

THE CALL IS FOR YOU

Live Your Calling
Rick Warren

"We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28 (NIV)

"My prayer is that light will flood your hearts and that you will understand the hope that was given to you when God chose you. Then you will discover the glorious blessings that will be yours together with all of God's people." Ephesians 1:18-19 (CEV)

WHAT I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MY LIFE'S CALLING

1.

"God, by his grace through Christ, called you to become his people." Galatians 1:6 (NCV)

"He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace." 2 Timothy 1:9 (NIV)

2.

"Before the two boys were born, God told Rebekah, 'The older will serve the younger.' This was before the boys had done anything good or bad. God said this so that the one chosen would be chosen because of God's own plan. He was chosen because he was the one God wanted to call, not because of anything he did." Romans 9:11 (NCV)

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

3.

"Before I was born, God chose me and called me by his marvelous grace. Then it pleased him." Galatians 1:15 (NLT)

"Before I shaped you in the womb, I knew all about you. Before you saw the light of day, I had holy plans for you." Jeremiah 1:5 (MSG)

"I am your Creator. You were in my care even before you were born." Isaiah 44:2 (CEV)

4.

"To put me in his service, even though I used to be a man who blasphemed and persecuted and was arrogant! But I received mercy because I had acted in unbelief, not understanding what I was doing." 1 Timothy 1:12-13 (CJB)

5.

"God's gifts and his call are irrevocable." Romans 11:29 (NIV)

"God's gifts and his call can never be withdrawn." Romans 11:29 (NLT)

6.

"For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future." Ephesians 4:4 (NLT)

"Brothers and sisters, you are holy partners in a heavenly calling."

Hebrews 3:1 (GW)

7.

"I urge you who have been chosen by God to live up to the life to which God called you." Ephesians 4:1 (NCV)

"That is why we always pray for you, asking our God to help you live the kind of life he called you to live. We pray that with his power God will help you do the good things you want and perform the works that come from your faith."

2 Thessalonians 1:11 (NCV)

"The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it." 1 Thessalonians 5:24 (NIV)

8.

"I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:14 (NIV)

"Live the kind of life that pleases God, who calls you to share in his own Kingdom and glory." 1 Thessalonians 2:12 (GNT)

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CALLED TO BE LOVED

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"Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure." Ephesians 1:4-5 (NLT)

• **THE FIRST PURPOSE OF MY LIFE IS** _____

"This letter is from Jude, a slave of Jesus Christ and a brother of James. I am writing to all who have been called by God the Father, who loves you and keeps you safe in the care of Jesus Christ." Jude 1:1 (NLT)

• **MY FIRST CALLING IS** _____

"I write to all of you in Rome whom God loves and has called to be his own people."
Romans 1:7 (GNT)

• **THAT RELATIONSHIP IS TO BE** _____

"What an incredible quality of love the Father has shown to us, that we would [be permitted to] be named and called and counted the children of God! And so we are!" 1 John 3:1 (AMP)

"Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully." Ephesians 3:17-19 (NLT)

- **WIDE ENOUGH** _____
- **LONG ENOUGH** _____
- **DEEP ENOUGH** _____
- **HIGH ENOUGH** _____

WHAT CHANGES HAPPEN IF I STAY AWARE OF GOD'S CONSTANT LOVE FOR ME?

1.

"By faith we have been made acceptable to God. And now, thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ, we have peace with God." Romans 5:1 (CEV)

"If God says his chosen ones are acceptable to him, can anyone bring charges against them? Or can anyone condemn them? No indeed!"

Romans 8:33-34 (CEV)

2.

"All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, 'Abba, Father.' . . . And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory." Romans 8:14-15, 17 (NLT)

"Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." Hebrews 4:16 (NIV)

3.

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28 (NIV)

4.

"There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment." 1 John 4:18 (NIV)

5.

"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today." Matthew 6:33-34 (NLT)

"Give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life." Romans 6:13 (NLT)

"To all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God." John 1:12 (NLT)

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YOU ARE CALLED TO BELONG

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“God is the One who made all things, and all things are for his glory. He wanted to have many children share his glory.” Hebrews 2:10 (NCV)

• **THE 2ND PURPOSE OF MY LIFE IS THAT _____**

“His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by sending Jesus Christ to die for us. And he did this because he wanted to!”

Ephesians 1:5 (TLB)

• **GOD'S FAMILY IS CALLED _____**

“I am writing these things to you . . . you will know how to live in the family of God. That family is the church of the living God, the support and foundation of the truth.”

1 Timothy 3:14-15 (NCV)

• **I AM _____ TO HIS CHURCH**

“So now you non-Jews are not visitors or strangers. Now you are citizens together with God's holy people. You belong to God's family.” Ephesians 2:19 (ICB)

“You are included among those Gentiles who have been called to belong to Jesus Christ.” Romans 1:6 (NLT)

“ECCLESIA” (church) = “THE CALLED OUT”

THE BENEFITS OF BELONGING

5 Bible Metaphors

1. **IN GOD'S FAMILY: _____**

“You are members of God's very own family, citizens of God's country, and you belong in God's household with every other Christian.” Ephesians 2:19 (TLB)

“Jesus and the people he makes holy all belong to the same family. This is why he isn't ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters.” Hebrews 2:11 (CEV)

2. **IN GOD'S TEMPLE: _____**

“In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.” Ephesians 2:21-22 (NIV)

“I want us to help each other with the faith we have. Your faith will help me, and my faith will help you.” Romans 1:12 (NCV)

3. **IN CHRIST'S BODY: _____**

“Just as there are many parts to our bodies, so it is with Christ's body. We are all parts of it, and it takes every one of us to make it complete, for we each have different work to do. So we belong to each other, and each needs all the others.”

Romans 12:4-5 (TLB)

“If your foot says, 'I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand,' that does not make it any less a part of the body. And if your ear says, 'I am not part of the body because I am not an eye,' would that make it any less a part of the body?”

1 Corinthians 12:15-16 (NLT)

“In Christ's Body we're all connected to each other.” Ephesians 4:25 (MSG)

4. **IN GOD'S FLOCK: _____**

“Take care of God's flock, his people, that you are responsible for. Watch over it because you want to, not because you are forced to do it.” 1 Peter 5:2 (ICB)

“Share each other's troubles and problems, and in this way obey the law of Christ.”
 Galatians 6:2 (NLT)

“Encourage each other and give each other strength.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NCV)

5. **IN GOD'S GARDEN: _____**

“A branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.” John 15:4-5 (NLT)

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YOU ARE CALLED TO BECOME

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"We know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn, with many brothers and sisters." Romans 8:28-29 (NLT)

MY 3RD LIFE CALLING: _____

TOOLS WE USE

HOW DO I BECOME WHAT GOD CALLS ME TO BE?

Running Your Marathon to Maturity: Hebrews 12

1.

"Let us strip off anything that slows us down or holds us back, and especially those sins that wrap themselves so tightly around our feet and trip us up; and let us run with patience the particular race that God has set before us." Hebrews 12:1 (TLB)
2.

"Let us run with patience the particular race that God has set before us." Hebrews 12:1 (TLB)
3.

"We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith." Hebrews 12:2 (NLT)
4.

"We Christians have no veil over our faces; we can be mirrors that brightly reflect the glory of the Lord. And as the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like him." 2 Corinthians 3:18 (TLB)

"After you suffer for a short time, God, who gives all grace, will make everything right. He will make you strong and support you and keep you from falling. He called you to share in his glory in Christ, a glory that will continue forever."

1 Peter 5:10 (NCV)

5.

"Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV)
6.

"I don't mean to say I am perfect. I haven't learned all I should even yet, but I keep working toward that day when I will finally be all that Christ saved me for and wants me to be. No, dear brothers, I am still not all I should be, but I am bringing all my energies to bear on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God is calling us up to heaven because of what Christ Jesus did for us." Philippians 3:12-14 (TLB)
7.

"An athlete goes to all this trouble just to win a blue ribbon or a silver cup, but we do it for a heavenly reward that never disappears. So I run straight to the goal with purpose in every step. I fight to win. I'm not just shadow-boxing or playing around." 1 Corinthians 9:25-26 (TLB)
8.

"Lift up your tired hands, then, and strengthen your trembling knees! Keep walking on straight paths, so that the lame foot may not be disabled, but instead be healed." Hebrews 12:12-13 (GNT)

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YOU ARE CALLED TO BLESS

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4TH PURPOSE OF MY LIFE:

- *"We are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."* Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

MY LIFE CALLING:

• TO BE A BI-VOCATIONAL

- *"God in his grace chose me even before I was born, and called me to serve him."*
 Galatians 1:15 (GNT)

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I USE MY LIFE TO SERVE & BLESS OTHERS?

1.

 - *"My life is being poured out as a part of the sacrifice and service I offer to God for your faith. Yet, I am filled with joy, and I share that joy with all of you."*
 Philippians 2:17 (GW)
 - *"Always be full of joy in the Lord; I say it again, rejoice! Let everyone see that you are unselfish and considerate in all you do."* Philippians 4:4-5 (TLB)
 - *"God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God's many kinds of blessings."*
 1 Peter 4:10 (TLB)
2.

 - *"Your attitude must be like my own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve."* Matthew 20:28 (TLB)
 - *"If you serve Christ in this way, you will please God and be respected by people."*
 Romans 14:18 (CEV)

"The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed; those who help others are helped." Proverbs 11:25 (MSG)

3.

 - *"Those who want to save their lives will give up true life. But those who give up their lives for me and for the Good News will have true life."* Mark 8:35 (NCV)
 - *"Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your work in the Lord is never wasted."* 1 Corinthians 15:58 (NCV)
4.

 - *"Good people will be remembered as a blessing."* Proverbs 10:7 (NCV)
 - *"If you want to be great, you must be the servant of all the others."*
 Matthew 20:26 (CEV)
 - *"God is fair; he will not forget the work you did and the love you showed for him by helping his people. And he will remember that you are still helping them."*
 Hebrews 6:10 (NCV)
 - *"My Father will honor anyone who serves me."* John 12:26 (NCV)

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CALLED TO BE SENT

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- **GOD'S PLAN FOR HISTORY: HE'S GATHERING A FAMILY THAT WILL _____ FOREVER!**
 (Ephesians 1:5)

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, 'How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!'" Romans 10:13-15 (NLT)

- **MY 5TH PURPOSE & CALLING IN LIFE: _____**

"Through Christ, God made peace between us and himself. And God gave us the work of bringing everyone into peace with him." 2 Corinthians 5:18 (ICB)

"Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.'" John 20:21 (NIV)

- **THE PEACE PLAN: "ORDINARY PEOPLE—EMPOWERED BY GOD—MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER—WHEREVER THEY ARE!"**
 "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last." John 15:16 (NIV)

3 DIMENSIONS

1. Personal: My personal mission to the people in my life.
2. Local: My small group's mission to others in our area.
3. Global: Our church's mission to the entire world!

P.E.A.C.E—JESUS' MISSION MODEL

JESUS' STRATEGY

- Plant churches/Preach reconciliation
- Equip servant leaders
- Assist the poor
- Care for the sick
- Educate the next generation

5 GLOBAL GIANTS

- Spiritual emptiness
- Self-centered leaders
- Extreme poverty
- Pandemic diseases
- Illiteracy & education

PEACE 1.0 "Mercury" (2003-2007)

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8 (NIV)

PEACE 2.0 "Gemini" (2008-2011)

"Go and make disciples of all nations." Matthew 28:19 (NIV)

PEACE 3.0 "Apollo—going to the moon!"

A Believer, Bible, & Body of Christ in every tribe by 2030

"It will be, and as I have purposed, so it will happen. . . . This is the plan determined for the whole world; this is the hand stretched out over all nations."

Isaiah 14:24, 26 (NIV)

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO DO?

1. Jesus: "There are many people to harvest but only a few workers to help harvest them. Pray to the Lord, who owns the harvest, that he will send out more workers to gather his harvest." Matthew 9:37-38 (NCV)
2. "We must support believers who go on trips like this so that we can work together with them in spreading the truth." 3 John 1:8 (GW)
"Freely you have received, freely give." Matthew 10:8 (NIV)
3. "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" Isaiah 6:8 (NIV)
"Send us around the world with the news of your saving power and your eternal plan for all mankind." Psalm 67:2 (TLB)
4. "Go back home and tell people how much God has done for you.' So the man went all over town telling how much Jesus had done for him." Luke 8:39 (NCV)
"Work at telling others the Good News." 2 Timothy 4:5 (NLT)

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WHY GOD MADE YOU

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"It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. . . . Part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone."

Ephesians 1:11-12 (MSG)

"Everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him." Colossians 1:16 (MSG)

1. GOD PLANNED ME

"You created all things, and they exist because you created what you pleased."

Revelation 4:11 (NLT)

"The Lord takes pleasure in his people." Psalm 149:4 (GNT)

"Long before he laid down earth's foundations, God had us in mind, and settled on us as the focus of his love." Ephesians 1:4 (The Message)

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment." Matthew 22:37-38 (NIV)

"I don't want your sacrifices—I want your love; I don't want your offerings—I want you to know me." Hosea 6:6 (TLB)

- **THE 1st PURPOSE OF LIFE IS TO:**

"Some of these people have missed the most important thing in life—they don't know God." 1 Timothy 6:21 (TLB)

"People who don't know God are always worrying." Matthew 6:32 (CEV)

2. GOD FORMED ME

"God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. . . . And it gave him great pleasure." Ephesians 1:5 (NLT)

"Mercy that has given us the privilege of being born again so that we are now members of God's own family." 1 Peter 1:3 (TLB)

"That family is the church of the living God, the support and foundation of the truth."
1 Timothy 3:15 (NCV)

"Love your spiritual family." 1 Peter 2:17 (MSG)

- **THE 2nd PURPOSE OF LIFE IS TO:**

"We belong to each other, and each needs all the others."

Romans 12:5 (TLB)

3. GOD CREATED ME

"From the very beginning God decided that those who came to him—and all along he knew who would—should become like his Son." Romans 8:29 (TLB)

"We look at this Son and see God's original purpose in everything created."
Colossians 1:15 (MSG)

"In your lives you must think and act like Christ Jesus." Philippians 2:5 (NCV)

"As the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like him."
2 Corinthians 3:18 (TLB)

- **THE 3rd PURPOSE OF LIFE IS TO:**

"There is such shallow soil of character that when the emotions wear off and some difficulty arrives, there is nothing to show for it." Mark 4:17 (MSG)

4. GOD SHAPED ME

"You shaped me first inside, then out; you formed me in my mother's womb."
Psalm 139:13 (MSG)

Spiritual Gifts

Heart

Abilities

Personality

Experiences

"God has made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us to do good works, which God planned in advance for us to live our lives doing." Ephesians 2:10 (NCV)

"God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God's many kinds of blessings."

1 Peter 4:10 (TLB)

- **THE 4th PURPOSE OF LIFE IS TO:**

5. GOD MADE ME

Jesus: *"In the same way that you gave me a mission in the world, I give them a mission in the world."* John 17:18 (MSG)

"I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace." Acts 20:24 (NIV)

"You can make many plans, but the Lord's purpose will prevail."

Proverbs 19:21 (NLT)

"He included everyone in his death so that everyone could also be included in his life, a resurrection life, a far better life than people ever lived on their own."

2 Corinthians 5:15 (MSG)

“Open your eyes and see—how good God is. Blessed are you who run to him.”
Psalm 34:8 (MSG)

Jesus: *“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life . . . and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”*
Matthew 11:28-30 (MSG)

“It makes no difference who you are or where you’re from—if you want God and are ready to do as he says, the door is open.” Acts 10:35 (MSG)

A PRAYER TO START LIVING THE LIFE THAT GOD CREATED YOU TO LIVE

Dear God,

Everything you create has a purpose, including me. I don’t want to miss my purpose, waste my life, or live disconnected from you anymore.

Instead, I want become what YOU designed me to be. Starting today, I want to follow your plan for my life, not my plan.

You made me for a relationship with you, so I want to get to know you and love you and trust you. Thank you for sending Jesus to pay for my sin. Help me to understand that.

I humbly ask you to accept me into your family forever. I want to grow more like Jesus every day. And I want to use my life on earth to serve you by serving others. Help me to share this Good News with others and to fulfill my life mission. I invite you into every area of my life.

In Jesus’ name.

Amen

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