



Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:10-11

Spend some time with God today, and you will be blessed and refreshed.

1. Quiet relaxation music or time to reflect on God's word. Here's a link where you can do both. Just let God speak to you, be open to His voice alone.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fOB73qRVGJs&t=45s>
2. Empty your mind with a short time of Christian guided meditation...make room for positivity and God's spirit to fill you.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O4unvRRk2UE>
3. Do some gardening, spend time tending to your plants, listen to the birds and find simple joy in seeing how nature thrives with a little care

See how the birds and trees, flowers and all of nature has purpose... are you following yours? Speak to God in your quiet moments. Call on the Holy Spirit to help you find your calling in God's plan.

CDM Kampung-ku Connection

Theme: Living in Hope

July 2021

Finding Your calling

O *pening prayer*

Ever-loving and gracious Father, we thank you and praise your Holy name as we begin this BEC reflection. We offer up this time to you and ask that you send your Holy spirit to guide us in our discussions and sharing. Father, you know all that lies in our hearts and we seek your direction as we explore this topic which is so close to us- to find our calling in and through You. Open the eyes of our hearts Lord and help us grow ever closer to knowing you and finding our purpose in Your kingdom here on earth. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ytFB8TrkTo>

<https://simonsinek.com/find-your-why/>

View this video clip together and take a moment to reflect on the role God has called you to play, right where you are placed.

Let's be open and discuss

Think of your calling...In one sentence (or just a few key phrases)share your **“why” or the passion and force behind what makes you do what you do.** 😊(there are no wrong answers...just share as the Spirit moves you.)

Do you find purpose and meaning in the life you're leading? Are you leading your "best" life? The one God intended for you? "How do I know what my calling is?" These questions have surely made us stop and think at some point in our lives. Knowing that we have been "fearfully and wonderfully made...Your eyes saw my unformed substance" should help us see that God had a purpose for us from before we came into being. Unique and one of a kind each one of us should take the time and effort to live a purposeful life, as desired by God. For many, discovering this "calling" can seem to be an ongoing challenge, but there ways to find your true calling and it's never ever, too late to do this.

Listen to Your Life

Our days are filled with busyness to the point where we don't take time to *listen* to our lives. *Father Arturo Sosa Abascal, superior general of the Society of Jesus, in an interview this May when talking about discernment had this to say:*

"Jesus was a man of discernment. If you read the Gospels attentively, you will see a man who is, all the time, trying to understand what is God's will, to follow God's will, and all Christians should do that."

If you want to discover your true purpose in life, you must first empty your mind of all the false purposes you've been taught (including the idea that you may have no purpose at all). Only then can you be open to the prompting of God's voice in your life. Here are some guidelines:

- Be open to the process
- Allow yourself to come anew to God and pray for his wisdom to guide you in finding your calling.
- What is your passion, what dreams stir your heart-these may give you a clue to your calling- know that your calling in life or your role may change in different seasons in time.
- Take time to discover your God-given gifts and abilities

1. Look to the Holy Spirit

The beautiful journey of discerning your calling is not done alone...Call on the Holy Spirit to help you be open, discern and be receptive to God's purpose. God promises to guide us step-by-step over time through the work of the Holy Spirit ([John 16:13](#)). "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come." Trust in the Word of God. The Spirit and the Word work together, fulfilling Jesus' promise that the Spirit will guide us to the truth.

2. Look at God's work in my Life

Acknowledge what you learned from acting on older callings. See if anything from those experiences remains alive for you. Retrieve bits that might help you in finding your current calling. Put your old callings to rest if they are no longer alive for you, so you can open space for new callings to arise.

3. Look at God's gifts to me

Surely, God had some purpose in mind when he chose which charisms and gifts to plant in you? Let's be open and alert of our God-given talents. **We are stewards of our God-given gifts and are called to invest them in loving service to God and our neighbour.**

"Your talents and abilities are vocational. [...] They hold clues about your mission in life," notes Matthew Kelly of Dynamic Catholic. Take comfort when you find yourself with what you might think as just a few gifts. It is precisely in the scarcity of our gifts that the Lord reveals to us more clearly our special calling in life.

That being said, from time to time, **God invites us to step out of our comfort zones and develop new talents.** We should be open to this. Nonetheless, where legitimate needs coincide with your current giftings, you are just one step away from confirming a calling.



DOC-Spiritual-Gifts-Survey.pdf

Try out this simple assessment to discover your potential gifts- we will go further into these next month.

4. Look for God in others

Christian's first vocation is a call to friendship with Jesus, notes Pope Francis. And closely related to that is the call to serve others. "Your own personal vocation does not consist only in the work you do, though that is an expression of it," the pope said. "Your vocation is something more: It is a path guiding your many efforts and actions toward service to others."

5. Look for God in my community

Another resource the Lord gives us for call discernment is the community of believers. Gordon T Smith writes: "[W]e cannot effectively address any of these (vocational) questions on our own. We need the grace of good, clear, honest conversation, without flattery or cliché. We need to be in conversation with women and men, both in the community of peers and those older than ourselves." The wisdom of [Proverbs 15:22](#) holds true for the call discernment as well. "without counsel plans go wrong, but with many advisers they succeed."

God helps us to discern our calling by providing us with His Spirit, His Word and His community. Romans

12:2: “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Discussion

1. Share which of the methods above or any others you find useful in discovering your calling. What are the obstacles in your way?

Closing prayer:

Dear Lord,

Thank you that first and foremost, I am called to you – not to something or to somewhere. Above all else, help me to enjoy a deep intimate relationship with you. Thank you for calling me – regardless of vocation or position – to be part of your body and in your service. For every role you choose to give me, I choose to have deep gratitude. Help me to hear your voice and to be faithful to your call. By your presence, power, Word and protection, help me to stand firm and to let nothing – other than you – move me. I choose to be “all in” and I ask for a fresh anointing to give myself fully to your work. Whether in my strengths or weaknesses, may only you be glorified. By your grace and power may you do more than I can ask or imagine. I pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Closing Hymn: <https://youtu.be/LKkpNbuVDfw> “The summons “
