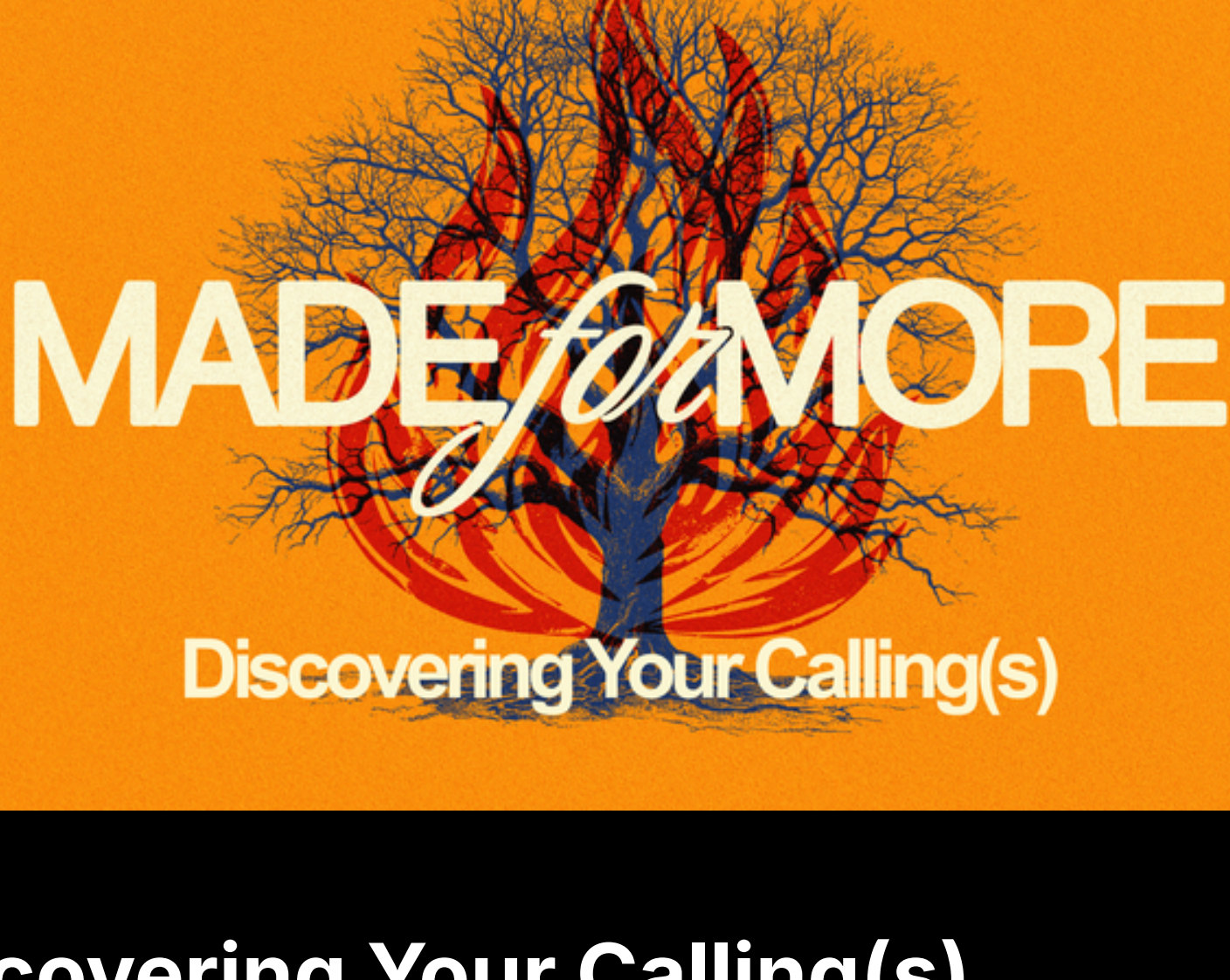




Discovering Your Calling(s)

Speaker: Andy Deane
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Discovering your specific calling often involves prayerfully looking for where your passions, gifts, and opportunities overlap. God may lead you to express that calling through your career, a ministry role at Cornerstone, serving a need in your community, using a hobby or skill for His glory, or several of these at once.

#1 YOUR PASSION: What has God put in your heart?

Pay attention to what burdens uniquely break your heart.

- Nehemiah 1:3-4
- What makes you think: someone needs to do something?
- 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Notice what consistently brings you joy & captures interest.

- What do you find yourself reading, thinking, & talking about?
- Don't assume serving God means doing what we'd rather not!
- Psalms 37:4

#2 YOUR GIFTING: What has God put in your hands?

Recognize every ability as a gift from God.

- James 1:17
- God has given us natural abilities (Exodus 31:2-4; Isaiah 28:26).

These natural giftings are found in the Bible: Artistic design, Construction, Carpentry, Metalworking, Weaving, Farming, Shepherding, Fishing, Sailing, Business, Financial management, Strategic planning, Leadership, Combat, Music, Singing, Poetry, Writing, Research, Communication, Public speaking, Reasoning, Scholarship, Medicine, Tentmaking, Cooking, Hospitality, Negotiation, Organization, Architecture, Engraving, Perfumery, Baking, Winemaking, Hunting, Physical strength, Mentoring, Legal judgment, Government administration, etc.

- God has given us spiritual gifts (Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 12).

These are some of the spiritual gifts found in the Bible: Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Encouragement, Giving, Leadership, Mercy, Wisdom, Knowledge, Faith, Healing, Miracles, Discernment, Tongues, Interpretation, Helps, Administration, Apostleship, Evangelism, Pastoring, etc.

- God has given us resources like homes, possessions and money.

September Outreach Idea

Let other people help you recognize how God gifted you.

- 1 Timothy 4:14 - calling is discerned in community.
- Ask mature believers what they see in you.

Develop your gifts by putting them to work.

- Like any skill, your gifting requires practice so we can grow.
- God may give you a gift, but that doesn't mean you start out good at it. In 2001, I took a public speaking class at NYU. One of my first speeches was a complete disaster. I melted down three times and eventually gave up. Gifts are given, but they still have to be developed. If you'd like a good laugh, you can watch that speech.

Andy's First Speaking Moment

#3 YOUR OPPORTUNITY: What's God put in front of you?

Be thoughtful to the doors God is opening around you.

- 1 Corinthians 16:9
- It's ok to pray for doors to open: Colossians 4:3

Start with the people God has already put in your life.

- Family. Neighborhood. Workplace. School. Church. Team.
- Who around you has a need you are actually capable of meeting?

See the opportunities unique to your present season.

- Galatians 6:10
- Single. Married. Athlete. Employee. Student. Retired. Church.

Trust God with the doors He keeps closed.

- Acts 16:7
- Sometimes God guides as much by what He closes as what He opens.

Look for where the three circles may overlap.

Your specific calling may emerge at the intersection.

- What do the things you are writing down have in common? Show a friend and ask their advice too.
- When "Heart + Hands + Open Door" align, pay attention!

Don't limit your calling to your career.

- Colossians 3:17
- Some people's profession and calling overlap significantly. Others work a job that provides for a different calling.
- All work does 1 or more of 3 things:

Cultivates Creation — Work that develops, organizes, preserves, or beautifies what God has made for the good of others. Examples: Farmer, engineer, architect, contractor, accountant, chef, artist, software developer, business owner, mechanic, etc.

Repairs Brokenness — Work that heals, protects, restores, teaches, or corrects what has been damaged by sin and suffering. Examples: Doctor, nurse, counselor, teacher, police officer, firefighter, social worker, attorney, nonprofit worker, paramedic, etc.

Contributes to Brokenness — Work that exploits people, promotes sin, causes harm, or produces things contrary to God's purposes. Examples: Drug dealer, porn producer, OnlyFans creator, human trafficker, scammer, professional thief, predatory lender, illegal gambling operator, organized crime member, abortion provider, etc.

Discover your calling by following God, not waiting for clarity.

- Acts 20:24
- Paul could eventually identify his assignment very clearly, but it unfolded through years of obedience.
- Clarity often comes while we're moving.

Just Do Something Book

Remember who your calling is ultimately about.

Jesus finished the work that matters most.

- John 19:30
- Our greatest need is not discovering our calling, but receiving forgiveness.
- The gospel isn't: do something important so your life matters; it's Christ has saved you, now give your life back.

Take a step this week.

#1 PRAY FOR CLARITY ON YOUR CALLING

Download 3 Circles PDF

Examples of 3 Circles

#2 START MOVING: VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Please Fill Out This Form

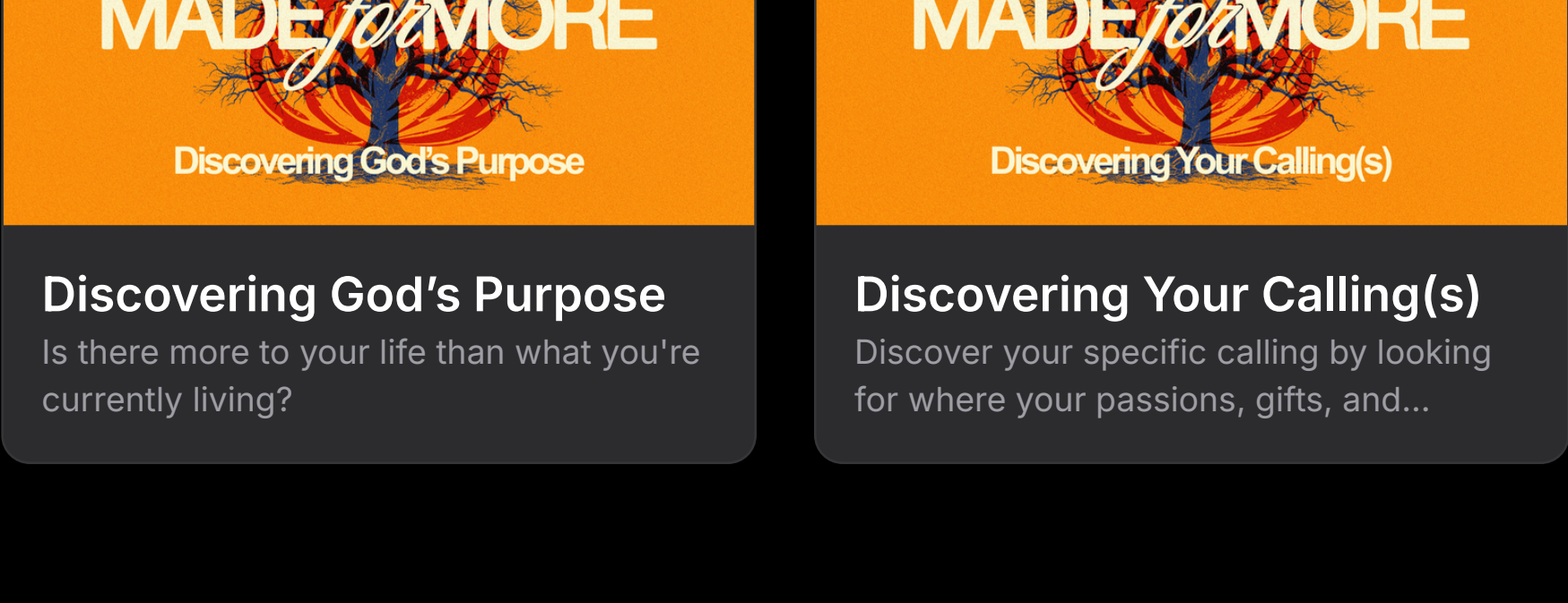
#3 FINISH YOUR LIVESCAN

If you are volunteering for **kids or youth** we need to have a background check to protect our kids. Next **Sunday on 9/20, we will have a mobile LiveScan here** at all services. It will be in classroom 231, which is upstairs on the 3rd floor of the church building.

This series



In this series



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