

Calling & Career Tips



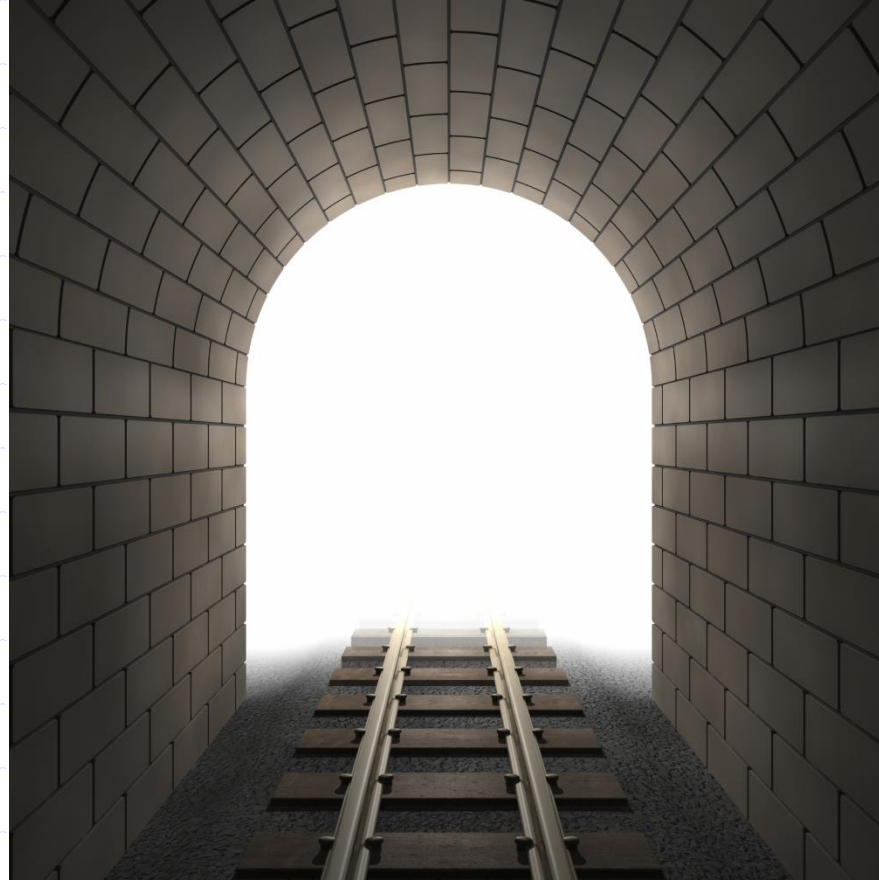
CALLED to WORK

by Drew Crandall

Co-Chair, Called To Work

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There is Light at the end of your Calling and Career tunnel!



My first recommendation: Know Your Call!

**Divine
Calling**



- ◆ Call (or calling) = spiritual summons; a deep impulse to carry out some mission
- ◆ Summons = request or order to appear, attend, perform some action

This is the most important question in your entire life.



There are two aspects of this question:

- ◆ Your *pre-salvation* call
- ◆ Your *post-salvation* call

What is your *pre-salvation* call?

- ◆ In the parable of the supper in Luke 14:15-24, God *calls* all people to trust Jesus as their personal Messiah.
- ◆ I'm a "Late Bloomer Baby Boomer." Although I grew up in church, I didn't heed God's call to salvation until age 29 on June 8, 1985 at about 11 am, at a Christian business breakfast in East Windsor, CT.

If you have never been saved...



- ◆ ...or “born again,” then God is *definitely* calling you to get saved today. *“Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”* (2 Corinthians 6:2b)
- ◆ Why? Because the Lord is *“not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”* (2 Peter 3:9b)

...you can be saved today!

What is your *post-salvation* call?



- ◆ In other words, what is God's Call after you become a Christian?
- ◆ In my experience, as I speak and meet Christians across the Northeast, very few truly know God's Call in their lives.
- ◆ Perhaps you don't either. Hopefully, these slides can help.

- ◆ We are *all* called...but we're not all called to be “full-time, paid” preachers, teachers, evangelists or missionaries.
- ◆ God doesn't play games with His people. He wants each of us to know our personal call as soon as possible after we're saved.
- ◆ Mark it down: ***you will be tested!***

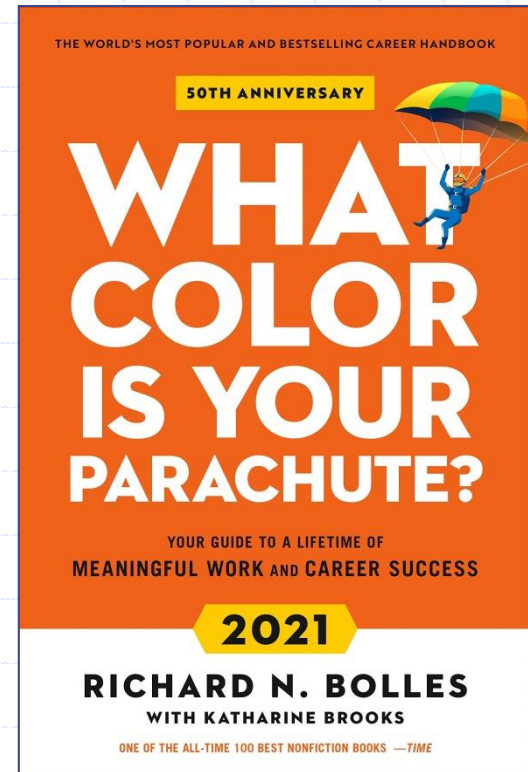
How do you know God's Call?

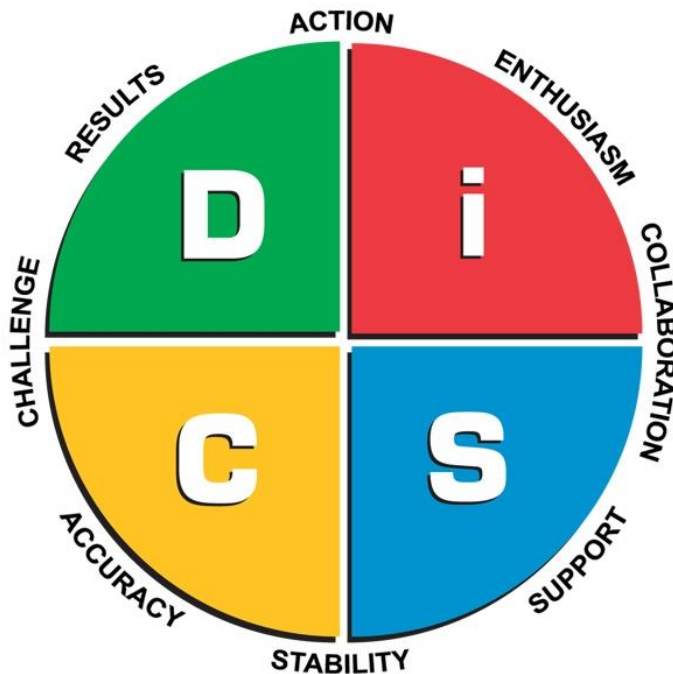
- ◆ By reviewing how you came to Christ (1 Cor 7:20)
- ◆ By asking & listening to His answer (James 1:5-8)
- ◆ By seeking wise, Godly counsel, including your spouse. He will not lead what He has made One in two different directions (Ecclesiastes 4:12)
- ◆ By examining what you gravitate toward, what you're *gifted in*, where you have a passion, and where you seem to bear fruit (Matthew 7:20)

It is *crucial* to know God's call.

- ◆ It gives you vision.
- ◆ It gives you purpose.
- ◆ It gives you peace.
- ◆ It gives you direction.
- ◆ It gives you clarity.
- ◆ It gives you motivation.
- ◆ It gives you confidence.

- ◆ My brother gave me this book when I graduated from college.
- ◆ It helped me immensely! In 1978, I wrote a 10-page vision for my life based on this book. Here I am decades years later and to a significant extent, by God's grace, that vision has become reality.
- ◆ The author is a Christian!





- ◆ The Fellowship of Companies for Christ had me take the DISC test in 1996, and it was another look in the mirror.
- ◆ I fit the profile of an entrepreneur to a “T!”

Some additional Scriptures:

- ◆ “The gifts and calling of God are without repentance.” (Romans 11:29)
- ◆ In other words, in my understanding of this passage, *God’s call is for a lifetime*. Obvious examples of abiding in a lifetime call are Billy Graham, Luis Palau, Rick Warren, Bill Bright, Larry Burkett, James Dobson, Robert Schuller.

- ◆ Less obvious are those who faithfully abide in their calls in various vocations and professions.
- ◆ The exact title, organization, and geographic location may change, but the *call* remains the same.

- ◆ Your calling as a Christian is a *high* calling (Philippians 3:14)
- ◆ Your calling as a Christian is a *privilege* (Luke 14:16-17)
- ◆ Your calling is according to God's purpose (2 Timothy 1:7-9)

What *is* the purpose of God's Call?

- ◆ So you can have **maximum fellowship** and peace with Him (1 Corinthians 1:9)
- ◆ So you can live a **victorious, holy life** (1 Thess 4:7)
- ◆ So you can enjoy **maximum liberty** (Galatians 5:13)
- ◆ So you can **bear maximum fruit** for His Kingdom (Matthew 13:1-23)

What God calls you to be, He equips you to be!

1 Corinthians 12 and Romans 12 are two classic passages. Also, from *The Purpose-Driven Life* by Rick Warren:

- ◆ S = Spiritual Gifts
- ◆ H = Heart (passion)
- ◆ A = Abilities
- ◆ P = Personality
- ◆ E = Experience

What God calls you to be, He empowers you to be!

◆ *“Faithful is he that calleth you,
who also will do it.”*

--1 Thessalonians 5:24

What are your needs?

- ◆ Be careful: we live in a very materialistic culture.
- ◆ *“But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content...”*

◆ *“...But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many hurtful and foolish lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness...” --1 Timothy 6: 6-11*

Your foundation is *contentment!*

- ◆ Our culture breeds discontent, but God builds lives on the foundation of humble contentment, satisfaction, thankfulness, gratefulness.
- ◆ He doesn't want, nor is He impressed with or does He take joy in, "spoiled children!"

With that said, God does give us visions to pursue!

- ◆ Proverbs tells us that without a vision, the people perish.
- ◆ Habakkuk instructs us to write the vision down so they that read it may run with it.
- ◆ Vision gives you *enthusiasm!*

Next comes your marketing campaign.

Study your classic marketing mix:

- ◆ Product
- ◆ People
- ◆ Price
- ◆ Place
- ◆ Promotion

Why a marketing campaign?

◆ *“Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” --Matthew 5:14-16*

◆ *“CAST thy bread upon the waters:
for thou shalt find it after many days.
Give a portion to seven, and also to
eight, for though knowest not what evil
shall be upon the earth.”*

--Ecclesiastes 11:1-2

◆ *“He that observeth the wind shall not sow, and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap...”*

◆ *“...In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand, for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good.” --Ecclesiastes 11:4, 6*

Can you simply describe your “product”—YOU?

- ◆ “60-second elevator commercial”
- ◆ It may seem impersonal to consider yourself a “product,” but within the context of job-hunting it’s accurate AND it can help you to handle rejection.

Who can support you?

Spouse, family, friends, church family,
others you know can supply you with:

- ◆ Prayer
- ◆ Ideas/leads
- ◆ Encouragement
- ◆ Perspective
- ◆ Wisdom

What's your price?

◆ *“For I mean not that other men be eased, and ye burdened: But by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their abundance also may be a supply for your want: that there may be equality.” --2 Cor 8:13-14*

◆ God is the author of “win-win” deals! Listen intently to the Holy Spirit when negotiating.

Where?

- ◆ What are the geographic parameters of your job search?
- ◆ Where does the **LORD** want you to be?
- ◆ Remember to “count the cost” to your spouse, family, church and community.

How do you promote yourself?

Develop basic tools

- ◆ Research prospects, visit their websites
- ◆ Prepare TRUTHFUL resume & cover letter
- ◆ Be creative! What might you do to tactfully differentiate “you” from other candidates?

- ◆ Email / social media (be careful!)
- ◆ Snail mail
- ◆ Telephone
- ◆ Fax
- ◆ “Stop-ins”
- ◆ Networking
- ◆ Help Wanted ads
- ◆ Online services
- ◆ Recruitment firms

The objective is an interview.

When you receive the invitation for an interview, things to ask *in advance*:

- ◆ Clarify directions
- ◆ Clarify day and time
- ◆ Clarify dress code
- ◆ Before you interview, study the website

When on-site:

- ◆ Be polite and courteous to all.
- ◆ Complete application thoroughly.
- ◆ Don't misrepresent, hide, or lie.
- ◆ Don't agree to take a drug test if you've taken or are taking drugs. 7-12% of candidates flunk drug tests!

- ◆ Provide references.
- ◆ Be willing to sign background check release forms.
- ◆ Enthusiasm and attitude are very important. Don't be insecure, but also don't be arrogant and have a chip on your shoulder.

After the interview:

- ◆ Be thoughtful! Courtesy and genuine sincerity are “rare” qualities these days.

Once you get a job...

- ◆ Be a Godly employee! (We can help.)
- ◆ Consider us a resource any time.
- ◆ 860.871.6500
- ◆ CalledToWork.org