2 Tim 4:11 | Phil 4:11-13



C. A **good reason** for our life work





C. A **good reason** for our life work



Ed p.264 - "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15), is Christ's command to His followers. Not that all are called to be ministers or missionaries in **the ordinary sense of the term**; but **all** may be workers with Him in giving the "glad tidings" to their fellow men. To all, great or small, learned or ignorant, old or young, the command is given ...

C. A **good reason** for our life work



Ed p.264 - Thousands are doing this. They think to secure for their children the benefits of the gospel while they deny its spirit. But this cannot be. Those who reject the privilege of fellowship with Christ in **service**, reject the **only training** that imparts a fitness for participation with Him in His glory. They reject the training that in this life **gives strength and nobility of character**.

C. A **good reason** for our life work



Do I realize that I need to make disciples?

C. A **good reason** for our life work



Summary – Part I

- Disciplemaking as the goal
- God wants your best
- You need this work too

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PART II

Testimonies on discovering a life calling

Finding your **life calling**





Testimony | Felix Schwarz



Ed p.267 - He who came from heaven to be our example spent **nearly thirty years** of His life in **common, mechanical labor**; but during this time He was studying the word and the works of God, and helping, teaching, all whom His influence could reach.

When His **public ministry** began, He went about healing the sick, comforting the sorrowful, and preaching the gospel to the poor. This is the work of all His followers.

Take time to find you calling





Take time to find you calling



Joseph



David



Jacob



Moses

Take time to find you calling

SpTEd p.115 - The education received by Moses, as the king's grandson, was very thorough. Nothing was neglected that was calculated to make him a wise man, as the Egyptians understood wisdom. **This education was a help to him in many respects**; but the **most valuable part** of his fitting for his life-work was that received while **employed as a shepherd**. As he led his flocks through the wilds of the mountains and into the green pastures of the valleys, the God of nature taught him the highest and grandest wisdom. In the school of nature, with Christ himself for teacher, he contemplated and learned lessons of **humility, meekness, faith, and trust**, and of a **humble manner of living**, all of which bound his soul closer to God



Moses

Take time to find you calling

FE p.342 - Moses **supposed that his education in the wisdom of Egypt had fully qualified him** to lead Israel from bondage. Was he not learned in all the things necessary for a general of armies? Had he not had the greatest advantages of the best schools in the land?--Yes; **he felt that he was able to deliver them**. He first set about his work by trying to gain the favor of his own people by redressing their wrongs. He killed an Egyptian who was imposing upon one of his brethren. In this he manifested **the spirit of him who was a murderer** from the beginning, and proved himself **unfit to represent the God of mercy, love, and tenderness**. He made a miserable failure of his first attempt. Like many another, he then immediately lost his confidence in God, and turned his back upon his appointed work; he fled from the wrath of Pharaoh. He concluded that because of his mistake, his great sin in taking the life of the cruel Egyptian, God would not permit him to have any part in the work of delivering His people from their cruel bondage. **But the Lord permitted** these things that He might be able to teach him the gentleness, goodness, long-suffering, which it is necessary for every laborer



Moses

Take time to find you calling

FE p.343 - Moses had been taught to **expect flattery and praise** because of his superior abilities; but now he was to learn a different lesson. As a shepherd of sheep, Moses was taught to **care** for the afflicted, to **nurse** the sick, to **seek patiently** after the straying, to **bear long** with the unruly, to **supply with loving solicitude** the wants of the young lambs and the necessities of the old and feeble. As these phases of his character were developed, he was drawn nearer to his Chief Shepherd. He became united to, submerged in, the Holy One of Israel ... His life became so closely linked with heaven that God talked with him face to face. **Thus prepared**, he was ready to heed the call of God to exchange his shepherd's crook for the rod of authority; to leave his flock of sheep to **take** the leadership of more than **a million idolatrous, rebellious people**.



Moses

Take time to find you calling



Finding the **right line** of ministry





Testimony | Darta Debnere



Acts 9:1-6



Paul discovering his life work

Ed p.267 - Many do not become what they might, because they do not put forth the power that is in them. They do not, as they might, lay hold on divine strength. Many are **diverted from the line** in which they might reach the truest success. Seeking greater honor or a more pleasing task, they **attempt something for which they are not fitted**. Many a man whose talents are adapted for some other calling, is ambitious to enter a profession; and he who might have been successful as a farmer, an artisan, or a nurse, fills inadequately the position of a minister, a lawyer, or a physician. There are others, again, who might have filled a responsible calling, but who, for want of energy, application, or perseverance, content themselves with an easier place.

Finding the **right line** of ministry





Testimony | René Havstein



Ed p.268 - In this work, as in every other, **skill is gained in the work itself**. It is by training in the **common duties of life and in ministry** to the needy and suffering, that efficiency is assured. Without this the best-meant efforts are often useless and even harmful. It is in the water, not on the land, that men learn to swim.

Seek **practical** training



PART III

Practical tasks on discovering your life calling

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Ed p.232 - The youth should be taught to aim at the **development of all their faculties**, the weaker as well as the stronger. With many there is a disposition to restrict their study to certain lines, for which they have a natural liking. This error should be guarded against. The **natural aptitudes indicate the direction of the lifework**, and, when legitimate, should be carefully cultivated. At the same time it must be kept in mind that a well-balanced character and efficient work in any line depend, to a great degree, on that **symmetrical development** which is the result of thorough, all-round training.

Task I | Natural aptitudes

Faculties: An inherent mental or physical power

Power, capability, capacity, potential, propensity, means

“The faculty of speech”

Aptitude: A natural ability to do something, a natural tendency

Talent, gift, flair, bent, skill, finesse, mastery, expertise, inclination, fitness

“He has an aptitude for painting and drawing”

My faculties

1

2

3

4

5

Increasing aptitudeness →

Task I | Natural aptitudes

My faculties

1

2

3

4

5

Patience

Organising

Increasing aptitudeness →

Task 1 | Natural aptitudes

Where has God opened **doors**?

God reveals His will to us in His word, ... also ... in His providential workings (Ed p.512)

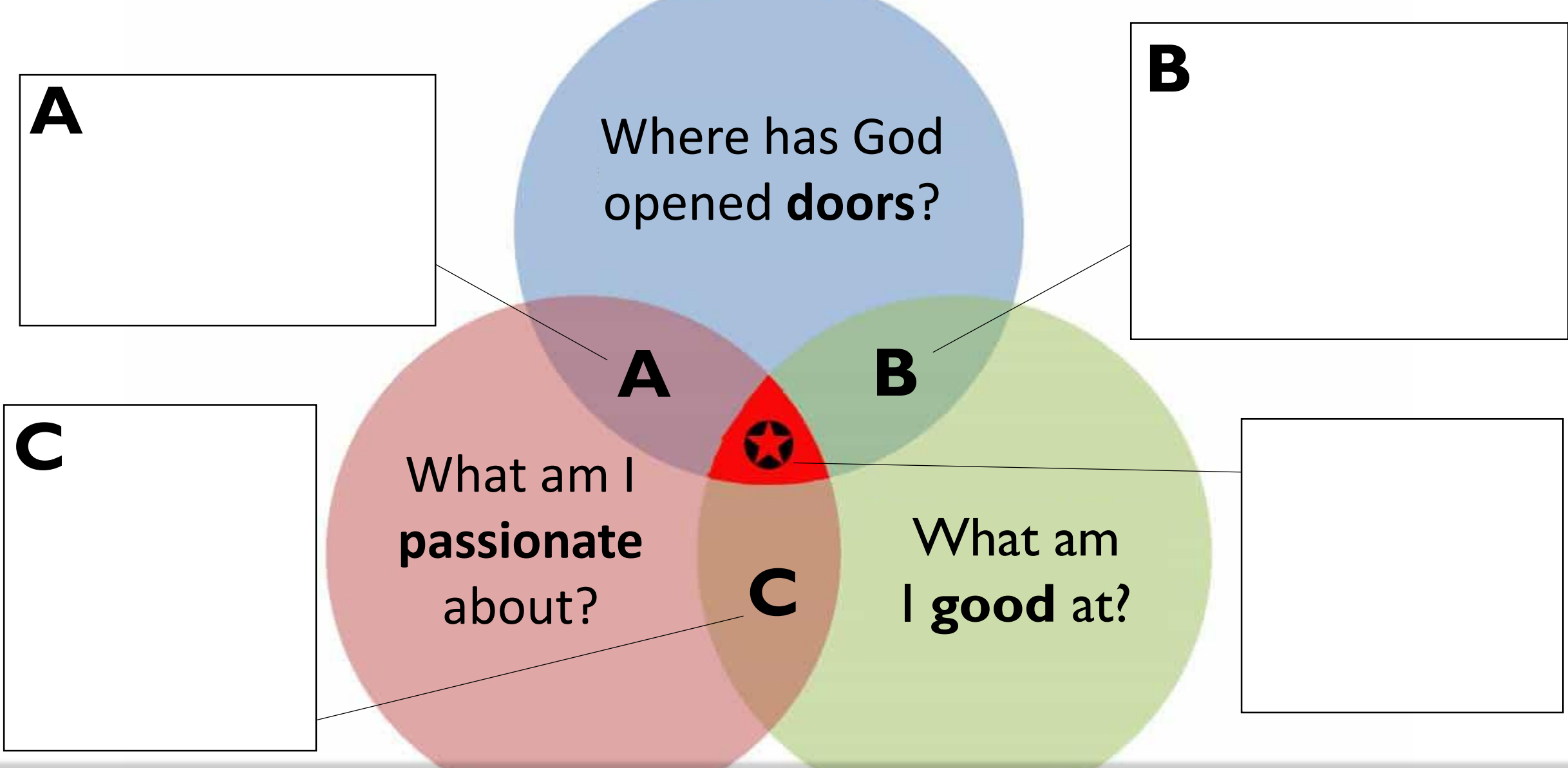
What am I **passionate** about?

God's voice is heard ... through the appeals of His Holy Spirit, making impressions upon the heart (Ed p.512)

What am I **good** at?

The natural aptitudes indicate the direction of the lifework (Ed p.232)

Task 2 | Connecting the dots



Task 2 | Connecting the dots

My Life

Long term goals

Steps needed to reach long term goals

Do I see myself using some time of special character training? Which options do I see?

(E.g. Attending mission school, working in a ministry, working in a mission project)

Task 3 | Take control

My Life-calling

How much can you identify with the following statement?

I understand the life calling God has given me. I see the line of work, I have experienced that I have talents that help me to do this work, and I know I enjoy doing it.

4

Yes, absolutely

3

Somewhat yes. Tangible but still developing.

2

No really, but starting to see some hints to what it could be

1

Not sure at all. It could be anything

If you crossed of 3 or 4: Try writing down your life calling with words:

If you crossed of 1 or 2: Write a prayer to God concerning your life calling