

## ELEVATE: Panorama

### Session #4: God's Call on You

**Session Objective:** This session helps students begin to discover their primary and secondary calling in life.

**Minimum Prep:**

- Read through the entire session outline.

**Extended Prep:** If you have some extended prep time, try one of the following clips:

- Use a clip from “**Lord of the Ring: Fellowship of the Ring**” where Frodo asks why he’s in the situation he’s in, and remembers Gandalf’s words to him. The clip on the special extended DVD edition is on disc 2 at 1:28:59 and ends at 1:30:05.
- Use a clip from “**Lord of the Ring: Fellowship of the Ring**” where Frodo wishes he wasn’t in the current situation. The clip on the special extended DVD edition is on disc 2 begins at 0:23:08 and ends at 0:23:48.

### Session Outline

**Leader Preamble:**

**Leader’s note:** The LOTR clip would work best here as an introduction.

*Some of the big questions in life are: Why am I here? Why am I in school? Why do I do the things I do? Why am I involved in these activities? Why am I on earth? These are tough questions! Today, let’s begin to probe those questions.*

**Small Group Questions:**

1. **What do you think your purpose in life is? Take a couple of minutes and share with a partner.**

*God has a purpose for each of our lives. There is something he made for us to be a part of his mission in bringing the Kingdom of God to earth. There are expectations he gives that apply to us all (corporate) and those that apply to us individually (personal). Let’s take at those that apply to us all first.*

2. **Take a look at Matthew 22:37-39. What is Jesus’ response to the question “what is the most important commandment”?**

*Love God with everything. Love others as we tend to love ourselves.*

3. **How would that look today? What does it practically mean to love God and others?**

*Serving others (see session 2). Worship God. Considering His perspective.*

4. **Take a look at Matthew 28:19-20. What does Jesus tell his disciples (and also us) to do?**

- *go*
- *make disciples of all nations*
- *baptizing*
- *teach them to obey everything I command*

5. **Os Guinness suggests that the great commission (Matt. 28:19-20) is our primary calling. In your own words, what do you think is our primary calling as Christians?**

*Guinness goes on to suggest that we each have a secondary calling(s). These are our “personal answer to God’s address, our response to God’s summons.”<sup>1</sup> This depends on our passion, interests, gifts/talents and personality. Let’s take a look at a couple of examples.*

6. **While it’s fair to say that every Christian has the same general calling (Great Commission). I Corinthians 12 reminds us that we are all unique and that we each have a specific focus to attend to within the kingdom mission. Take a look at these two biblical characters and see if you can identify their specific mission within the unfolding kingdom drama (Genesis 12:1-9; Matthew 16:18-19)**

*Abram: to be the founder of the Jewish nation*

*Peter: the first bishop and first head of the church*

7. **What do you think your specific focus might be?**

*Maybe you don’t know your secondary calling yet. It does take time to be before God, and see how best we can serve him. Ask me, another adult volunteer or the pastor about that (note to leader: In the meantime, keep fulfilling your primary calling. Keep worshiping and knowing God. Keep loving other people around you, and serving people in whatever way they need help. And keep discovering with God what his secondary calling for your life is.*

**Leader's note:** Find Your Fit<sup>2</sup> is a great resource for this area. You may need to be intentional and specifically invite some key students you believe are ready to take this step to begin exploring their secondary calling under your guidance. This will take some time on your part to mentor them through the process (aim for at least 3-4 months to get some good groundwork in). Discovering one's secondary calling is a life-time deal that requires regular reflection and evaluation. Your initial job is to get them started.

**TRANSITION TO NEXT SECTION:** *As you're discerning what your secondary calling is, God's vision for you, we'll start targeting specific priorities are influenced by your calling. Be prepared to challenge your ideals and attitudes for the next three weeks.*

**Leader Note:** Contact Rob McAlpine at [compass@baptist.ca](mailto:compass@baptist.ca) with any thoughts, questions or suggestions.

### Comments and Feedback:

**Leader Note:** This is your place each week to record significant sharing or growth in the lives of your students for subsequent follow up. You can also use this space to provide feedback on the material. All suggestions are welcome.

Please see the following handout. You have permission to reproduce these handouts for your group.

<sup>2</sup> Kise, Jane and Kevin Johnson. Find Your Fit. Bethany House Publishers: Bloomington, MN, 1998. ISBN: 0-7642-2147-7.