

# Vocation

## I. Review

A. Discussing being Free, Filled, and Fruitful in all of these areas

1. Health

- a) Physical
- b) Mental

2. Immediate Family - as in who you live with

- a) Marriage
- b) Children
- c) Parents

3. Vocation - what you do

- a) Home
- b) Job
- c) Ministry
- d) entertainment

4. Relationships - those outside your home

- a) Extended family
- b) Friends
- c) Others

5. Finances

- a) Earning
- b) Spending
- c) Giving

B. Have already discussed #'s 1 and 2 and today we will discuss #3

## II. Vocation - What You Do

A. Home, Job, Ministry, recreation

B. What we do is so important to us.

C. Although it shouldn't be, what we do is often where we find our value

D. One of the first things anyone asks when meeting someone for the first time is, "What do you do?"

- E. But our value and worth should come from whose we are, not what we do
- F. Knowing this truth doesn't seem to help us very much in overcoming the tendency to measure our worth by what we do.
- G. What we do is important but it doesn't make us important.
- H. The natural man's inclination is to brag about what he has and does.
- I. Brag may be too harsh of a term but we all have a tendency to want to bring attention to what we think we are good at.
- J. But Gods Word tells us that this is not good.

**1 John 2:16(NIV 1984)**, *"For everything in the world - the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does - comes not from the Father but from the world. <sup>17</sup> The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever."*

**1 Corinthians 4:7**, *"For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?"*

**2 Corinthians 10:17-18**, *"Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.' <sup>18</sup> For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends."*

**1 John 2:16**, *"For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world."*

- K. What we do is important in that it is supposed to reflect the glory of God

**1 Corinthians 10:31**, *"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."*

**Colossians 3:17**, *"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."*

- L. We all have many things to do in life whether it is home, work, ministry, etc

M. Scripture tells us that regardless of what we are doing, we are to do it as for God

**Colossians 3:23**, *“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men”*

N. So being free, filled, and fruitful in all that we do isn't so much about *what* we do but rather *why* we do it.

O. It's all about motivation - what is motivating what we are doing

P. Think we have a really bad habit in categorizing our lives.

Q. If we aren't careful we view certain areas of our lives as more spiritually available but others maybe not so much

1. Ministry as more unto the Lord than say entertainment

R. But really “Whatever” we do we should do motivated as to God and not man

S. If our hearts are properly motivated then everything thing we do will bear the right fruit

1. Whether it is home, work, ministry, play

T. If our hearts are not properly motivated then nothing will bear the right fruit including ministry and we've all seen examples of this.

**Matthew 12:33-35**, *“Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. <sup>34</sup> You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. <sup>35</sup> The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.*

**Matthew 15:17-19**, *“Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and is expelled? <sup>18</sup> But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. <sup>19</sup> For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.”*

**Luke 6:45**, *“The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.”*

U. So it's what is in our hearts that will manifest out in all that we do.

V. Understanding this, how in the world can we change the motivation of our hearts

### III. Motivation

A. We all live rooted in one of two natures

B. Natural or God's

1. The natural nature we can call the flesh

2. God's we will call the Spirit

C. So our lives will be directed toward one or the other

D. Considering the fact that they are diabolically opposed, we cannot do both at the same time

E. Differentiate between sin and rooted in

1. When we determine to live toward the Lord - does not mean we will never sin

2. God is looking for a heart turned toward Him

3. That is a life rooted in God - not perfected in deed but perfected in motive

**2 Chronicles 19:3**, *"Nevertheless, some good is found in you, for you destroyed the Asheroth out of the land, and have set your heart to seek God."*

**2 Chronicles 12:14**, *"And he did evil, for he did not set his heart to seek the Lord."*

4. Motivation has to do with the direction of our lives - where have we set our hearts

a) Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, David - non perfect but all hearts toward God

5. Homes/jobs/ministries/recreation will bear fruit of God if lives directed toward Him= if we have set our hearts

6. Won't make decisions perfectly but we set our hearts/minds/ passions toward God

**2 Chronicles 30:18-20**, *"...For Hezekiah had prayed for them, saying, 'May the good Lord pardon everyone <sup>19</sup> who sets his heart to seek God, the Lord, the God of his fathers, even though not according to the sanctuary's rules of cleanness.' <sup>20</sup> And the Lord heard Hezekiah and healed the people."*