



Introduction to the Doctrine of Vocation

**CPC Adult Sunday School
Week 12 - Balancing Your Vocations**

May 4, 2025

Some Thoughts on Image Bearing

* Created for communion

- Fellowship = sharing life together
- Intimacy = a sense of closeness and connection
- Requires being known and loved



* Created for unity and diversity (equally ultimate in the Trinity)

* Vocation provides the context.

* The Fall results in alienation and loneliness (opposite of intimacy).

* The Gospel restores communion and results in renewal.



Known and Loved



³ And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

John 17:3

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹ More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 5:6-11

⁸ Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. ⁹ But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more?

Galatians 4:8-9

Unity and Diversity

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 1:5-7



John 17:20-26

⁴ There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 4:4-6

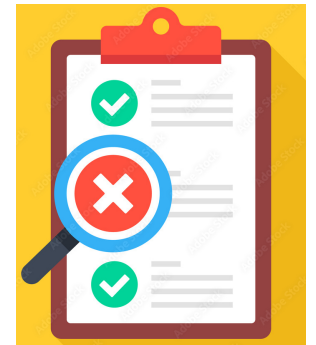
1 Corinthians 12:12-31



Evaluating Your Vocations

¹⁵ Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Ephesians 5:15-17

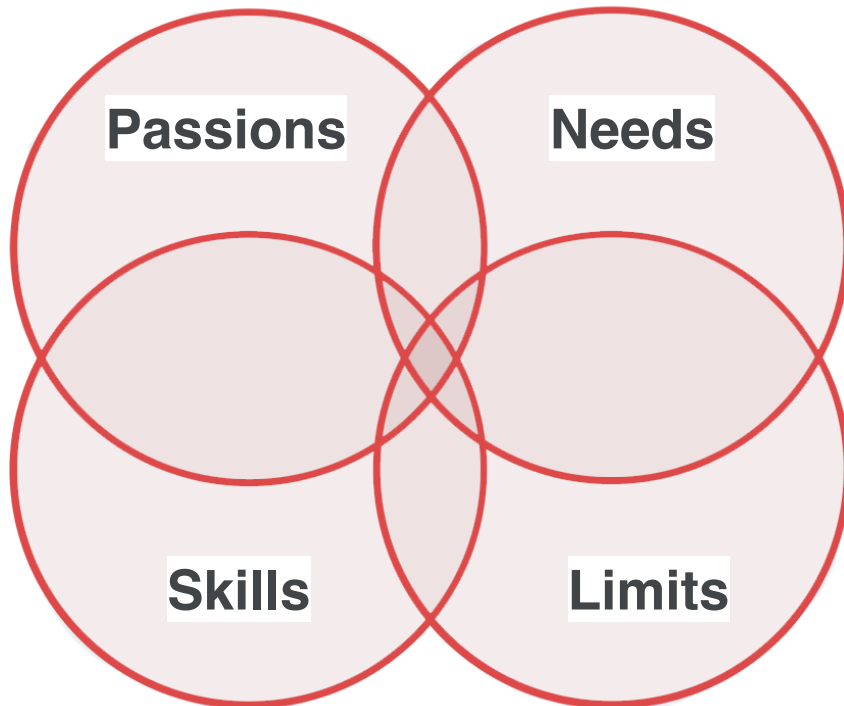


- * **Make use of the means of grace (Word, Sacraments, Prayer)**
- * **Seek godly counsel (fellowship and discipleship)**
- * **Stewarding God’s gifts (time, talent & treasure)**
- * **Cultivating service and appropriate intimacy (know & love others)**
- * **Serving with integrity**
- * **Prayerful consideration of opportunities (Church, Family & Community)**
- * **Consider when to say “no”**
- * **Minimize overextension & neglect**

Evaluating Your Vocations

Some helpful guidelines (adapted from “Your Vocation is Bigger Than Your Job” by Bart Garrett):

The Ingredients of Vocation



As you consider each sphere of vocation (church, family & community):

- 1) Identify your passions.
- 2) Identify your Skills.
- 3) Identify your Limitations.
- 4) Identify Needs.
- 5) Make changes as needed.

PLANTED IN TEMECULA



Digging Deeper

**What gifts/skills has God given you?
What are you passionate about? How
might you use these to serve others in
your various vocations? Who can help
you figure it out?**

**How have you grown through this
Sunday School class?**

**How can you put what you have learned
into practice?**

Acknowledgement of Sources Consulted

- David Bahnsen - *Full Time: Work and the Meaning of Life*
- Herman Bavinck - *Reformed Dogmatics, Volume 2*
- Mary Beeke - *Teach Them to Work: Building a Positive Work Ethic in Our Children*
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- John W. Eddie - *Running the Race: Eric Liddell, Olympic Champion and Missionary*
- Everett Ferguson - *Backgrounds of Early Christianity*
- Sinclair Ferguson - *Discovering God's Will*
- Steven Garber - *Visions of Vocation: Common Grace for the Common Good*
- William Hendriksen - *More than Conquerors: An Interpretation of the Book of Revelation*
- Michael Horton - *Ordinary: Sustainable faith in a radical, restless world*
- Timothy Keller with Katherine Alsdorf - *Every Good Endeavor: Connecting Your Work to God's Work*
- Meredith Kline - *Kingdom Prologue: Genesis Foundations for a Covenantal Worldview*
- Martin Luther - *Martin Luther's Large Catechism*
- Douglas J. Moo - *A Theology of Paul and His Letters: Biblical Theology of the New Testament*
- Steven J. Nichols - *What is Vocation*
- Chad Van Dixhoorn - *Confessing the Faith: A reader's guide to the Westminster Confession of Faith*
- Gene Edward Veith - *God at Work: Your Christian Vocation in All of Life*
- Gerhardus Vos - *Biblical Theology: Old and New Testaments*
- Johannes G. Vos - *The Westminster Larger Catechism: A Commentary*
- Bruce K. Walt - *Finding the Will of God: A Pagan Notion?*