



Understanding Vocation and Calling

“What career does God think I should pursue?”

“Am I doing the job that God wants me to do?”

“What course should I study in university/poly?”

“What should I do with my life when I retire?”

These are questions that we find ourselves asking, pretty much at every stage of our lives, from the time we graduate from secondary school or JC, until the time when we find ourselves approaching the end of our working careers. The question of trying to find our vocation, is a question that follows us through life.

Unfortunately, many of us equate this understanding of vocation to only apply to our jobs, professions or careers. And while this may be (to us) a large part of our lives, it would be a mistake to assume that this is the ONLY part of our life that God is concerned about. To have an understanding of this concept of “vocation”, it is useful to have a sense of its history.

The word “Vocation” comes from the Latin *vocare* or “call”, from which we get the words “vocal” and “voice”. In other words, when we speak of “vocation”, we are asking the question “What am I called to do?” This is why the question of vocation is often also referred to as calling, and for consistency for the rest of this article, I will use the word “calling” to refer to both vocation and calling.

I would suggest that the reason why this question of “what am I called to do?”

Welcome!

During this unusual time when we cannot all come together for worship, we can still be part of a worshipping community. We invite you to join us at our live worship service by pre-registration at the church's website <https://www.cplink.org.sg/>. You may join our live-streaming services online via our website. We hope you can also connect with our Life Groups. Please contact one of our

Worship Time	
English Services	10.30am
Chinese Service	9.00am
Sri Lankan Service	2.00pm
Children	10.30am

Pastoral Staff if you like to join a Life Group. We are still meeting and connecting through various digital platforms.

We want to grow in Christlikeness through devotion and delight in God, nurturing devotion and delight in God, nurturing relationships and intentionally multiplying disciplinarians.

is so important to us, is because it gives a sense of meaning to the lives that we live. But in my own attempt to answer this question, I discovered that, more important than discovering our calling, was knowing who the Caller is.

Seeing it from this perspective of knowing the Caller first, really helped me to understand that the question of calling was no longer limited to the work I was doing, but that it applied to the whole of my life. God is interested in every area of my life, in the way that I manage my time, talent and resources in my daily living at home and even at play, and not only my 9 to 5 in the office.

A useful guide to understanding calling is to pay attention to these three calls that Professor Gordon Smith sets out in his book, *Courage and Calling*:

- i. The general call for salvation, which is a call to be disciples of Christ, to know and love God, and to love and serve others. This is the “who” we are called to.
- ii. The specific call to live our lives a certain way, utilising our unique gifts, talents and passions, to fulfil the mission that God has given uniquely to us. This is the “what” we are called to.
- iii. The immediate responsibilities of today, putting our hands, voice and heart to actual work, whether at home, in school, the office, and yes, the church, to physically demonstrate what love in action looks like. This is the “how” of our being faithful to our calling.

And, in the context of these three calls then, what would it look like in our daily life, to pursue this calling? Another very useful resource shared by Rev Tan Soo Inn, in his new book *Discover your Calling: The ABC of Vocational Discernment*, where he literally shares the ABC:

A: Ability (Matt 25:14-30; 1 Pet 4:7-11)

What do you do well? What are your gifts, whether natural, learnt or spiritual?

Our calling should help us express stewardship of our abilities

B: Burden (1 Sam 17:12-58; Acts 17:16-34)

What frustrates you/breaks your heart? What do you daydream about solving/making better? What would make your life worthwhile? What group of people do you feel burdened for?

Our calling should lead us to address some broken areas in the world

C: Circumstances (or Critical Incidents) (1 Cor 16:9; Phil 1:6)

What are some defining moments in your life? These may be key relationships, a word or message that spoke to you, a key incident, whether positive or negative, or divine interventions, such as closed or open doors. Are there

discernible patterns/convergence, repeated themes, or multiple voices of affirmation?

Our calling should make sense of our unfolding story

As you embark on this journey of discerning your calling, my prayer for you is that you will learn to first recognise the voice of the Caller, as He guides your footsteps.

Shalom.

~ PS MICHAEL LOW ~

The mission collection for April 2021 we are collecting for **Trinity Theological College**. Closing date is 11 April 2021. Please refer to the bank details below for Mission giving.

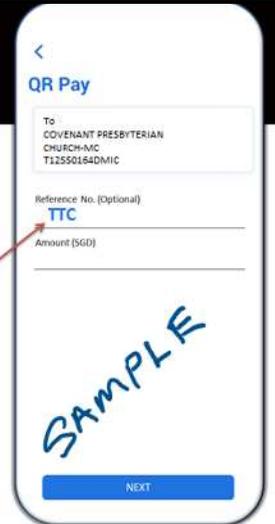
MISSION COLLECTION APR 2021 for Trinity Theological College

Cheque issue to : **COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - MC**
UEN No for mission : **T12SS0164DMIC**
Mission Bank Account: **025-905374-0**



Please indicate ONLY the
Mission Collection Code
as shown here:

TTC



QR Pay

To:
COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH-MC
T12SS0164DMIC

Reference No. (Optional)
TTC

Amount (SGD)

NEXT

GIVING

Kindly take note of the separate bank accounts for Tithe and Offering.

TITHE



Please key in your tithing number at the reference section. If you are unsure of or do not a tithing number, you may drop us an email at the church website. under “Request” tab and we will get back to you.

INTERNET TRANSFER

DBS Current Account: **025-905375-8**

Cheque issue to: **Covenant Presbyterian Church - Tith**

UEN no. **T12SS0164DTTH**

OFFERING



Please key in only the alphabet at the reference section as follows :

“E” for English Service

“C” for Chinese Service

“SL” for Sri Lankan Service

INTERNET TRANSFER

DBS Current Account: **033-016873-0**

Cheque issue to : **Covenant Presbyterian Church**

UEN no. **T12SS0164D**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

✝ **CPC Prayer Meeting** (Fresh Fire) on **9 Apr (Fri) @ 8pm**
via Zoom, the details as follow:

Meeting ID : 891 4511 0163, Password: 572980

✝ **Notice of ACM 2021:**

The date of our Annual Congregational Meeting this year is tentatively confirmed to be on **Sunday, 16 May 2021 @ 2 pm**. More details will be provided closer to date.

✝ **Adult & Child Baptism, Confirmation and Transfer-in** on **23 May 2021**. Schedule of membership class will be announced closer to date. You may register at the church office or send an email to Hope@cplink.org.sg or Hazel@cplink.org.sg



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Rev Keith Lai
Rev Abel Lee
Rev Dr Henry Wong
Rev Christina Ong
Ps Lai Mui Fong
Pr Chin Yoke Fen
Pr Lionel Neo
Ps Susantha

Sri Lankan Service

Rev Christina Ong / Ps Susantha

Chinese Service

Rev Abel Lee / Pr Chin Yoke Fen

CareWorks Community Services

Rev Dr Henry Wong

Gladiolus Place

Michelle Tan

Ministry Team Leaders

Creche

Kong Soh Lian

Children

Pr Lionel Neo

Youth and Young Adult (YaYA)

Ps Michael Low
Aruneeporn Ng, Jasmine Tan
Audrey Wong

Young Working Adult & Young Married

Rev Dr Henry Wong

Adults & Seniors

Rev Keith Lai/ Ps Lai Mui Fong

Hospitality

Jenny Ho

Worship

Arthur Lim

Missions

Ps Lai Mui Fong

Prayer

Rev Dr Henry Wong

Freedom & Wholeness

Alfred & Jenny Koay

GB / BB

Pr Lionel Neo

Chinese Seniors Alpha Course

Pr Chin Yoke Fen

Day Alone with the Lord

Ps Lai Mui Fong