

# Careers and Callings



Week Five

## inTro



Read This Week's Passage:  
Nehemiah 1:11–2:9

### SOLI DEO GLORIA

In the previous study, we determined that identity drives mission. The Bible tells us that humanity was initially created in the image of God (Gen. 1:26, 27). Furthermore, He created us for His glory (Eccles. 12:13). At the most basic level, then, our mission in life must be to bring glory to God. The twenty-four elders surrounding the throne in heaven put it this way: “You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created” (Rev. 4:11). The King James Version states that humanity was created for God’s “pleasure,” and we must ask ourselves, “How would our lives please God?”

The series of parables Christ told of the lost sheep, lost coin, and lost son illuminates one thing that certainly brings joy to God’s heart—the salvation of the lost (Luke 15:6, 7, 10, 11, 32). Broadly speaking, our mission as Christians must contribute to the salvation of souls (cf. Matt. 28:18–20). Within that broad mission, each of us may find our specific calling: anything that detracts from that mission is proscribed, but everything else is permissible.

Having committed ourselves to the mission of soul saving, we may then ask God to reveal to us the role He would have us play in that mission (our specific calling). To determine our calling, we may consult three elements: our skills, burdens, and divine providence. It is at the confluence of these three factors that we find our calling.

Incidental to your calling is your vocation. While in most cases it will not be identical to your calling, a fulfilling career will contribute to your ability to fulfil your calling. This week, we consider the relationship between calling and vocation.



**inScribe**

Write out Nehemiah 1:11-2:9 from the translation of your choice. If you're pressed for time, write out Nehemiah 2:1-5. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, outline, or mind map the chapter.



Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

**Circle** repeated words/phrases/ideas

**Underline** words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you



Draw **Arrows** to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?



Memorize your favorite verse in Nehemiah 1:11–2:9. Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

What textual evidence is there for Nehemiah's vocational skills used to rebuild the wall?

How can your skills benefit the gospel and provide you a means of living?



Read more at [www.inverseible.org/will5-3](http://www.inverseible.org/will5-3)

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After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks overall seem to point to?



What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

Can you think of any other factors that may determine your vocation? How comfortable are you with the direction your life is taking in this area?



Read more at  
[www.inverseible.org/will5-4](http://www.inverseible.org/will5-4)



What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

Daniel 1:19-21; 2:24-28, 47-49;  
5:11, 12; 6:1-28  
1 Corinthians 10:31  
Ecclesiastes 9:10, 11



What other verses/promises come to mind in connection with Nehemiah 2?

Review your memorized verse from Nehemiah 1:11-2:9.

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Meditate on Nehemiah 2 again,  
and look for where Jesus is.



What similarities do you see in  
how Jesus labored during the  
first thirty years of His life and  
Nehemiah's example?

How do you see Jesus differently  
or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to  
seeing Jesus in this way?



Read more at  
[www.inverseible.org/will5-6](http://www.inverseible.org/will5-6)



Review the memory verse.  
How does it apply to your  
life this week?



After this week's study of the  
chapter, what are personal  
applications you are convicted  
of in your life?

What are practical applications  
you must make?

A large grid of small dots for writing answers.



Read more inSight from the  
Spirit of Prophecy at  
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Share insights from this week's memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.



What is your burden in ministry?  
Do your burden and your calling currently align?

Make a list of skills and talents that you currently possess and those that you desire. Now make a parallel list of current opportunities to apply those skills and talents. Are you engaging yourself to the fullest?

What is the greatest challenge to being faithful to God in your daily grind?

How can you develop a godly character in your day-to-day life?

List desirable character traits of a good worker that transcend their vocation?

How do you balance the need for financial stability with your burden for ministry?