

SESSION TWO



CHRISTIAN BUSINESS FELLOWSHIP

YOUR CALLING IN WORK: HOW TO DISCOVER & AMPLIFY IT

Learning & Executing the Salient Components for responding to the calling of God



ASSESSING & INTEGRATING YOUR ENTREPRENEURIAL DNA, SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND LOVE GAPS

This session is all about discovering the fearful and wonderful design with which you were made. Best completed in a group/cohort of trusted advisors, but also something you can do privately with time for self-reflection, this session is designed to prepare you to build your roadmap in session 3.

Our goal is for you to come off the course with a renewed vision for your work, along with a plan to accomplish what God has ahead for you - all to the glory of God and to the benefit of those with whom God providentially brings into the path of your daily living.

WHO THIS COURSE IS INTENDED FOR

The primary candidates who will get the most value from this course are:

- ✓ Entrepreneurs and/or corporate “intrapreneurs”
- ✓ Nonprofit & business leaders
- ✓ Students
- ✓ Retirees, stay-at-home parents and those seeking a new career

HOW TO GET THE OPTIMUM VALUE FROM THIS COURSE

Although you are welcome to go through this course on your own, we highly recommend inviting a cohort from your school, church, networking group, or company to go through it with you. There are several points in the course where discussion and collaboration can drive very meaningful outcomes, and we would want you to benefit from those.

The summary outcome of this course is to produce God-glorifying workers energized by the knowledge that they are right on mission for their King.

SESSION TWO

DISCOVERING YOUR UNIQUE DESIGN - FROM SPIRITUAL GIFTS TO ENTREPRENEURIAL DNA

“I Praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.”

Psalm 139:14

GOD DESIGNED YOU WITH A PURPOSE

Think about it. If God gifted you for it, chances are it will feel easier, and you'll likely tap some serious Holy Spirit power when using said gifts.

THIS IS SERIOUS BUSINESS

Just so you don't miss the seriousness of this process, we're going to take you to a passage you're likely very familiar with.

“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey.”

Matthew 25:14-15 NIV

After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them.

Matthew 25:19 NIV

Hmmm. So God has entrusted you with some stuff (let's call it gold for now). He's expecting you to use it profitably and show him a return on investment.

So that begs the question - what talents (or bags of gold) do you have exactly? I've got a bag, and you've got a bag. It sounds like what's in my bag isn't exactly the same as what's in yours.

A good follow up to that question would be - how can you use what's in your bag to get a return so that when He asks, you've got a good answer to give? After all, who wants to be the candidate who isn't prepared for the ultimate performance review of all time?

This session is all about taking the time to assess your unique design. It's about figuring out what's in your bag. Just like the body has parts that do different things, God designed you to fit into a larger mosaic of the body of Christ to do some things really well. Things that you were uniquely wired to do. Going about life not knowing what that is - or how to use it, is like signing up for the Sunday morning choir because it felt like a good idea, till they tell you you're tone deaf. Guess what? Maybe God didn't design you to sing in choirs. So with that said, let's figure out what your "gold" is.

ASSESSMENT 1: SPIRITUAL GIFTS ASSESSMENT

If you've been around church world and Sunday school for a while, you've likely taken a spiritual gifts assessment. Unless you took one in the last 12 months, we'd recommend taking it again. You've learned a bit more about yourself in the last 12 months than you knew before, so let's see if that helps better identify your spiritual gifts.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. I COR 12:4 ESV

www.lifeway.com/en/articles/women-leadership-spiritual-gifts-growth-service you can take and score yourself. Complete their step-by-step process and get ready for Assessment 2.

ASSESSMENT 2: THE BOSI ENTREPRENEURIAL DNA ASSESSMENT

BOSI is the acronym for Builder, Opportunist, Specialist, and Innovator - the 4 Entrepreneurial DNAs that came out of Joe's multi-year research. In a moment you'll take a free assessment to determine which of these DNAs is most prevalent in you. Keep in mind that unlike personality traits (that stay fairly constant throughout life), your Entrepreneurial DNA can shift as your role in business/ministry changes.

www.bosidna.com Read your report once you see it, and get ready for Assessment 3. Once you have your results, if you'd like to watch Joe's TED Talk on BOSI, you can [find that here](#).

ASSESSMENT 3: YOUR LOVE GAPS

Love gaps? What the heck are those you may ask. We're glad you asked.

Here's an excerpt from LaVon's book *Untangling the 7 Desires of Your Heart* along with instructions on how to take this assessment.

Currently there are hundreds of books on "how" to lead, but none of them can, nor will help you lead if you are not FREE to lead. Any of the God-given desires in your heart where there is a current love-gap, can derail your entrepreneurship.

To make this session personal, you will be invited to take a survey analysis that is designed to assist you in pondering the depth and breadth of God's love aimed squarely and totally at your heart, which according to this scripture, is the home of all your desires. For in each of our hearts, God has planted Seven Desires that are demanding our attention every minute of every day.

"Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you
the desires of your heart."

(Psalm 37:4)

These Seven Desires in your Heart are behind all the decisions you and I make and all the actions you and I take. The sad thing is that most people are not even aware of them and are just busy living on autopilot. These Seven Desires were designed by God to attract us to Him and his life-giving love. Like a magnet, He is constantly drawing us to Himself. Like a parent to their child, He wants to bless our socks off. He wants to put a smile on our face and wants our hearts filled with gratefulness for the goodness that He is constantly pushing in our direction. He wants us to not only know how much He loves us, He wants us to personally experience it, Big Time! The Seven Desires are His way of making that happen, but the only way these aspirations can be achieved to your satisfaction and fulfillment, involves a deeply personal decision whereby you must decide to rely on Him. God will not bully Himself in, He does not shout out demands that you open your heart's door. He does not go where He is not invited, He gently knocks on our heart's door and patiently awaits our personal invitation requesting Him to come in.

Each of the Seven Desires are core, aspirational motivations from which your thinking, your feeling and what you are doing, all originate. Not to become self-aware of them and not to accept responsibility to proactively self-manage them with the help and leadership of Christ (This is why the Bible was written), will leave you vulnerable to Satan's ploys and his world's constant and deceptive gravitational-sin-pull.

That is precisely why so many lives end up messy and filled with unnecessary pain from broken relationships and shattered dreams. And if the truth be known, this is the number one cause of distraction. I can assure you that Satan is very aware of each of your seven Desires even if you are not. He sees them as his personal doors of entry into your life to wreak havoc. As you will see, he successfully used these exact doors with Adam and Eve, and he will try to use them with you. The real question for you in this session is, have you left any of the seven doors open to his entrance? If you have a Love-Gap in one or more of the Seven Desires, that becomes an open door to Satan, and you are in immediate spiritual danger.

“And so, we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.”

1 John 4:16 (NIV)

We will refer in this book to every area and every time where we are found not to be relying on God's love as a Love-Gap. This will continually make it clear and remind us of where we are failing to rely on and take full advantage of God's abundant love in any of the Seven Desires in our Heart. Isn't it interesting to note that this verse does not say that we should rely on God's Power, or God's wisdom, but it says we should rely on God's love. (This is what makes Christianity so vastly different than any religion on planet earth. Christianity is a "relationship" based totally on love. It is not a religion based on drummed-up fear or manipulated guilt like all religions. We uniquely have the privilege of being involved with a deeply personal, a deeply loving and deeply caring God. What a pleasure it is for me to be able to share with you how you can become more loved! You will both know it and feel it by the end of the session! Prepare to be deeply and profoundly loved!)

To see how well you are currently doing just that, let's begin by educating yourself on yourself in a revealing analysis of your current degree of reliance on his love by thoughtfully contemplating each of the questions and situations below.

Soon you will know if you have any Love-Gaps about where you are missing out on God's love and leaving lots and lots of happiness behind. By the end of this session, you will have a whole new appreciation of the originating source of all your emotions that God has created in you and how they can be used to set you free from any negative feelings and begin to experience more emotional freedom than you've ever felt before. Sometimes many people in your situation do not even know just how unfree they are until they've been set emotionally free. Emotional bondage may have become their standard and they, and you, may have accepted it as your norm for living. You will be thrilled to discover in this session that God has so much more planned for you once you've been set free of the emotional chains with which Satan has deceptively held you back and held you down.

To reveal just how much Love, you may be currently missing out on, let's do a quick analysis on each of the Seven Desires in your heart, Simply Score from 1 – 5 in the seven areas below, with 5 being High: Use this scoring guide to assist you in arriving at a considered decision as you read each of the seven areas.

1

I do not know or feel

I pretty much just stay really busy Living on auto-pilot day by day

2

I generally know some of this

I sometimes think about these things but not too often, I'm too busy just making a living

3

I confidently know and believe this

I know this but do not regularly associate it with how I feel

4

I know and feel in some situations

Occasionally it comes to my attention of what I know and how it makes me feel

5

I both know and feel this

I'm very conscious of my knowledge and feelings and proactively manage them appropriately

KNOWING AND FEELING IMPORTANT

YOUR SCORE: _____

I Know that I'm important because the God of the universe says I am and has demonstrated such through the death of his Son in my personal behalf. Believing and relying on this FREES me from having to prove or spend any time trying to become or earn importance from people or possessions because I already have it! Because He is central to all that I do and to Who I am in Christ, I have only to "play to an audience of one," Jesus Christ! I'm important because he says so!

KNOWING AND FEELING SUPPORTED

YOUR SCORE: _____

Having an ongoing sharing and conversational fellowship with God, FREES me from loneliness and from feeling left out, or left behind. Any negative feelings of being ostracized or being unacceptable or being insignificant are completely countered by relying on my status as a Child of a King complete with all the privileges of being in the family of God. He is always there for me and is always there with me. Not for a moment will he ever forsake me!

KNOWING AND FEELING EXONERATED

YOUR SCORE: _____

Having personally accepted the 100% forgiveness by the Supreme Judge of the universe through the total redemption of Christ in my behalf, I'm 100% FREE from having to prove and/or validate my goodness or worthiness to anyone or anybody. Because of His Grace and Mercy, I am FREE from having to hide any of my wrongs or missteps from anyone and am totally FREE to hold my head high and march straight forward in any and every situation. I rely not on my goodness but on the goodness of Christ which was imputed to me at Salvation.

KNOWING AND FEELING CAPABLE

YOUR SCORE: _____

Because I have complete faith in His promise that He will never ever allow me to be put into a situation but what he is able to deliver me, I'm FREE from having to worry or have any anxiety about what may or may not befall me. By faith I rely on his available grace to confront and be victorious over any and every obstacle. His help and strength are always just a prayer away.

KNOWING AND FEELING DESIRABLE

YOUR SCORE: _____

Because I know that God has His undivided attention on me every minute of every day, and he is personally blessed by my love for him and my dependence on Him and my eagerness to be totally with him in all that I do, I'm FREE not to have to be seen or told or have to prove that I'm desirable or acceptable by anyone else because I'm always wanted by the only one that ultimately matters - God. It is on His promise to love me unconditionally, that I rely. He wants and desires to spend time with me. He is blessed by my praise, and He is disappointed when I ignore him for other things of far less value and worth. He wants all of me all the time every minute of every day. I am His, and He is mine!

KNOWING AND FEELING RELEVANT

YOUR SCORE: _____

Because I've been personally designed by God and have been placed on planet earth by Him at this particular time in this particular place, I'm totally FREE to both know and feel empowered to enthusiastically charge straight into living every day to his glory. By Faith, I know that He has designed me with purpose. Believing this, allows me to rely on his sovereign plan for my life. He will not waste or let un-used any situation that comes my way, whether it be good or evil, he will use it for his intended purpose making me relevant to his will for the people he has providentially brought into my life. He is counting on me and more than anyone else, He believes in me!

KNOWING AND FEELING A PEACEFUL CONTENTMENT

YOUR SCORE: _____

Because I've found sufficient joy and satisfaction in Him, and because I totally believe and rely on Him who promised me that he would supply all that I need, which enables me to experience a serene and tranquil contentment. My days are filled with thanksgiving as the psalmist says, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want!" I wake up in the morning feeling very blessed and fulfilled and therefore am not susceptible to the constant prodding and pressure to continually want more and have no desire to sacrifice my peacefulness by jumping on a treadmill that is leading nowhere and that would only make me overly busy pursuing more possessions, chasing more things that will not give me the satisfaction that I'm already experiencing in my daily walk with Christ. I treasure and protect my calm and peaceful contentment. Do I know and feel the peaceful contentment amongst tragic circumstances in my life?

SCORING AND ANALYSIS

To know how well you are currently dealing with the Seven Desires of your heart and where you have Love-Gaps, add up the numerical answers to all seven areas above and circle the Category below into which you fall. (Regardless of your current score, God has already promised to continue the work He began with and in you if or when you became a Christian. Because of that personal commitment to you, you can believe and expect that your best days are still ahead of you!

Philippians 1:6

“He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

IF YOUR SCORE IS:

7-14: You are living in an emotional hell. You will suffer from feelings of self-defeat and be unfree to feel good about yourself and/or your future. You are trapped in a state of hopelessness. You are prone to self-pity or anger. You are susceptible to thinking and “wishing life were over.” (Caution, please Remember, God has provided you a way to get out of your misery and have a wonderful life, take Him up on it! Even now, He is reaching out to you.)

15-20: You are vulnerable to seasons of depression. You find yourself going in and out of emotional darkness and life can become gloomy. You often forget what it feels like to have boundless energy for living and daily excitement in your life. You are prone to feel like a victim and you miss being joyful from being tormented by negative thinking. You find it difficult to inspire and motivate others when you are so discouraged yourself. You no longer dream new dreams and ask, “why not”? Living has become hard for you.

21-25: Internal anxieties and self-doubts may cause you to be somewhat reluctant to charge forward into new challenges and you often second guess your own decisions. That which you fear seems to happen. You often feel unfree to experience sustainable optimism. Because of that, you are living on an emotional rollercoaster. You often find that you can become depressed when you are with or around very happy people in that they heighten your awareness of your unhappiness. You can feel victimized by life and feel you've been given an unfair chance. You find yourself thinking, "If only..."

26-30: You are susceptible to seasons of stress you can experience times of emotional tiredness and times of emotional optimism. You may find yourself being unmotivated making you too dependent on others to encourage or prod you to accept and respond to new challenging ideas that come your way. At other times, you clearly see and seize opportunities with exuberant enthusiasm. Either way, you are still forfeiting sustainable periods of emotional thrills about your life. You give up some of your freedom by having times where you are fighting negative feelings which rob you from having an abundant lifestyle filled with adventure and victories.

31-34: You are Free, joyful, and full of boundless and optimistic Energy! People are inspired by your presence. You can light up a room or a conversation. You are cold glass of water in a dry and thirsty world. Or, as Christ says it, "out of your belly flow rivers of living water!" You are "salt" in a tasteless world. You are enjoying the life that God Had in mind for you! You love waking up every morning to see what God has for you and who God wants you to meet and bless. You are gushing with gratitude. Congratulations!

35+: You are now in Heaven which is the only way you could have gotten this score! You've now realized your ultimate goal of living. You are forever with the one you love! All seven Desires are 100% fulfilled by his continuous and perfect love. Heaven makes life on earth worth it!

ANALYZING YOUR SCORE

Although we were just talking about your total score, the individual scores on each of the 7 Desires will show you where a love-gap needs some consideration. Please understand that if any of these Seven Desires are not met and fulfilled, the resulting emptiness can cause you to make unhealthy decisions trying to fill the pending void, numb the pain and quiet its nagging noise. Your self-analysis has now revealed to you just how well you are currently managing each of these Seven Desires or how vulnerable or desperate you may be to try to grab some artificial and temporary alternative to solve that inner crying-out clamor from an unsatisfied Longing of your heart. These are the precise areas where you will be susceptible to temptation to use something other than God's beautiful Love to satisfy your Desires.

This is where we make terrible choices that can harm or even ruin our lives. This is where harmful addictions and dependencies originate. This is where the first step down a slippery slope begins. This is where the "god" of this world sees a giant "Opportunity" sign and rushes in to enslave you to food, sex, drink, drugs, or to emotionally embrace other "dangerous fixes," even at the expense of the preciousness of your own life. This is the origin of financial problems, the urge to borrow and go on expensive vacations, to impulsively make disastrous purchases that in some way ending up enslaving you and severely limiting and/or destroying your financial freedom. This is where and how Satan deceptively enters your life and begins to put you on an endless path of eternal destruction.

Because of His love, you have a "built-in" provision to answer and respond to each one of the Seven Desires in your heart and close every Love-Gap. By faith, you can be completely confident that God's love is constant in all situations at all times, in all the different seasons of your life, but you must give up self-reliance and rely on Him and his in-exhaustible love for you. It simply comes down to your willingness and faith to rely only on His love. May I share this verse again?

"And so, we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them." 1 John 4:16 (NIV).

INTEGRATING YOUR ASSESSMENT RESULTS

You've just completed 3 insightful assessments - each that gives you a different snapshot into how God designed you.

Are you already having some A-ha's? We hope you are. But to make sure you leave no stone unturned in this journey of God discovery (as opposed to self-discovery), log back into your learning platform and watch the video for session 2 with Joe and Lavon.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

Before we sign off on this session and dive into some serious go-forward life planning in the final session, here are some things we want to draw your attention to:

- ✓ You are unique. So stop comparing yourself to Janice or Tom at the office (or at the PTA).
- ✓ God's will for you is not to find some mysteriously hidden treasure map to uncover what house he expects you to buy, what job he expects you to have, or who your best friend should be. His will is for you to draw close to him, discern what he's equipped you to do, and then do a bunch of that thing with a joyful heart as for Him.
- ✓ There is no assessment on the planet that can diagnose or decode you perfectly. Every assessment is imperfect, but it can point you in the right direction. Prayer, discernment, and the wise counsel of others helps you triangulate to a better picture of your "talents".
- ✓ You will give an account for your talents to a Holy God who EXPECTS you to generate a return on investment with them. Matthew 25 is filled equally with promise and warning to those who use and misuse the talents He gives. Take this very seriously.
- ✓ It is entirely possible to be in a dead end job, an unfulfilling marriage, a deadbeat town, or a struggling business AND still be joyful and on mission for Christ IF you are still using your "talents" well. Billy Graham likely didn't enjoy living out of a suitcase most of his life. Your pastor probably doesn't like fielding calls and emails about how he misquoted a fact or allowed the worship team to play the music too loud. Your teenager may appear to be completely off the rails and on their way to utter ruin. But through it all, we are called to do what God gifted us to do as unto Him, and trust him with the rest.
- ✓ Even if you get this whole process wrong, God isn't going to love you any less or feel any less proud of you. He looks at the heart, remember? So the fact that you are diligently pursuing this process with the intent to glorify Him, in His heart you've already won the points.

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CHRISTIAN BUSINESS FELLOWSHIP

If you're a business owner, check out ChristianBusinessFellowship.org to learn about that ministry and its membership benefits.