



“If you build it,
he will come.”



What should I do after high school?

Should I
take this
job or
keep
looking?

When
should I
retire?



What
should I
major in?

When
should I
return to
paid
work?

Where should I volunteer?
Should I pursue a promotion?





MADE FOR MORE

Discovering
God's Design
for Work

Exodus 35:30-36:2 (ESV)

³⁰ Then Moses said to the people of Israel, “See, the LORD has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; ³¹ and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, with intelligence, with knowledge, and with all craftsmanship, ³² to devise artistic designs, to work in gold and silver and bronze, ³³ in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, for work in every skilled craft. ³⁴ And he has inspired him to teach, both him and Oholiab the son of Ahisamach of the tribe of Dan. ³⁵ He has filled them with skill to do every sort of work done by an...



Exodus 35:30-36:2 (ESV)

...engraver or by a designer or by an embroiderer in blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen, or by a weaver—by any sort of workman or skilled designer.¹ Bezalel and Oholiab and every craftsman in whom the LORD has put skill and intelligence to know how to do any work in the construction of the sanctuary shall work in accordance with all that the LORD has commanded.”² And Moses called Bezalel and Oholiab and every craftsman in whose mind the LORD had put skill, everyone whose heart stirred him up to come to do the work.



God the Holy Spirit leads us in our daily work.

How can we ensure that our
work is led by God's Spirit?

Spirit-led work...

1. Addresses needs that align with God's general call
2. Uses gifts and abilities given by the Spirit
3. Is motivated by the heart



Addresses Needs that Align with God's General Call

The LORD God took the man and *put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.*

Genesis 2:15

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And *let them have dominion...* And God blessed them. And God said to them, "*Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it...*

Genesis 1:26a, 28



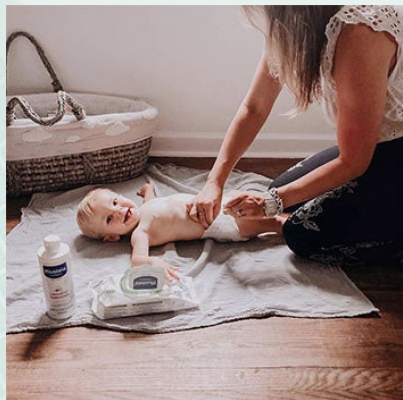
Addresses Needs that Align with God's General Call

General Calling vs. Particular Calling

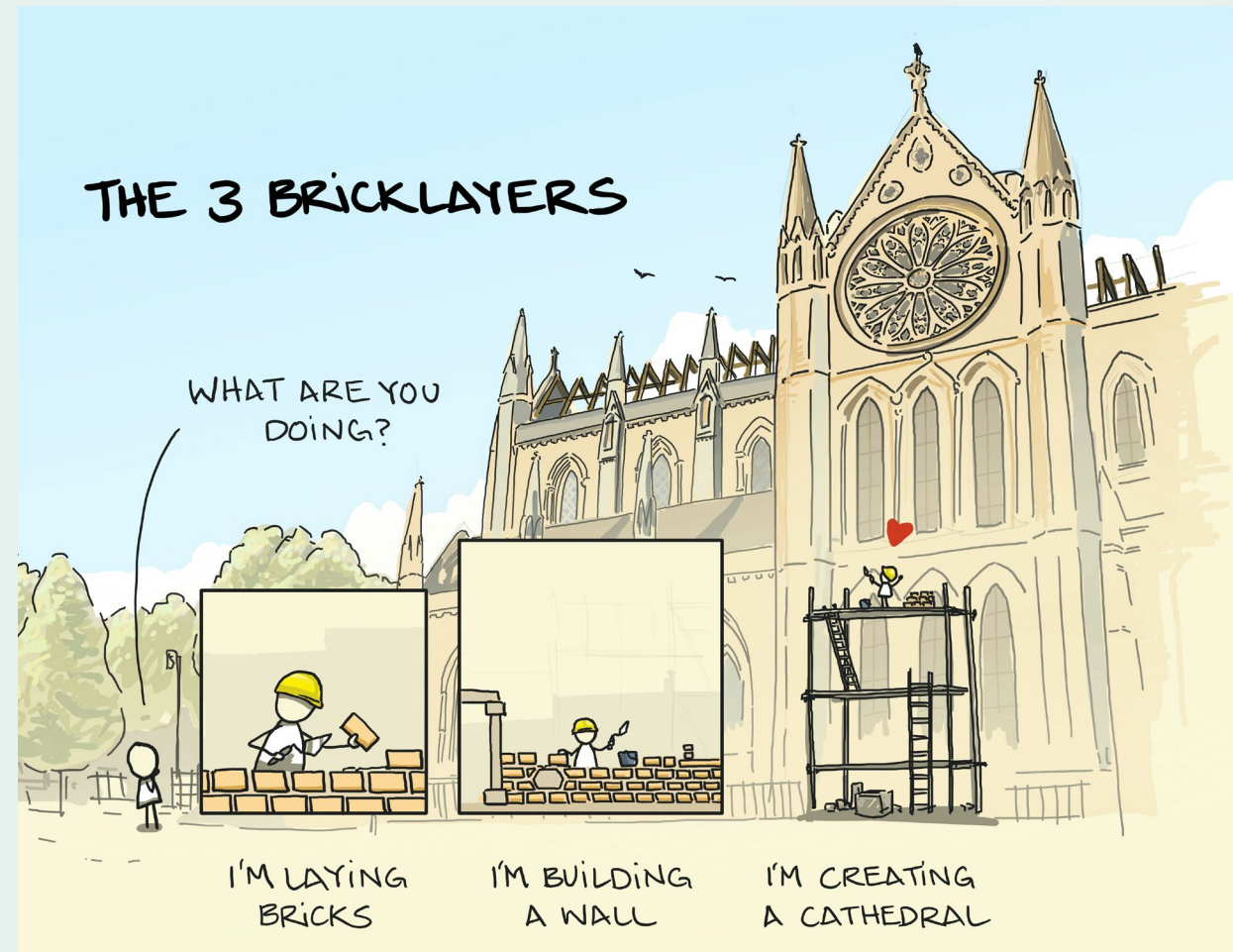
Vocation = Career?

Vocatio (Latin): a calling or summons

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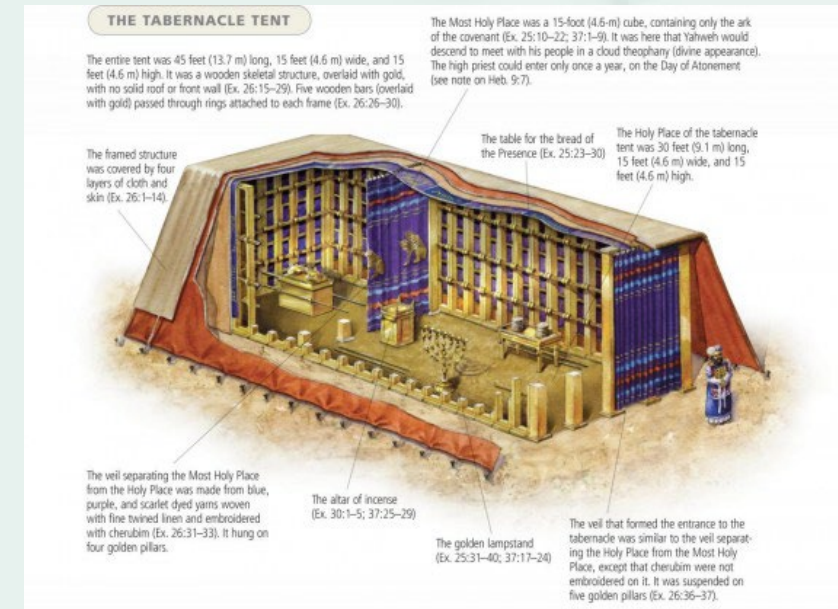


Addresses Needs that Align with God's General Call



Uses Gifts and Abilities Given by the Holy Spirit

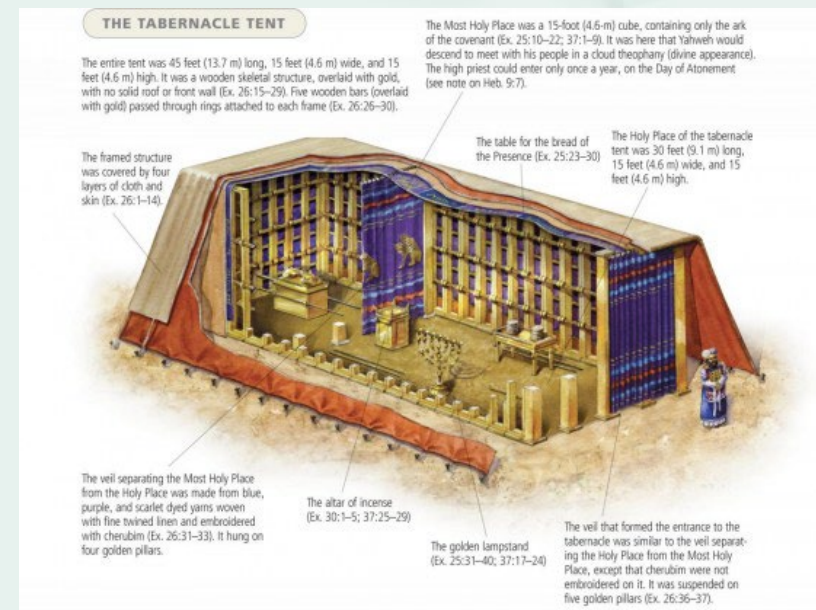
...and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, with intelligence, with knowledge, and with all craftsmanship, to devise artistic designs, to work in gold and silver and bronze, in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, for work in every skilled craft. And he has inspired him to teach, both him and Oholiab the son of Ahisamach of the tribe of Dan.
Exodus 35:31-34



Uses Gifts and Abilities Given by the Holy Spirit

Bezalel and Oholiab *and every craftsman* in whom the LORD has put skill and intelligence to know how to do any work in the construction of the sanctuary shall work in accordance with all that the LORD has commanded. Exodus 36:1

And he has inspired him to teach...
Exodus 35:34



Uses Gifts and Abilities Given by the Holy Spirit

Spiritual Gifts vs. Natural Abilities/Talents?

Both are from God!

Both should be used for God!

God should get all the glory!

At the end of twelve months he was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, and the king answered and said, “Is not this great Babylon, *which I have built by my mighty power* as a royal residence and *for the glory of my majesty?*”

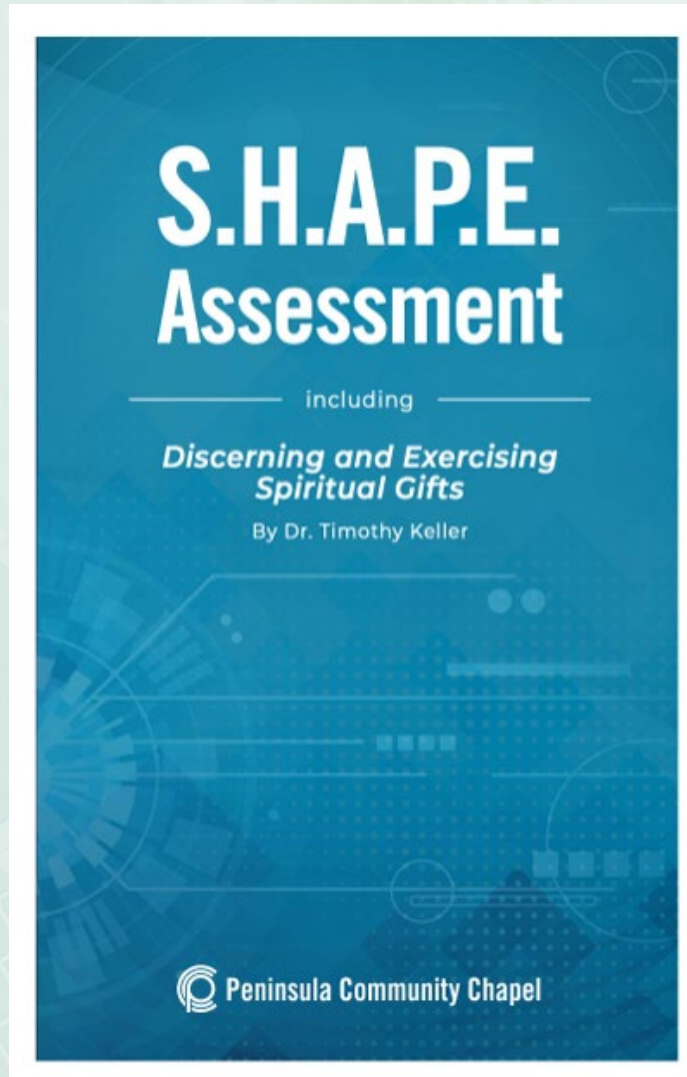
Daniel 4:29-30



Uses Gifts and Abilities Given by the Holy Spirit

Assessments & affirmation from others

Spiritual Gifts
Hear
Abilities
Personality
Experiences



Motivated from the Heart

And Moses called Bezalel and Oholiab and every craftsman in whose mind the LORD had put skill, *everyone whose heart stirred him up to come to do the work.*

Exodus 36:2

The role of affinity in discerning calling – what do you enjoy doing? What are your passions and interests? Where do your passions meet the world's needs?

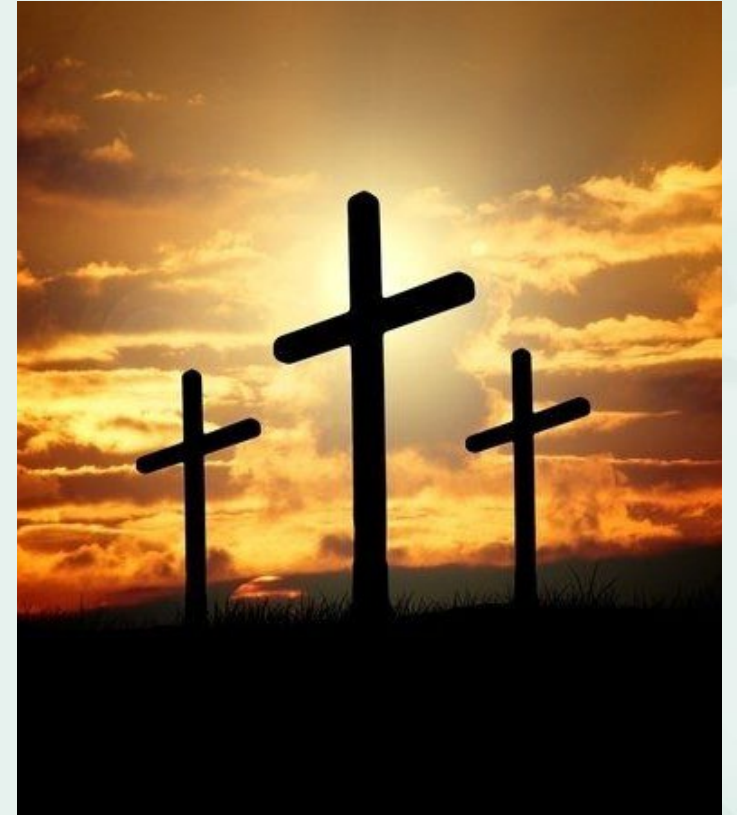
This is more than joy—it's purpose value, and significance.



Motivated from the Heart

...looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, *who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross*, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. *Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.*

Hebrews 12:2-3



Motivated from the Heart

What to do if you struggle to see any value in your work:

Ask:

1. Is there something truly wrong with the job?

- Is it unethical, abusive, or destructive? Is it not in alignment with God's general calling? Does it not honor God or serve other people in some way? Does it not contribute to God's glory and human flourishing?
- Is it not a good fit for you? Is it not in alignment with your God given gifts, abilities, and limits?



Motivated from the Heart

What to do if you struggle to see any value in your work:

Ask:

2. Is there something wrong with your expectations?

- Are you expecting your job to provide things that only Christ can provide?
- Due to the fall, all work has been cursed and so it's going to inherently be difficult.

Proverbs 14:4 says, "Where there are no oxen, the manger is clean, but abundant crops come by the strength of the ox."

- Consider whether there are good things in your job that you're failing to see.



Motivated from the Heart

What to do if you struggle to see any value in your work:

Ask:

3. Would leaving your current job be wise?

- Contentment in Christ does not require you to be passive or resigned to your circumstances.
- Seek counsel and prayer from trusted brothers and sisters in Christ.



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