**Script for Week 5 LTCL**

***After Life Verse Discussion***

**My Life Verse 2 Becky**

READ: For you created my inmost being;
    you knit me together in my mother’s womb.
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
    your works are wonderful,
    I know that full well.

Psalm 139:13-14

In our reading for this week, Blackaby talks about spiritual markers, and I’d have to say that this verse has been a spiritual marker for me! I thrill when I hear it in varying context because it means so much to me. Even have it on a couple walls in my house! It is also a bit of my personal testimony.

I was born with a congenital hip deformity which has required quite a bit of medical intervention throughout my life, starting at 6 months of age in a body cast for 6 months and a leg brace for another 6 months. I was raised in a Christian home, so faith was always a big part of our lives, but it became personal to me before a big surgery before 4th grade where I would be in another body cast for 10 months. Fear was overtaking me, and I asked Jesus to be my personal Savior. The peace and presence He provided during that time made all the difference. Throughout all those years, I felt ‘different” from other kiddos, but not really negatively. I didn’t realize it at the time, but this verse was what I was experiencing – God allowed me to feel that I was wonderfully made in spite of my differences. I also think my parents did an excellent job of helping me not feel too different, but loved.

In the early years of parenting, we had the unexpected challenge and privilege of parenting a kiddo who was both gifted and had learning differences. This found my hubby and I praying a lot and in the midst of some struggles I found this verse. It really spoke to me that God knew exactly what He was doing when He gave us our son and He gave our son us as his parents. Later, I actually started a support group called Wonderfully made Moms for those who had kiddos with differences. I have clung to the verse for years as a parent.

Later with JSN/PurposeWorks as we put this program together, I thought about what my life verse would be and realized that this verse really reflected my heart beat for helping others in my career and ministry as well, both past and present. I have a master’s degree in counseling and have always wanted to help others as I did in career counseling, recruiting, coaching, and education, but with PurposeWorks and in ministry, I am able to tie in the spiritual components to help people see God’s design in their lives.

So here I am 8 surgeries, 2 new hips and other differences later, sharing how important this verse is to me and how I want others to know this deep in their beings. I’m sure God’s not done using it to teach me.

I’ll be anxious to hear yours next week! Come prepared to share yours!

**Mission Intro 2 Becky**

The time we spent helping you discover or rediscover your divine design was to help you see how fearfully and wonderfully made each of you are, with that unique thumbprint of God on you, and to help you as you seek out your masterpiece mission from God – how God has gifted you at this specific point in time to use your gifts for His glory in all the various areas of your life.

Tim Hawks, former lead pastor here at Hill Country gave a sermon on great mission. A couple key points he shared that are relevant to our mission include:

* True thriving is living in the glory of God’s mission and it’s a way for us to get beyond our selfishness
* Will include a transcendent, meaningful reason
* We will be doing what makes our heart sing
* Living on mission will be like a dream come true (Not easy though!)
* God set you and me apart and put us on earth for a mission

To remind you how we defined it –Our mission is My “primary ministry” for this current stage of life that is in alignment with my Purpose (love God, love others, make disciples) using my (S.H.A.P.E.). spiritual gifting, heart, abilities, personality, and experiences It will include a Transcendent Cause.

There are some great reasons for knowing our mission:

* Gives us **Direction and focus** and helps us **stay disciplined** – are the choices we are making in alignment with our mission. I see it like a compass, not wandering to and fro, lost or distracted by things off mission, permission to say no
* Helps give us **margin** to do the most important things
* Give us **fulfillment** – knowing why we are working so hard makes it all worthwhile, not futile
* Inspires us to **finish strong**

And the effort of writing an actual mission statement allows you to keep it front and center as you live your life.

**Mission 1 Becky**

If you recall from week 2, your purpose statement includes the elements of Love God and Love Others.

Your personal mission statement will be much more unique and personalized. It says **what, in the end, you want to be remembered for.**

It articulates what you believe God is calling you to do, and discern in what direction God is leading you in **to invest your time, talents and treasure**. **And I would add in the key phrase RIGHT NOW to this important point.**

 Your mission statement will change over time as God grows and leads you and as your circumstances change.

For example what my mission was as a stay at home, homeschool Mom and leader of a homeschool coop is very different than my mission now that we are empty nesters and my focus is on my work and ministry and with adult children. There is overlap, but how I do it is very, very different.

**Big Picture ideas included Mission 1:30 Becky**

Before we get into the details and we start to actually write our Mission statement, we wanted to give you some big picture things to be sure to keep in mind.

Keeping our **purpose** in mind… review it to have it top of mind

In light of our **Divine Design**… those key ways God has uniquely gifted you

With an **eternal perspective**… if you remember from the 1st week, this is where we talked about living for the line, not the dot

**Not ignoring our present circumstances**… but we do want to have that reality check that we discussed last week

Realizing **that God doesn’t waste a hurt**… It could be that the very thing that God brought you through to victory or is bringing you through right now is the thing He now wants you to turn around and others get through

So keeping all these things in mind, remember, we are trying to answer: What is the highest and best that God is calling me to **right now** at this point in my life? A transcendent cause will help us answer that!

So what is a Transcendent Cause?

**Transcendent Cause 1 Becky**

If you recall from our key terms, this is how we defined it.

Truly heroic (a noble endeavor calling for bravery and sacrifice)

Timeless (has significance beyond the moment)

Supremely meaningful (not futile)

Again Pastor Tim Hawks spoke to it in that sermon. He talked about a mission being a glorious reason to give our lives away, but he also cautioned about the danger of giving our lives away to things that are not transcendent. You can fill in your own examples here – money, status, fame, etc.

When we speak of a Transcendent cause and the ones that God puts on our hearts, it can sometimes feel like it’s much bigger than ourselves and the truth is, it is! That’s how we know it’s from God.

**Bigger than us mission 1:15 Becky**

You must remember that You are perfectly equipped for your personal mission. God has given you passion, skills, and talent, but at times you will feel totally unequipped. There will be moments or seasons when you will feel stretched; your mission will be “bigger than you.”

And that’s good! Remember how our book has talked about this a number of times.

I’m reminded of the story of Joshua and the walls of Jericho. That must have seemed absurd in Joshua’s human mind and he knew he couldn’t accomplish this mission in his own strength. Joshua used his leadership gifts and talents but his mission wasn’t accomplished with those alone. This is why God was glorified when the walls came tumbling down. Joshua couldn’t take credit.

If you don’t have a mission to glorify God that is bigger than you, ask Him to give you one.

Here are “dangerous prayers” to think about as you seek the Lord, especially if stuck:

 “Lord, how can I glorify you to fulfill your purposes in the world?

Lord, use me for something bigger than me!

God, stretch me!

Lord, give me your big mission for my life so that I can make you famous.”

From Craig Groschel Chazown – And If really stuck, finish this sentence

**God created me with a mission for my life and I think it might be – write down what’s on your heart.**

**Sweet Spot Intersection 2 Becky**

As we talk about mission, this is a **Great way to visualize it**. Your mission will be the outgrowth of the intersection of your purpose, Divine Design, and your circumstances right now. All the work you’ve already done helps you are come closer to understanding the mission God has given you as

Circumstances: God put us in Austin, TX, (so your community) in 2022 (so your time) and also includes where you are in life (your age), and other resources you have available, etc.

**This intersection is like finding your own personal sweet spot**

Discuss Sweet Spot

* results in maximum impact for a given amount of effort.
* “in the zone.”
* where we make a unique difference.
* They’re the things we’re made to do.

Sweet spots aren’t random, nor accidental. They’re crafted by our Creator. And they indicate where He wants us to focus our lives—for impact. You see, sweet spots are crafted with specific needs in mind. God cares about those needs, whatever they are, and He designs us to address them (Ephesians 2:10).

But there not just one thing in that intersection…

Look for similarities or where these things intersect.

Okay to not have it nailed down but as you are growing listening to the Holy Spirit, here are a couple questions to ask:

Where overlap and have in common could be anything

As reviewing them, is there something specific God is calling me to do now or in the future?

Purpose helps it include the transcendent cause to be sure that it’s meaningful.

**Mission Statement Includes: 1 Becky**

Now let’s get into the nuts and bolts of what all could be included in crafting a mission statement.

Other centered,

focused on your divine design, including circumstance,

passion

Who are you meant to serve
How can you make a contribution?

And that transcendent cause.

**Missions Statement Worksheet 2:30 Becky**

To help you we have a worksheet that will help you even more,

Go to Life Mission Statement Worksheet in workbook, page 42.

Simplified to try to help you develop your statement. but you are not bound by it.

Use these 4 areas, in any order, to combine them (Box 5) in a way that’s personally meaningful to you.

Refer to examples in the workbook and see how at least most of the different elements are there.

Use this slide to describe Becky’s

**Two Slides on Mission Statement Examples**

Let’s get you writing!

We’re going to allow you to work on now to see how progress and answer questions*.*

As you start writing, don’t feel the pressure to get it perfect. Just start getting things down.

It’s very personal to you – pray and listen to God

Takes some time and effort.

As you work, you can see ours up on the screen. Mine is also duplicated as the first one in the worksheet.

**Statement Samples :15+12 Exercise =13 Becky**

**Come back after Work on Mission statement**

**Quote / Video set up :30 Becky**

One of our favorite resources, Blueprint for life puts it this way:

“The ultimate sense of mission comes when your primary talents converge in the performance of some vital function in God’s plan.”

It’s not always easy to determine what that vital function is, so we’ve been given you some tools and suggestions to help you out. Of course, the most important tool we can use in this endeavor is prayer.

**But I wonder if we don’t sometimes think about it the way Evan does in this clip from Evan Almighty.**

**Video 1:30** [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80x9FmKsyg4&t=2s**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80x9FmKsyg4&t=2s)

**STOP AT 1:40**

[**Evan Almighty (6/10) Movie CLIP - Evan Speaks With God (2007) HD - YouTube**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80x9FmKsyg4&t=2s)

**Becky Oak Worksheet :15**

Added in Life Verse and Life Mission Statement

**Craig Oak Worksheet :15**

Added in Life Verse and Life Mission Statement

Ministry Spotlight – Small Groups

**When God seems distant / Homework– Laurena**

 **Becky ME Spotlight, Care: Global Ministries – Missions, Support, Prayer**

Perhaps God has given you a heart for reaching out to people in other countries. Maybe he’s put on your heart to GO – long or short term, or perhaps He wants you to stay right here and support others who are going with prayer and support. Most churches support Global Outreach in some way and if God has put this on your heart, I encourage you to explore it more. There are also community ministries that reach out internationally.

**Becky Closing comments and prayer REMINDER NO MEETING NEXT WEEK**

**~~Laura Hinson Intro~~**

~~I am excited to introduce my friend Laura Hinson to you. I first met Laura 10 years ago when she took our very first Living the Called Life Workshop. The memory I’ll never forget was when the participants were working on their life growth plan, and I saw Laura look up with big eyes and she called me over, sharing that she’d just heard from God about something He wanted her to do. It’s one of those rare light bulb moments I got to witness first hand! I’ll let her tell more about it as she shares her story and how she works to live a Called life.~~

**~~Thank Laura,~~**

**~~Homework review~~**

**~~SAI work day pitch~~**

**~~D&F pitch~~**

~~We did want to let you know about another workshop that Job Seekers Network is planning which will start a few weeks after we are done with living the called life. Design and Focus is a career direction / career confidence course which has been very beneficial for job seekers who are looking at making a change, etc. You can see the list of all the different folks who have benefitted from it.~~

~~In the course you will~~

* ~~Take assessments to gain a clear picture on your “divine” design & gifting~~
* ~~Share your fulfilling stories~~
* ~~Explore new opportunities~~
* ~~Make informed career decisions~~

~~Pass around clipboards to see who might be interested, especially on a Wed. evening. Know of anyone else needing this workshop?~~