

TGIM: Discerning Your Calling

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Question: What jobs and how many have you done that you knew or were thankful that they were just temporary?

Being a Pastor doesn't make you special or more valuable to God.

Hidden dangers of 'Pastoral Pedestal':

- It becomes the only path if you want to do something significant with your life.
- It devalues every follower of Jesus who is not called to full-time church work!

Question: How and when have you heard these "dangers"?

Every follower of Jesus is in fulltime ministry.

Every Christian has a highest calling, a common calling, and a specific calling.

The Puritans

- **Every person's highest calling is not to a job, role, or position, but to Christ.**

Read 1 Corinthians 1:2

First and foremost, we are called to Someone (God), not to something (such as motherhood, politics, or teaching) or to somewhere (such as the inner city or Outer Mongolia).

Os Guinness

- **Every person has a common calling that are the commands and principles of Scripture that apply to all followers of Jesus.**

Read Romans 12:9–16 (NIV)

- **Every person has a specific calling that is a vocation ("to call")**

Read Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

God gives us talents and gifts so we can do for one another what he wants to do for us and through us.

J.R.R. Tolkein

You can be anything you want to be.

Cultural cliché

Questions: When have you heard this cliché? What is the downside of believing this?

Your design points to your calling; your S.H.A.P.E.

S – Spiritual Gifts

H – Heart

A – Abilities

P – Personality

E – Experiences

SHAPE Inventory: generations.ca/shape

If you focus on your highest calling (belonging to Christ) and your common calling, your specific calling will often work itself out.

Question: What has been your journey of discovering or trying to discover your specific calling?