**Script for Week 6 LTCL**

**Intro – Welcome**

**6 Personalized Prayer of Life Verse Sharing**

As our prayer time tonight, please share your life verse as a prayer with the group. Personalize it (don’t just read it)! I’ll start.

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.

**Pic of Life Verse**

Get creative – display your life verse and send us a pic!

Origen a second century church father is quoted as saying about a specific verse: “This is my scripture.” i.e. You have the joy of hearing God’s voice and sensing the Holy Spirit speaking to you over this verse.

**17 Becky – Mission Key Words**

For your homework, you also spent some time and effort to come up with your mission statement. **Remember that Mission statement is how is God calling you to use your unique blend of your time, talents (from sermon or SHAPE) and treasures to have meaning and impact your daily life at this point in your life?** Our mission will have a 3 way impact: it’s for the

Good of others,

Our growth and for

God’s Glory

We don’t want you to just put this material on a shelf and forget about it.

One way to really allow this to sink in is to memorize it in some fashion and review it often.

KEY WORDS are the most important element of your mission statement.

Choose the 7 most meaningful words for you.

Do those 7 words reflect your **purpose, divine design or SHAPE and masterpiece mission** that God has for YOU?

Write them on the post-it on your table, put your name on it and attach it to the white board.

**:05 Seven-word exercise – Becky Share mine, then have Dori share hers**

*After work for 10 min or so, Icebreaker- Have a few people share their key words*

**Mission Key Words**

Can you put them in a place of prominence where you will be reminded of them daily? Can you incorporate them into your daily life- to help you live each area with meaning and purpose?

 As you do so, answer the question above: “Am I living in the truth of my calling and mission?”

Transition to Dori until Sir Christopher Wren

**10 min Becky Life Calling Wheel Assessment**

Now we want to get practical and have you put these life calling wheel concepts into action. We have found several practical tools to help you with this living this out.

On Page 52 in the handout, you’ll find your Life Calling Wheel Assessment – the grid looking document.

This assessment looks at all 8 areas and asks you to assess yourself to see where you are **thriving, reviving or surviving?**

At note on doing this. This is an **opportunity** to realistically look at where we are which can help us **grow and move beyond** where we are today. This is not meant to be a tool for shame and guilt. Think of it as a baseline of where you are – and it’s something that only you will see, unless you choose to share it with others.

We have a similar job search rubric we use with the job seekers. Unfortunately, some people walk in the door, see that we’re doing this and literally walk out. But how can they hope to move beyond where they are now without looking to see the truth of the present situation?

Think of it like a mirror. Why do we use a mirror? To see if any adjustments need to be made.

**So really lean into this, discovering and trusting what the truth is for right now, and learn from it what God has for you.**

You can also use the Biblical principles of the 8 callings as a reference sheet for assessment, too.

**Assessment Example of completed**

This is what a completed assessment might look like.

A couple comments on the different callings:

In family, if single, then focus on family of origin or the family you’ve created

For work, as I’ve said, if you are unemployed, retired or a stay at home parent, etc., then think through the work you do on a weekly basis. Even if it’s not for pay, it’s still work!

On the prompts at the bottom of the page, these are there to help you think through some things for next week as we have you begin to fill out your Life Growth Plan.

*Assign to do in class. Circulate to answer questions, encourage, etc.*

*Get feedback from group at 9 minutes*

**Becky :30 Dyson quote**

Bryan Dyson, Former CEO of Coca Cola recognized the challenge of balancing all this and he said it like this as he considered 5 different areas of his life calling:

“Imagine life as a game in which you are juggling some five balls in the air. You name them - work, family, health, friends and spirit - and you're keeping all of these in the air. You will soon understand that work is a rubber ball. If you drop it, it will bounce back. But the other four balls - family, health, friends and spirit - are made of glass. If you drop one of these, they will be irrevocably scuffed, marked, nicked, damaged or even shattered. They will never be the same. You must understand that and strive for balance in your life.”

**9:30 Becky Life Calling Wheel**

The second tool we want to share is having you fill out an actual life calling wheel. Page 53 in handout.

The Life Calling Wheel is a common coaching tool used to help people look at all areas of their life together, not in isolation. It can be used to help people see where their life is **out of balance, for identifying growth opportunities, priority setting, encouragemen**t and more.

Now ideally, we want a well inflated, smooth ride, so your wheel would be fully inflated to a 10 in all areas. That’s ideal, but probably not reasonable. But if some are way over or under inflated, it will be a bumpy ride. At the same time, while we want it all to be even, but not at a 1 – more like a hamster wheel.

Certain seasons where it will be rightfully out of balance. You need to attend to priorities and may let some things go – illness, little kiddos, early career

Imagine how the classic workaholic would fill this out. They would probably put Work, and maybe even finances and development at a 10, but at what cost? Perhaps their health is awful or they have strained relationships with their family members. The world like that earlier diagram might evaluate them as a 10, but not when we look at the whole picture.

This tool allows us to again look realistically about where we are in order to see where God is calling us and make adjustments to be more in alignment with His call for our lives.

Review the directions at the bottom of the page. Notice the words it uses are compare DEVELOPMENT & FULFILLMENT.

Corresponds with grid assessment just took. Might assign these numbers. Survive = 0-3, Revive = 4 - 7, Thrive = 8-10.

This might give you some further insight into opportunities for growth.

Able to see in big picture.

*Allow to work on and circulate to answer questions, encourage, etc.*

Check in for insights

Leadership management coaches recommend you review this and reassess yourself every 90 days to keep on target. That’s pretty frequent, but maybe twice a year is a good goal!

You’ll have a soft copy of this so that you can do just that.

**10 min Becky Big Group Discussion**

**1 min Becky Introduce Doug**

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**18 min Cohort Discussion**

So now let’s spend some time at your table discussing some observations and insights you’ve gained from these two tools we’ve used today. Once you finish with that, please move on to discuss important take aways from this week’s reading in the book.

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**CRAIG’S New Info**

**:15 Life Balance**

In the first couple weeks we talked about living for the eternal line, not just the dot. Continuing that theme, just as an “eternal perspective” is very important to avoid a misguided and wasted life, so is life balance.

Blueprint for Life, p. 81

**1Better Measure of Success**

Here’s an interesting graphic on work life balance. Many of our examples are from helping job seekers, and we had a job seeker tell me he felt like such a failure when he lost their job and I asked them how their family was doing and his health and fitness, his hobbies and spiritual life, his marriage and he said great to all those. So only a small part of his life pie was not in great shape. He immediately felt better. He had made the mistake that many of us do and that is to measure his life by the top circle and not the bottom one.

The world teaches us to measure our success in life by our salary or job title.

~~In this example we are going to assume you work for an organization.~~

**1 Life Calling Wheel Intro**

The Life Calling Wheel is a tool many life coaches use as they talk about someone’s life. Many of these might also represent a role you play, like husband or wife, son or daughter, friend.

The problem is the competitive world we live in values doing well in only 1-2 areas to the neglect of the rest. If you look at the highest achievers in almost any area you’ll notice one common them: unbalanced lives.

~~Many people have stellar careers but extremely broken relationships because they have been overly focused on the one are they want to excel in. They neglect the people who are most important in order to earn the admiration of those that aren’t.~~ Just as eternal perspective is important so is balance.

As you consider your calling from God you need to make sure you consider every area of your life. So we are going to spend a few minutes assessing your balance and see what action steps you can take to get more in balance. If the demands of your job leave no time for God, family, health, or relationships what have you gained? Each of these areas of the wheel are the different roles we play in these areas and they weave together to make our life calling.

**1 Biblical Foundation of Calling Wheel**

Each of the areas of the wheel do have biblical basis, so let’s do a quick overview and then we’ll do some self-assessment to see how we are doing.

Remember our definition of calling from Tony Evans is “God’s directed purpose in your life – all the areas!”

Spiritual - only 3% say they read the bible everyday

(GO through list briefly)

Financial called to save and not add debt. Story of job seeker.

On page 46-47 of your handout we have the Biblical foundation and scripture backing each one. 8 of them and can use these pages as a devotional for a week or so

Let’s look at the work component since that’s where a majority of us spend a majority of our time.

**:15 Work as Worship – video**

As we talk about work, remember: we all WORK – just some get a paycheck! SAH parent -that’s your work, student – that’s your work, Retiree – the ministry and care of your home, if employed –hours at work. Let’s watch a video and see what it has to say about work as worship.

**1 Avodah**

The Ancient Hebrews had a deep understanding of how faith and work came together in their lives. It shouldn’t be surprising, then, that the Hebrew word they use, Avodah means work, worship, and service. This is a powerful image to think that the word for working in the fields or serving our neighbors is the same word used for worshiping the God.

This also tells us that God’s original design and desire is that our work and our worship would be a seamless way of living.

The various uses of this Hebrew word found first in Genesis 2:15 where God is putting Adam in the garden telling him to work and take care of it.

Other biblical references include:

“This is what the LORD says: Let my people go, so that they may worship (avodah) me.” – Exodus 8:1

Moses, renewing the covenant with God, says,

“Six days you shall work (avodah).” – Exodus 34:21

Joshua: “But as for me and my household, we will serve (avodah) the Lord.” – Joshua 24:15

**:45 God’s Approach to Work**

Colossians 3:23 is the go to verse for keeping a great perspective at work.

God’s approach to work is an attitude that leads to consistent exceptional performance that glorifies Christ.

The reason Christians can perform their tasks from their hearts, even when serving ungodly people, is because the service is performed for their heavenly Master, Christ, and not just their human masters.

So whatever you do, for pay or not, ~~when you are studying a subject at school or for a test~~ you aren’t doing it for yourself ~~or your parents or for your teachers~~, you are doing it for God and you should do it with all your heart.

Even when you stop working for an organization your efforts and service should be with all your heart, as for the Lord.

**2 Calling Drive Career quote**

What do you think about this quote from Blueprint for Life? Your calling in life should drive your career, not vice versa. Through the life calling wheel, we’ve seen that our lives are made up of more than our work and God has a calling on various areas of our life so your career choice should take into account the other life callings you have. When Craig worked at Dell, he worked hard and got a promotion to the executive level for a big project for 4 years. By the end of that time, he could tell that the expectations for that executive level would clearly not allow him to have a family life, a ministry, and would probably affect his health. So he instead asked for a demotion.

At Job Seekers Network we make a distinction between the concepts of Job, Career, and Calling.

A Job is the work or tasks you do on a daily basis to earn a living. As you change positions and employers, your job changes.

A Career has its definition or roots in the concept of running along a specified path or course; therefore, we commonly use it as the term for the series of jobs we have along a certain professional path, typically on an upward projection.

The concept of Calling is actually larger than your career. When we look at the definition and its Latin and Greek roots, we see the concept of divine influence and our purpose or destiny in the world as spouses, parents, community citizens, in addition to our vocation or profession. It more clearly encompasses your “Life Work.”

We firmly believe that people who are pursuing work that is in alignment with how they are wired and their life goals will be more fulfilled and better able to adapt to changes in the work environment.

**2 Sir Christopher Wren**

One of the best illustrations of the difference between Job, Career and Calling is a story about Sir Christopher Wren, the acclaimed architect, and the rebuilding a St. Paul’s Cathedral in London after it had been destroyed by The Great Fire of 1666. Wren was out surveying the work when he can across three bricklayers. As he went up to each, he asked the same question:

What are you doing?

 1st Bricklayer: bending over, cutting stone and making a brick and grunting as he worked. He answered the question by saying he was making bricks. He saw it as a job.

 2nd Bricklayer: working at waist level said he was making a wall and making a living; He saw it as a career.

 3rd Brick layer when asked, reached up high with great energy proclaimed he was building a cathedral for Sir Christopher Wren and for the Lord Almighty.

There are so many great lessons on our topic from this story. A couple to highlight:

All the men had the specific skills to do the work they were given. Each man was basically working at the same thing, but oh, the difference when we have a PURPOSE behind our efforts. When we have a VISION for why we are working at something, even the most difficult or even unpleasant labors aren’t quite so painful. Eugene Moreau a writer on Christian living paraphrased a Bible verse and said: “If there is no vision then you will perish. You will decline, die and decay!” Simple, brutal truth! You must have a vision that is alive and fresh. It must be inspiring and it must take you to a place you have not been before – to a higher, more fulfilling and rewarding place.

Also interesting to note is that from the great fire to the time St. Paul’s was officially declared “complete” 45 years had passed. But note that it was used (and useful!) for over 20 years before it was finished. Our application? We don’t have to be “complete” before we work within our calling. If we did, no one would! Once we have the vision, get going! We tend to refine our calling as we use our gifts more and more.

Announcements:

Completing Last of SAI Core Course?

Homework

Work as Worship

LifeWork

**Chicago Song & Thank you to Laurie and Eric**

There’s a great song by the group Chicago that shows that they were contemplating their life purpose. Here are some of the lyrics for you to look at before I play the song.

STOP at 3:50

On behalf of the class, we would like to thank Eric, Laurie and the SAI team for offering this Living the Called Life Class. It’s had a significant impact.