

READY or NOT

Leaning into Life in Our Twenties

DREW MOSER & JESS FANKHAUSER



Introduction

SO, WHAT ARE MY TWENTIES FOR, ANYWAY?

Not all those who wander are lost.

J. R. R. Tolkien, The Fellowship of the Ring

Think and wonder. Wonder and think.

Dr. Seuss

EXERCISES

Your twenties can be an exciting, confusing, and confounding time, with many voices giving you mixed messages.

1	Describe your current twentysomething experience in one word:
2	Describe your current twentysomething experience in one sentence:
Discu	ssion Questions
1	Share your word and sentence descriptions of your twentysomething experience with a friend or group of people you trust. Why did you choose these words?
2	In this chapter, the twenties were described as a land of in between. Do you agree or disagree? Why, or why not?
3	Your twenties are meant to be full of hope purpose and

meaning. How would you describe your hopes, purpose,

and meaning in this season of life?

Chapter One

VOCATION

Always the beautiful answer who asks a more beautiful question.

E. E. Cummings

Decisions big and small are portions of our life of pilgrimage, but they are not the destination. Life with God is the destination.

J. Brent Bill, Sacred Compass

Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four sharpening the axe.

Abraham Lincoln

EXERCISES

In the chapter, *vocation* is defined as "the pursuit of a life lived faithfully with God that includes the many dimensions of the good life."

1 What do you consider to be the essential elements of the good life?

VOCATION

2	Based on what you've written, draft a one- or
	two-sentence vision of the good life. Copy it on
	a postcard or piece of paper that you can use as
	a bookmark. (We'll ask you to refer to this vision
	statement periodically throughout the book.)

The good life is		

3 As Annie Dillard famously quipped, "How we spend our days is, of course, how we spend our lives." Conduct a time audit, tracking how you spend a typical twenty-four-hour day and documenting everything you do in thirty-minute increments in the following chart.

Twenty-Four-Hour Time Audit

6:00 a.m 6:30	2:00 2:30
7:00 7:30	
8:00 8:30	
9:00 9:30	5:00 5:30

6:00 6:30		
7:00 7:30		
8:00 8:30		
9:00 9:30	1:00 1:30	5:00 5:30

- 4 A twenty-four-hour audit may not always provide the best sampling of your life, but it can offer glimpses of insight. Compare your responses on the elements of the good life and your vision of the good life with your twenty-four-hour time audit. Where do you find evidence of the good life in your day? Write down any observations:
- 5 Where is there dissonance between your vision of the good life and your day?
- 6 Think beyond one day to the broader strokes on the canvas that is your twenties. Which areas of your life are flourishing now? Which areas are more ambiguous?

VOCATION

Areas that are flourishing:
<u> </u>
Areas that are ambiguous:

Discussion Questions

- What do you think of our definition of vocation as "the pursuit of a life lived faithfully with God that includes the many dimensions of the good life?"
- 2 To what extent do you let passion rule your decisions?

 Do you agree or disagree with the view that passion

alone is a tricky barometer of vocation? What other tools should be used to discern calling?

3 Where do you see shalom in others? Share evidence you've seen of shalom in the lives of those you know.

4 Do you agree that how we spend our days is truly how we spend our lives? Why or why not?

5 What does a hopeful vision of flourishing look like for you? For your group?

Chapter Two

GOD & US

The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

The apostle Paul, 1 Thessalonians 5:24

The vital question is: what is the primary story around which we shape our lives?

C. Christopher Smith and John Pattison, Slow Church

Most of us have two lives. The life we live, and the unlived life within us.

Steven Pressfield, The War of Art

EXERCISES

Though God is infinitely above our ability to fully understand, he tells us through the Scriptures very specific truths about himself so that we can know what he is like and be drawn to worship him. Following is a list of thirty names and attributes of God. Use this list to explore the breadth and depth of who God is. As you do, we encourage you to consider the following questions:

- Which names and attributes are familiar or common to your understanding of God? Place a check mark by them.
- Which are new to your understanding of God?
 Place an N by them.
- Which do you struggle with? Place a hyphen by them.

The names and attributes of God. Adapted from The Navigators, "30 Days of Praying the Names and Attributes of God."

God is Jehovah. The name of the independent, self-complete being. -Exodus 3:13-15

God is Jehovah-M'Kaddesh. This name means "the God who sanctifies." -Leviticus 20:7-8

God is infinite. He has no beginning, no end, and no limits. —Romans 11:33

God is omnipotent. This means God is all-powerful. —Jeremiah 32:17-18, 26-27

God is good. God is the embodiment of perfect goodness. —Psalm 119:65-72

God is love. God's love embraces each of us personally and relationally. —1 John 4:7-10

God is Jehovah-jireh. This name means "the God who provides." —Genesis 22:9-14

God is Jehovah-shalom. This name means "the God of peace." —Judges 6:16-24

God is immutable. All that he has been and is, he will ever be. —Psalm 102:25-28

God is transcendent. He exists beyond and above the created universe. —Psalm 113:4-5

God is just. We can trust him to always do what is right. —Psalm 75:1-7

God is holy. His holiness stands apart—unique and incomprehensible. —Revelation 4:8-11

God is Jehovah-rophe. This name means "Jehovah heals." —Exodus 15:22-26

God is self-sufficient. All things are God's to give, and all that is

given is given by him. —Acts 17:24-28 God is omniscient. This means God is all-knowing. Nothing is a

mystery to him. —Psalm 139:1-6 **God is omnipresent.** God is everywhere—in and around everything,

close to everyone. —Psalm 139:7-12 **God is merciful.** God's merciful compassion is infinite and

inexhaustible. —Deuteronomy 4:29-31

God is sovereign. He presides over every event, great or small. —1 Chronicles 29:11-13

GOD & US

God is Jehovah-nissi. This name means "God our banner."
—Exodus 17:8-15

God is wise. All God's acts are accomplished through his infinite wisdom. —Proverbs 3:19-20

God is faithful. Out of his faithfulness God honors and fulfills his promises. —Psalm 89:1-8

God is wrathful. God's wrath is never capricious, self-indulgent, or irritable. —Nahum 1:2-8

God is full of grace. His grace grants merit where it is undeserved. —Ephesians 1:5-8

God is our comforter. Jesus called the Holy Spirit the "Comforter." —John 14:16, κυν

God is El-Shaddai. This name means "God Almighty." —Genesis 49:22-26

God is Father. The Creator of the universe cares for each one of us as his child. —Romans 8:15-17

God is the church's head. God the Son, Jesus, is the head of the church. —Ephesians 1:22-23

God is intercessor. He opens the doors for us to boldly ask God the Father for mercy. —Hebrews 4:14-16

God is Adonai. This name means "Master" or "Lord."

—2 Samuel 7:18-20

God is Elohim. This name means "Strength" or "Power."

-Genesis 17:7-8

A compass is an orienteering tool designed to keep you following the right path. For a compass to work, you must first orient it to true north. This ensures that you are headed in the right direction. If Christ is your true north, then you'll orient your plans and check your paths according to him.

Consider all your reading, thinking, and reflecting upon who God is, and craft a compass statement that describes how you travel *with* God. In two or three sentences, capture the purpose and essence of your relationship with him. This statement should not only resonate very personally

with you, but other followers of Christ should also be able to agree with it. Keep in mind that a compass statement is not circumstantial. It's a timeless statement that will be true for you regardless of your stage or station in life.

My compass statement:

Many other resources are available to help you explore the question "Who am I?" Here are three we recommend:

- Start with the StrengthsFinder at www .gallupstrengthscenter.com. This short test will help you identify your top five strengths. Write them here:
- 2 To dig a bit deeper, check out the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) at www.myersbriggs.org or www.16personalities.com. As we mentioned

GOD & US

earlier, this personality inventory focuses on your cognitive functions (how your thinking translates into your behavior) and helps you identify your four-preference personality type.

•	My MBTI type:
S	ome key traits of my MBTI type:
•	
•	
•	
•	
n	We also highly recommend the Enneagram assessment, which looks at your core motivations. You can compare it online at www.enneagraminstitute.com.
•	My Enneagram type:
D	rescriptions of my type that resonate with who I am:
•	
•	
•	

•
After completing the assessments, spend some time pondering your core interests. When your mind wanders, what do you daydream about? What do you gravitate toward online? What do you search for, read, or watch online? (These responses can provide insight into who you are.)
Next, write down activities or topics that energize you, and those that exhaust you. (These lists can also provide insights into who you are.) • Things that energize me:
Things that exhaust me:

GOD & US

Take another look at the twenty-four-hour time audit you completed in chapter 1 (pages 13–14). Which activities were energizing? Which were exhausting? Which activities represent who you truly are? Which reflect who you want to be?

Discussion Questions

1	Twentysomethings are prone to viewing God as a cosmic
	prankster, a disinterested father, or a dream crusher.
	Which distorted view of God are you more prone to
	believe? Why? What other myths about God plague you
	or your friends?

Which aspects of your past (family, church, etc.) have shaped your view of who God is?

3 As you explored the names and attributes of God, which resonated with you? Why?

4 What insights into vocation do you find in the names

and attributes of God? Which name or attribute is most surprising to you? Why?

- 5 Ask people who know you well the following question: What do you observe in me that is normal for me but distinctive to you? What do their responses tell you about who you are?
- 6 Share with others the activities you're proud of participating in. These could include creative endeavors, competitions, events, or causes. What about these experiences made them so important to you?

Chapter Three

PAST & PRESENT

In sixty-plus years of living, way has never opened in front of me. . . . But a lot of way has closed behind me, and that's had the same guiding effect.

Quaker woman in Parker Palmer, Let Your Life Speak

The problem with Western Christians is not that they aren't where they should be but that they aren't what they should be where they are.

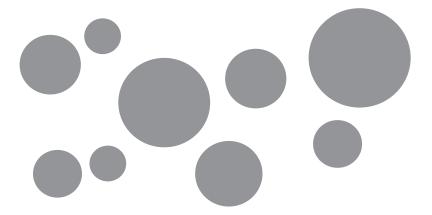
Os Guinness, The Call

PAST & PRESENT

Bursting Bubbles

Stephen looked at us, looked down at his paper, and looked back at us. Then he placed his head in his hands and groaned, "All my bubbles are about to pop!"

He had just finished an exercise Jess and I often lead twentysomethings through where they map out all the places (both literal and figurative) that make up their present lives. Terms can get confusing here, so a definition would be helpful. *Places* are the environments we inhabit in such a way that they have meaning. These contexts can be geographic places (churches, schools, etc.) or abstract places (such as a particular gathering of friends).



EXERCISES

Construct a time line of symbols that represent the most important aspects of your life. Arrange the symbols in a manner that resonates with you. Be as creative, or technical, as you like. Include both positive and negative experiences, people, and places.

Beyond the highs and lows, what ordinary components have brought meaning to your life (places, schools, churches, family, etc.)? Arrange these symbols in a way that resonates most with you.

In his book *Desiring the Kingdom*, James K. A. Smith argued that liturgies—the sacred or secular practices we engage in daily—shape our identities. The contexts ("bubbles") we inhabit have a similar effect. Map out your bubbles in the space below, including any physical contexts (school, church, work, volunteer work, etc.) and abstract contexts (family, friend groups, communities you are a part of, etc.). (These don't have to be sequential or in order of importance.)

PAST & PRESENT

Discussion Questions

1	After reading this chapter and completing the reflective activities, how do you now look at your <i>whens</i> and <i>wheres</i> ?
2	When you consider the symbols that represent your life, what do you learn about how you've been shaped? How have people, places, and experiences helped you clarify your callings?
3	What griefs in your life have shaped your callings in some way?
4	Complete the following statements as you consider the influences that have shaped your life.
	• I need to keep
	• I need to let go of
	 I need to watch and wait to see what God is going to do with

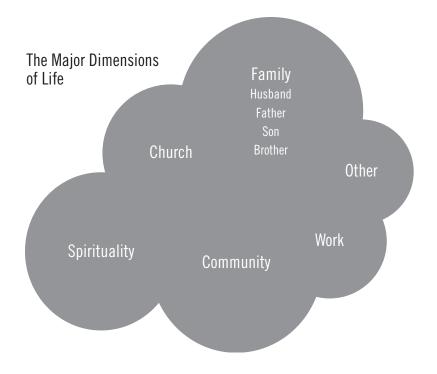
- 5 Share the insights from your time map and contexts map with a close friend. What's similar about these maps? In what ways do they differ? If someone were to look at your maps, what might that person conclude matters most to you? Would this match your statement about the good life in chapter 1?
- 6 What are your most meaningful places right now? What makes them so meaningful? In what ways are you actively contributing to your contexts?

Chapter Four

DIMENSIONS & RHYTHMS

Calling provides the story line for our lives and thus a sense of continuity and coherence in the midst of a fragmented and confusing modern world.

Os Guinness, The Call



EXERCISES

The twenties are full of transition. During any transition, it's important to attend well to life's key dimensions. You need to keep your vision of the good life in mind while understanding the role each dimension plays. As you look at the following grid, consider each dimension in light of your twenties. Which dimensions are known? Which are unknown?

	Known	Unknown
Spirituality		
Work		
Family		
Church		
Community		

Write down the dimensions you labeled as unknown. Next to each one, jot down when you anticipate this dimension will be known.
•
•
•
•
•
Rank the five dimensions based on how important they are to you right now.
1
2
3
4
5

DIMENSIONS & RHYTHMS

Rank the dimensions based on how much time you spend on them right now.
1
2
3
4
5
Rank the dimensions based on how important you anticipate each of them will be in your thirties.
1
2
3
4
5
Rank the dimensions based on how much time you plan to spend on each in your thirties.
1
2
3

Draw circles below to represent each dimension in your life right now, with the most prominent dimensions as larger circles. Where dimensions overlap in your life, be sure to overlap the circles.

DIMENSIONS & RHYTHMS

In his book *Spiritual Rhythm*, Mark Buchanan identified four practices that should be part of every season of life: Scripture reading, worship, prayer, and community. Faith is integral to flourishing individually and in a community. How do you want to steward these four practices in your twenties?

- Scripture reading
- Worship
- Prayer
- Community

People overwhelm themselves in pursuit of a balanced life. Our goal should be to live in healthy, sustainable rhythms in all the dimensions of our lives. We must continually take stock of what occupies our time and energy and consider if we're to continue or discontinue it in the next season. We must also consider what we may need to start in order to live well in the next season of life.

- What do you need to continue to maintain a healthy rhythm in all the dimensions of life?
- What do you need to discontinue?
- What do you need to start?

Discussion Questions

1	Which dimensions in your life feel healthy right now? Which feel unhealthy? Why?
2	How do the important places in your life help you approach your dimensions in healthy ways? (See chapter 3 for review.)
3	How do your places hinder faithful living in these dimensions?
4	In what ways is your vision of the good life congruent with your work on dimensions? How is it dissonant?

Chapter Five

SPIRITUALITY

Ten times a day something happens to me like this—some strengthening throb of amazement—some good sweet empathic ping and swell. This is the first, the wildest and the wisest thing I know: that the soul exists and is built entirely out of attentiveness.

Mary Oliver

Our heart is restless until it rests in you.

Saint Augustine, Confessions

The best criticism of the bad is the practice of the better.

Center for Action and Contemplation

EXERCISES

We all have different experiences with different spiritual practices. You may have had good experiences with some and negative experiences with others. Or you may have had little or no exposure to some practices.

Look at the following list of spiritual practices and place a plus (+) beside the practices you've participated in and had a positive experience with. Place a minus (-) beside

practices you've had a negative experience with, and a capital N next to practices you've never tried. Feasting/celebration—actively eating food with others to practice gratitude ____ Practicing solitude/silence—sustained time alone and quiet ____ Confessing—intentionally confessing things you've done wrong (to God or others) ____ Observing the Sabbath—instilling a regular rhythm of resting from work ____ Reading Scripture contemplatively—slowly reading and pondering Scripture Studying other spiritual readings—digging into books, articles, and other spiritual resources Praying—engaging in conversation with God Singing—singing songs of praise or lament ____ Listening—listening to sermons, podcasts, and so on ____ Observing Communion—taking the bread and wine to remember Christ's death

SPIRITUALITY

Serving—spending time and energy serving
others in various ways
Showing hospitality—intentionally making room for others and making them feel welcome in your places
Worshiping with others—assembling with others to worship God

Write down the various spiritual practices that have been part of your life in different seasons. (Some of these may overlap.)

- Childhood:
- Teenage years:
- College:
- Postcollege:

Based on these seasons of life, which have been lasting practices for you? Which practices have fit really well just for a season?

A large part of faith is learning from the faith journeys of those who are older. Identify someone at least two decades older than you who has a sustaining faith, and ask if that person would agree to an interview. Following are some prompts for your interview, but feel free to broaden the conversation.

- How have your faith practices changed during the different seasons of your life?
- Has your sense of calling become more or less clear over your lifetime? How so?
- How do you integrate faith, work, family, church, and community?

From the list of spiritual practices and your research, choose three practices you feel would be worth trying during the next season of your life. Write them here.

1 .									
2									
3									
_									
Choose	e one	spiritual	practice	from	your	list	to	try	next

SPIRITUALITY

 What did you experience and learn from trying this new practice?

Discussion Questions

- 1 What spiritual practices have been part of your life? How have they shaped you?
- 2 How do you respond to the idea that our lives are made up of seasons, and we need to follow different spiritual practices during the different seasons of our lives? How could you utilize different practices in the various seasons of your life?
- 3 What season of your life has created tension with your spiritual practices? What about that season created tension?

- 4 What has been your experience with the word discipleship? Do Alan Briggs's descriptions of what discipleship should be resonate with you? Why or why not?
- 5 When have you experienced thin places in your life—moments when God's presence was palpable?

Chapter Six

WORK

May the favor of the LORD our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.

Psalm 90:17

Twentysomethings who don't feel anxious and incompetent at work are usually overconfident or underemployed.

Meg Jay, The Defining Decade

EXERCISES

Take some time to consider your present work.

• What do I like about my work?

• What don't I like about my work?

WORK

•	What's	mundane	about	my	work?
---	--------	---------	-------	----	-------

Map out three potential career time lines for the rest of your working life. Each must reasonably reflect your abilities, opportunities, hopes, and skills, as well as achievable dreams.

- In what ways are these time lines adventurous, challenging, or exciting to you?
- Identify where you foresee the ordinary, mundane components of work fitting in your time lines.

 Whether your career is exciting or mundane, how will you remain inspired, energized, or hopeful?

If you feel comfortable doing so, have a conversation with your current supervisor and share some aspects of your time lines. Ask yourself, *To achieve these goals, what do I need to grow and develop as a worker?* Write down areas for growth here:

Discussion Questions

- 1 In what ways is your identity tied to your work? What expectations do others have of your work or career?
- 2 How might you "serve the work" before you this week, month, or year?

WORK

keep showing up when dane?
tivate a long view of work?
ontinue learning more gs in this season of life
s III uns season of in

Chapter Seven

FAMILY

You don't choose your family. They are God's gift to you, as you are to them.

Desmond Tutu

The family—that dear octopus from whose tentacles we never quite escape, nor, in our inmost hearts, ever quite wish to.

Dodie Smith, Dear Octopus

Family makes you who you are and who you aren't.

Marcelina Henry

EXERCISES

Construct a family tree that illustrates members of your current family. Include family members who are close, influential, and important to you. Feel free to consider the idea of family broadly.

The way in which we engage and interact with family can change greatly over time. Project two or three possible time lines for family that span the next ten years. Include both positive and negative life events. The way in which we engage and interact with family can change greatly over time. List in the following chart the ways you contribute to family (immediate and extended), and the ways they contribute to you.

What I contribute to family	What my family contributes to me

Discussion Questions

1	How would you describe your family of origin? In what ways have they shaped you?
2	What expectations does your family have of you? In what ways do those expectations create tension in your life?
3	How wide is your family circle? Are there ways you could work to expand your notion of family?
4	What are two or three ways you are currently contributing to (or could contribute to) your family in this season of your life?

Chapter Eight

CHURCH

This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

Ephesians 5:32

Churches must learn humility as well as teach it.

George Bernard Shaw, Saint Joan

CHURCH

EXERCISES

As you reflect on your own journey with church, consider the following questions:

e following questions:	
How many churches did you attend growing up?	
What size(s) were these churches?	
What denomination(s)?	
• In what ways were your parents involved in church?	
• In what ways were you involved in your church?	

Complete this sentence:	
The purpose of church is	
What are your nonnegotiables when it comes to church?	
What do you expect church to contribute to you?	
What do you contribute—or believe you're called to contribute—to the church?	

CHURCH

Discussion Questions

1	How has your church background (or lack thereof) shaped the way you engage church now? How would you describe your relationship with the church?
2	In the discussion of the why, how, and what of church, what category felt most challenging for you? Why?
3	Why are your nonnegotiables for church so important to you?
4	How can you find a healthy rhythm of what you expect from church and what you contribute to church?

Chapter Nine

COMMUNITY

Where you invest your love, you invest your life.

Mumford and Sons, "Awake My Soul"

The heart of hospitality is about creating space for someone to feel seen and heard and loved. It's about declaring your table a safe zone, a place of warmth and nourishment.

Shauna Niequist, Bread and Wine

We have all known the long loneliness, and we have found that the answer is community.

Dorothy Day

EXERCISES

Whenever we choose to invest in a place, we must first have eyes to see. When we have eyes to see, we're able to take in the true nature of a place—its joys and challenges, its strengths and weaknesses. when we have eyes to see our surroundings, we are implicated in them. Take a moment to consider where you plan to be in the next six months to a year. To develop eyes that truly see your place, conduct some research in the following areas:

- History:
- · Current events:
- Culture:
- Government:
- Neighborhoods:
- Economy:
- · Churches:

Draw your community as a series of symbols or pictures. Where do people in your community gather? Where do you and your people gather?

Describe your community in a sentence:	
My community is	
What are three challenges your community is facing?	
What is your unique contribution to your community?	
What does your community contribute to your life?	

COMMUNITY

Discussion Questions

1	How have you experienced moving through the four
	stages of living in community: tourist, pessimist, local,
	and pilgrim? What stage do you currently identify with,
	and what will it take for you to move to the next stage?

- Where do you see brokenness in your community? Where do you see beauty and restoration? How are you stepping (or how might you step) into both the brokenness and the beauty?
- What has been your experience settling into a community? What does it take for you to feel settled in?
- 4 How might you create more room, or margin, in your life? In what areas of your life is there room for God to show up and use you in unexpected ways in your community?

Conclusion

TIME TO LEAN

Fall in love with where you are. Turn towards this—a sacred moment, unrepeatable. Trust the ebb and flow of things. Say yes to uncertainty and the unresolvedness of your life. Come out of stories and second-hand dreams and remember the place where breathing happens. Here. Now.

Jeff Foster

God often shows us our purpose in quiet ways. We see a sliver here, a slice there. There are moments when our hearts thump in our chests, and we're left wondering what it means, patching his holiness over our humanity and seeing the way it gives shape to our tattered edges.

Shannan Martin, Falling Free

EXERCISES

Early in the book, we discussed the importance of asking good questions. What are two or three good questions you want to commit to exploring as you lean into your twenties?

Return to your statement of the good life at the end of chapter 1. After your journey through this book, would you change your statement in any way? In light of what you've learned about the good life in this book, complete the following statements:

• The good life now is . . .

CONCLUSION

Fathom by fathom, you can live a good and faithful life. Identify next steps you can take in each dimension of your vocation that apply your statement of the good life in deeper ways:

- Spirituality:
- Work:
- Family:
- Church:
- Community:

NOTES

INTRODUCTION: SO, WHAT ARE MY TWENTIES FOR, ANYWAY?

- Dr. Jeffrey Arnett coined this term in 2000. See Jeffrey J. Arnett,
 "Emerging Adulthood: A Theory of Development from the Late Teens
 through the Twenties," *American Psychologist* 55, no. 5 (May 2000): 469–
 80, www.jeffreyarnett.com/articles/ARNETT_Emerging_Adulthood
 _theory.pdf.
- 2. Drew Desilver, "Increase in Living with Parents Driven by Those Ages 25–34, Non-college Grads," *FactTank*, Pew Research Center, June 8, 2016, www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/06/08/increase-in-living-with -parents-driven-by-those-ages-25-34-non-college-grads/.
- 3. Walker Percy, The Second Coming (New York: Picador, 1980), 93.
- 4. Meg Jay, The Defining Decade: Why Your Twenties Matter—and How to Make the Most of Them Now (New York: Twelve, 2012), xx.
- George Meredith, The Adventures of Harry Richmond, rev. ed. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1906), 25.
- 6. Hebrews 6:19.
- Viktor E. Frankl, Man's Search for Meaning (Boston: Beacon Press, 2006), 113.
- 8. Seth Godin, "How Seth Godin Manages His Life—Rules, Principles, and Obsessions," interview by Tim Ferriss, *The Tim Ferriss Show*, podcast, February 10, 2016, https://tim.blog/2016/02/10/seth-godin/.
- 9. Annie Dillard, The Writing Life (New York: Harper Perennial, 1989), 32.

CHAPTER 1: VOCATION

 Václav Havel, Letters to Olga: June 1979–September 1982, trans. Paul Wilson (London: Faber and Faber, 1990), 237.

- 2. Warren Berger, A More Beautiful Question: The Power of Inquiry to Spark Breakthrough Ideas (New York: Bloomsbury, 2014), 7-8.
- 3. Rainer Maria Rilke, Letters to a Young Poet, trans. M. D. Herter Norton (New York: W. W. Norton, 2004), 27.
- 4. Frederick Buechner, Wishful Thinking: A Seeker's ABC (New York:
- HarperOne, 1993), 119. 5. Parker J. Palmer, Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation (San
- Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2000), 4-5. 6. David Kinnaman and Aly Hawkins, You Lost Me: Why Young Christians Are
- Leaving Church . . . and Rethinking Faith (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2011), 207.
- 7. Steven Garber, Visions of Vocation: Common Grace for the Common Good (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2014), xi. 8. J. Brent Bill, Sacred Compass: The Way of Spiritual Discernment (Brewster,
- MA: Paraclete Press, 2012), 2. 9. Annie Dillard, The Writing Life (New York: Harper Perennial, 1989), 32.

CHAPTER 2: GOD & US

- 1. Os Guinness, The Call: Finding and Fulfilling the Central Purpose of Your Life (Nashville: Nelson, 2003), 20. 2. N. T. Wright, Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense (New York:
- HarperOne, 2006), 67. 3. Guinness, The Call, 20.
- 4. Michael Reeves, Delighting in the Trinity: An Introduction to the Christian Faith (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2012), 41.
- 5. Steven Garber, Visions of Vocation: Common Grace for the Common Good (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2014), 104.
- 6. Henri J. M. Nouwen, In the Name of Jesus: Reflections on Christian Leadership (Chestnut Ridge, NY: Crossroad Publishing Company, 1989).
- 7. Skye Jethani, With: Reimagining the Way You Relate to God (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2011).
- 8. Jethani, With, 120-21.
- 9. J. Brent Bill, Sacred Compass: The Way of Spiritual Discernment (Brewster, MA: Paraclete Press, 2012), 36.

10. From a lunch conversation we had with Kate in Washington, DC, as we

- prepared to write this book. Thanks, Kate!
- 11. Find out more at http://www.myersbriggs.org/. 12. For a wealth of resources on MBTI personality types, check out the articles
- and podcasts available at http://www.personalityhacker.com/. 13. Since the Enneagram is an open-source tool, no single organization or school definitively "owns" it. However, we encourage you to explore the

NOTES

- following websites for more information: https://www.enneagraminstitute.com/, https://www.enneagramworldwide.com/the-narrative-tradition/, and https://www.theroadbacktoyou.com/.
- 14. Carol S. Dweck, *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success* (New York: Ballantine Books, 2016).
- Maria Popova, "Fixed vs. Growth: The Two Basic Mindsets That Shape Our Lives," *Brain Pickings* (blog), January 29, 2014, https://www.brainpickings.org/2014/01/29/carol-dweck-mindset/.
- Joachim Neander, "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty," trans. Catherine Winkworth, copyright 1863, public domain.

CHAPTER 3: PAST & PRESENT

- 1. *This Is Us*, TV series, created by Dan Fogelman (Los Angeles: Rhode Island Ave. Productions).
- This Is Us, season 1, episode 7, "The Best Washing Machine in the World," directed by Silas Howard, written by K. J. Steinberg, aired November 15, 2016.
- Kate Harris, "What We're Talking about When We Talk about 'Vocation,"
 Q Ideas talk, November 13, 2015, 18:44, http://qideas.org
 /articles/what-were-talking-about-when-we-talk-about-vocation/.
- 4. Chaim Potok, The Chosen (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2016), 102.
- 5. James K. A. Smith, *Desiring the Kingdom: Worship, Worldview, and Cultural Formation* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2009).
- Eric O. Jacobsen, The Space Between: A Christian Engagement with the Built Environment (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2012).
- 7. Desmond Tutu, interview by Deborah Solomon, in "The Priest," *New York Times Magazine*, March 4, 2010, http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/07/magazine/07fob-q4-t.html?mcubz=3.

CHAPTER 4: DIMENSIONS & RHYTHMS

- John Godfrey Saxe, "The Blind Men and the Elephant," in *The Poems of John Godfrey Saxe*, 38th ed. (Boston: James R. Osgood, 1873), 260.
- 2. Os Guinness, *The Call: Finding and Fulfilling the Central Purpose of Your Life* (Nashville: W Publishing, 2003), 167.
- Stranger Than Fiction, directed by Marc Forster (Culver City, CA: Columbia Pictures, 2006).
- 4. *Groundhog Day*, directed by Harold Ramis (Culver City, CA: Columbia Pictures, 1993).
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Life Together: The Classic Exploration of Faith in Community (New York: Harper & Row, 1954).

- 6. Jim Gaffigan, Mr. Universe, live comedy show, Washington, DC, 2012.
- 7. Mark Buchanan, Spiritual Rhythm: Being with Jesus Every Season of Your Soul (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010).

CHAPTER 5: SPIRITUALITY

- Read more about Rabbi Akiba in *Jewish Encyclopedia*, s.v. "Akiba ben Joseph," http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/articles/1033-akiba-ben -joseph.
- 2. Richard Rohr, Silent Compassion: Finding God in Contemplation (Cincinnati: Franciscan Media, 2014).
- 3. Explore Jewish rabbinical discipleship at Ray Vander Laan, "In the Dust of the Rabbi: Learning to Live as Jesus Lived," vol. 6 of *Experience the Bible in Historical Context*, https://www.thattheworldmayknow.com/.
- 4. Alan Briggs, *Guardrails: Six Principles for a Multiplying Church* (Colorado Springs: NavPress, 2016).
- C. S. Lewis, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (New York: HarpC, 2000), 79–80.
- Alan Hirsch, The Forgotten Ways: Reactivating Apostolic Movements (Grand Rapids: Brazos, 2016), e-book.
- 7. Richard J. Foster, *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home* (San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1992).
- 8. Paraphrase of key concepts attributed to Richard Rohr.

CHAPTER 6: WORK

- Cool Runnings, directed by Jon Turteltaub (Burbank, CA: Walt Disney Pictures, 1993).
- 2. Edward Mote, "The Solid Rock," copyright 1834, public domain.
- 3. The following articles reference the transience of millennials in the workforce: Heather Long, "The New Normal: 4 Job Changes by the Time You're 32," CNN Money, April 12, 2016, http://money.cnn.com/2016/04/12/news/economy/millennials-change-jobs-frequently/; Adam Poswolsky, "Millennials Need to Ditch Their Parents' Outdated Career Ladders and Embrace Job-Hopping," Quartz, October 5, 2016, https://qz.com/800475/millennials-need-to-ditch-their-parents-outdated-career -ladders-and-embrace-job-hopping/.
- 4. Dorothy Sayers, "Why Work?," in *Letters to a Diminished Church:*Passionate Arguments for the Relevance of Christian Doctrine (Nashville: W Publishing, 2004), 125–26.
- 5. Sayers, "Why Work?," 136.

NOTES

- Angela Duckworth, Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance (New York: Scribner, 2016).
- Yevgeny Yevtushenko, "Weddings," in Yevtushenko: Selected Poems, trans.
 Robin Milner-Gulland and Peter Levi (New York: Penguin Books, 2008), Kindle edition.
- Check out these stats and more on employee engagement at Amy Adkins, "Employee Engagement in U.S. Stagnant in 2015," *Gallup News*, January 13, 2016, http://www.gallup.com/poll/188144/employee-engagement -stagnant-2015.aspx.
- Jill Briscoe, keynote speech, Association for Christians in Student Development Conference, Chicago, Illinois, 2015.
- 10. Skye Jethani, *With: Reimagining the Way You Relate to God* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2011), chaps. 5–6.
- 11. Mary Oliver, "Yes! No!," in *New and Selected Poems*, 2 vols. (Boston: Beacon Press, 2005), 151.
- 12. Brother Lawrence, *The Practice of the Presence of God: The Best Rule of Holy Life* (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2004), 19.
- Hudson Taylor, quoted in Howard Taylor and Geraldine Taylor, Hudson Taylor in Early Years: The Growth of a Soul (New York: Hodder & Stoughton, 1912), 100.
- Samuel Beckett, Nohow On: Company, Ill Seen Ill Said, Worstward Ho (New York: Grove Press, 1983), 90.
- 15. Mother Teresa and Angelo Devananda, *Mother Teresa: Contemplative in the Heart of the World* (Ann Arbor, MI: Servant, 1985), 113.

CHAPTER 7: FAMILY

- We're not joking. Check out the Flat Earth Society website at https://www .theflatearthsociety.org/home/.
- 2. Most attribute the quote to Theodore Roosevelt.
- The philosophical paradox is named after fourteenth-century French philosopher Jean Buridan. Much earlier, Aristotle explored a similar paradox with a man who was equally hungry and thirsty.
- 4. Shannan Martin, Falling Free: Rescued from the Life I Always Wanted (Nashville: Nelson Books, 2016), 41–42.
- Find out more about the good work being done in La Limonada at Lemonade International, www.lemonadeinternational.org.
- Katelyn Beaty, A Woman's Place: A Christian Vision for Your Calling in the Office, the Home, and the World (New York: Howard Books, 2016), 163.
- 7. Ron Belgau, "Three Kinds of Friendship," *Spiritual Friendship* (blog), May 3, 2013, https://spiritualfriendship.org/2013/05/03/three-kinds-of-friendship/.

Read more about Ron Belgau's story and spiritual friendship at https://spiritualfriendship.org/2012/04/07/ron-belgau-why-am-i-here/.

CHAPTER 8: CHURCH

-negative/.

- 1. Lord Acton, letter to Bishop Mandell Creighton, April 5, 1887.
- David Kinnaman and Aly Hawkins, You Lost Me: Why Young Christians Are Leaving Church... and Rethinking Faith (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2011), 23.
- 3. Hannah Fingerhut, "Millennials' Views of News Media, Religious Organizations Grow More Negative," *FactTank*, Pew Research Center, January 4, 2016, http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/01/04/millennials-views-of-news-media-religious-organizations-grow-more
- 4. Michael Lipka, "A Closer Look at America's Rapidly Growing Religious 'Nones," *FactTank*, Pew Research Center, May 13, 2015, http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/05/13/a-closer-look-at-americas-rapidly-growing-religious-nones/.
- Bob Hyatt, "We Will Let You Down: If We're Close Enough to Help, We're Close Enough to Hurt," in J. R. Briggs and Bob Hyatt, *Ministry Mantras: Language for Cultivating Kingdom Culture* (Downers Grove, IL:
- IVP Books, 2016), e-book.6. Eugene H. Peterson, A Long Obedience in the Same Direction: Discipleship in an Instant Society (Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2012), 49.
- 7. Peterson, *A Long Obedience*, 57. Peterson was referring to an image Spurgeon described in Charles Spurgeon, *Lectures to My Students* (n.p.:
- CreateSpace, 2014), 136.
 8. Os Guinness, *The Call: Finding and Fulfilling the Central Purpose of Your Life* (Nashville: Nelson, 2003), 93.
- 9. Gerhard Lohfink, *Does God Need the Church? Toward a Theology of the People of God*, trans. Linda M. Maloney (Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 1999). Specifically, see part 1, and chapters 1–7.
- 10. C. Christopher Smith and John Pattison, *Slow Church: Cultivating Community in the Patient Way of Jesus* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books,
- 2014), 28.11. Stanley Hauerwas, "Letter of April 16, 2007," in Stanley Hauerwas and Romand Coles, *Christianity, Democracy, and the Radical Ordinary:*
- Conversations between a Radical Democrat and a Christian (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2008), 105.
- Briggs, "In a Family, Presence Is More Important Than Attendance," in Briggs and Hyatt, Ministry Mantras.

NOTES

13. Gabe Lyons, *The Next Christians: How a New Generation Is Restoring the Faith* (New York: Doubleday, 2010), pt. 2.

CHAPTER 9: COMMUNITY

- 1. This concept is known as the law of the instrument or Maslow's hammer. See Abraham Maslow, *The Psychology of Science* (New York: Harper & Row, 1966), 15–16.
- 2. See US Census Bureau, "QuickFacts: Grant County, Indiana; 2011–2015," accessed September 9, 2017, https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/grantcountyindiana/PST045216.
- 3. Read more in James H. Madison, *A Lynching in the Heartland: Race and Memory in America* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2001).
- "Public School Students Receiving Free or Reduced Price Lunches," Kids Count Data Center, accessed September 9, 2017, http://datacenter .kidscount.org/data/tables/5187-public-school-students-receiving-free-or -reduced-price-lunches#detailed/5/2318/false/871,870,573,869,36/1279,1 280,1281/13762,11655.
- 5. US Department of Health and Human Services, "Number of Children in Foster Care Increases for the Third Consecutive Year," *Children's Bureau Express* 17, no. 8 (November 2016), https://cbexpress.acf.hhs.gov/index .cfm?event=website.viewArticles&issueid=181&articleid=4855.
- Alan Briggs, Staying Is the New Going: Choosing to Love Where God Places You (Colorado Springs: NavPress, 2015), 117.
- 7. Adapted from Briggs, Staying Is the New Going, 117-19.
- 8. UNICEF, "Orphans," Press Centre, last updated June 16, 2017, https://www.unicef.org/media/media_45279.html.
- 9. Steven Garber, Visions of Vocation: Common Grace for the Common Good (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2014), 144.
- Check out video footage of this sacrificial act at James Dator, "Watch Softball Players Carry Injured Opponent following Home Run," SBNation, April 29, 2014, http://www.sbnation.com/lookit/2014 /4/29/5664818/watch-softball-players-carry-injured-opponent-following -home-run.
- 11. Andy Crouch, Strong and Weak: Embracing a Life of Love, Risk, and True Flourishing (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2016), 147.
- 12. Lonni Collins Pratt and Daniel Homan, *Radical Hospitality: Benedict's Way of Love* (Brewster, MA: Paraclete Press, 2005), 63.

CONCLUSION: TIME TO LEAN

- 1. Thomas Merton, *Thoughts in Solitude* (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1999), 79.
- 2. Frederick Buechner, *Telling Secrets: A Memoir* (New York: HarperCollins, 1991), 30.
- 3. Parker J. Palmer, Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2000), 10.
- 4. Steven Garber, Visions of Vocation: Common Grace for the Common Good (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2014), 22, 179.
- 5. Timothy Keller, Every Good Endeavour: Connecting Your Work to God's Plan for the World (New York: Penguin, 2014), 239.
- 6. As quoted in Gil Bailie, Violence Unveiled: Humanity at the Crossroads (New York: Crossroad Publishing Company, 1995), xv.