

Our lives are the raw material for God to create something beautiful, meaningful, & impactful.

The Signature in our bones:

The words of Jeremiah son of Hilkiah, **one of the priests at Anathoth** in the territory of Benjamin. ²The word of the Lord came to him in the thirteenth year of the reign of Josiah son of Amon king of Judah, ³and through the reign of Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah, down to the fifth month of the eleventh year of Zedekiah son of Josiah king of Judah, when the people of Jerusalem went into exile.

Jeremiah 1:1-3

To Abiathar the priest the king said, “Go back to your fields in Anathoth. You deserve to die, but I will not put you to death now, because you carried the ark of the Sovereign Lord before my father David and shared all my father’s hardships.” ²⁷ So Solomon removed Abiathar from the priesthood of the Lord, fulfilling the word the Lord had spoken at Shiloh about the house of Eli.

1 Kings 2:26-27

Our family history helps us make sense of the raw materials of our lives that God uses & reminds us of God’s redemptive power & potential.

Prayer:

Jesus, give me eyes to see, as well as a grateful & attentive heart—You rule my past, present, & future.

Practice:

Design & commit to a rhythm of reflection.

I will remember the deeds of the Lord;
yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago.

¹²I will *consider* all your works
and meditate on all your mighty deeds.”

Psalms 77:11-12

The Signature on our souls:

The word of the Lord came to me, saying,
⁵“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
before you were born I set you apart;
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

Jeremiah 1:4-5

Our lives are not a collection of randomness; they are the outworking of God’s intentionality, creativity, & goodness.

⁶“Alas, Sovereign Lord,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young.”

⁷ But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. ⁸ Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the Lord.

⁹ Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “I have put my words in your mouth. ¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

Jeremiah 1:6-10

Our calling is not the sum of or sustained by our personality or gifts; our calling is evidenced & saturated by grace.

Surely you have heard about **the administration of God’s grace that was given to me for you,** ³ that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴ In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God’s holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

⁷ I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God’s grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am less than the least of all the Lord’s people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.

Ephesians 3:2-9

Prayer:

Jesus, give me eyes to see, as well as a grateful & attentive heart—there’s grace for & on me.

Practice:

Design & commit to a plan for growing in the grace of God.

The burden of our hearts:

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you...

But if I say, “I will not mention his word
or speak anymore in his name,”

his word is in my heart like a fire,

a fire shut up in my bones.

I am weary of holding it in;

indeed, I cannot.

Jeremiah 20:9

Streams of tears flow from my eyes
because **my people** are destroyed.

⁴⁹My eyes will flow unceasingly,
without relief,
⁵⁰until the Lord looks down
from heaven and sees.
Lamentations 3:48-50

Jeremiah's heart beats for God's glory & his people's well-being.

"Follow me."
-Jesus

Prayer:

Jesus, give me eyes to see, as well as a grateful & attentive heart—shape my burdens by your own.

Practice:

Identify opportunities & godly solutions for the burdens of your heart; bring them to God in prayer & step into them with wisdom, humility, and courage.