

Find Your Unique Calling

Jennifer Lee Smith

I was the person who never knew what I was going to be when I grew up. Like lots of little girls, I dreamed of being a movie star, rich and famous, but by the time I was in high school I had no idea what I wanted to do. I was a hard worker, took the jobs I was qualified for and began to discover what I was good at and what I enjoyed. Still something was missing.

But God...

It wasn't until I really started living for the Lord that I had a sense of a mission and a purpose for life. I began to see how God was shaping and molding me for the plans He had for me! He used even my mistakes, my sin and my pain to accomplish it. Without Him it wouldn't be possible. And that is exactly the kind of faith-filled adventure that Jesus has for all of us.

Like Joshua, the things God has called me to do have been bigger than I could do in my own strength. And like Joshua, I have been surrounded by the "10 spies" who could only see the circumstances from a human perspective and not take the Lord at His Word (Numbers 13). I have feared that I was unqualified and inadequate both for ministry and for a major career change. Over the years, I have battled perfectionism, feeling like a fraud, fear of what people would think and fear of going outside my comfort zone and financially losing everything.

We have an enemy, Satan, whose mission statement is to steal, kill and destroy. He does not hesitate to use these fears to accomplish his mission—to keep you from living in the abundant life and freedom Christ came to give you.

Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors thorough Him who loved us. Romans 8:37

In each season of our lives, God grows us and uses us **right where we are**. He has given us spiritual gifts, natural talents, skills and opportunities.

- He puts desires in our hearts that line up with His will and purpose (Psalm 37:4)
- It is our faith that pleases Him (Hebrews 11:6)
- He wants us to go outside our comfort zone and take steps of faith
- Trust in God, know His Word, learn to do the Word (James 1:22)
- Let His Holy Spirit lead you—seek Him and follow Him. He will lead you through doors you could have never imagined would open
- You have a unique sphere of influence and a mission so exciting and custom-fit for you!

RESOURCES

God's Way to Success by Jennifer Lee Smith

You Were Made For More by Jim Cymbala

Experiencing Success God's Way by Charles Stanley

Cure for the Common Life—Living in Your Sweet Spot by Max Lucado

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