Vocation Resources: Books

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1: How Many People Does it Take to Make a Difference? - Dan Zadra

It is said that we all come into the world with special gifts in our hands designed to make the world a better place. The purpose of the 1 book is to inspire you to discover and celebrate your special gifts and share them with a world that truly needs you.



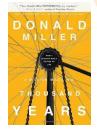
5: Where Will You Be Five Years from Today? - Dan Zadra

The next five years can be the most exciting and satisfying years of your life—or just another five years. Let this extraordinary book be your guide and inspiration. Whether you are just starting college, preparing to graduate, newly married, considering a new career, setting goals for retirement, or just looking to inspire someone special, this book is one of the most inspiring and compelling you can find.



10: What's on Your Top 10 List? - Dan Zadra

Written lists have a way of transforming your hopes into dreams, your dreams into plans, and your plans into reality. The 10 book, the latest addition to the bestselling *Life by the Numbers* series, is an inspirational guide to creating these life lists and helping you to realize your biggest dreams.



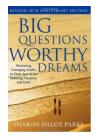
A Million Miles in a Thousand Years - Donald Miller

After writing a successful memoir, Donald Miller's life stalled. During what should have been the height of his success, he found himself unwilling to get out of bed, avoiding responsibility, even questioning the meaning of life. But when two movie producers proposed turning his memoir into a movie, he found himself launched into a new story filled with risk, possibility, beauty, and meaning. *A Million Miles in a Thousand Years* chronicles Miller's rare opportunity to edit his life into a great story.



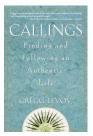
A Princess and Her Garden - Patricia R. Adson and Jennifer E. Van Homer

A Princess and Her Garden is a fable that reflects the stories of many women—and some men—who learn to put other people's needs before their own, until one day they come to realize they feel lost or unhappy because they have forgotten, or perhaps never learned, how to care for themselves. This story is more about the awakening and arrival of you, the reader, than it is about the journey of the Princess. What are your needs?



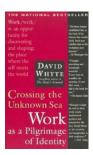
Big Questions, Worthy Dreams: Mentoring Emerging Adults in Their Search for Meaning, Purpose, and Faith – Sharon Daloz Parks

Building on the foundation she established with her ground-breaking book, *The Critical Years*, Parks invites us to take up responsibility for providing thoughtful mentorship and mentoring environments during the wilderness years of young adulthood. In this book, she provides concrete ways of employing a theory into different types of mentoring communities focusing on meaning-making and disciplinary learning through the context of stories and illustrations.



Callings: Finding and Following an Authentic Life – Greg Levoy

How do we know if we're following our true callings? How do we sharpen our senses to cut through the distractions of everyday reality and hear the calls that are beckoning us? A calling may be to do something (change careers, go back to school, have a child) or to be something (more creative, less judgmental, more loving). While honoring a calling's essential mystery, this book also guides readers to ask and answer the fundamental questions that arise from any calling.



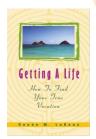
Crossing the Unknown Sea - David Whyte

For anyone who wants to deepen their connection to their life's work—or find out what their life's work is—this book can help navigate the way. Through *Crossing the Unknown Sea*, Whyte encourages readers to take risks at work that will enhance their personal growth, and shows how burnout can actually be beneficial and used to renew professional interest. Through poetry, gifted storytelling, and personal experience, Whyte reveals work's potential to fulfill us and bring us closer to ultimate freedom and happiness.



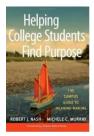
Forgetting Ourselves on Purpose: Vocation and Ethics of Ambition – Brian J. Mahan

In the wise and often witty *Forgetting Ourselves on Purpose*, Brian Mahan considers the question of how it is possible to create a meaningful spiritual life while living in a culture that measures us by what we have rather than who we are. Brian shares stories of personal struggle and triumph that demonstrate how those who seek meaning and purpose have reclaimed their authentic selves by resolving the inevitable tension between personal ambition and spiritual vibrancy.



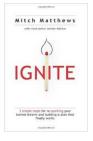
Getting a Life: How to Find Your True Vocation – Renee M. LaReau

How do we discover what our gifts are and where to best use them? Is it valid to make a bundle on Wall Street? Do we have to love our job all the time? What can we learn from the setbacks that always seem to follow opportunities and joy? Renee LaReau addresses all of these questions and more with honesty and grace in this spiritual and practical map of discovery on what to do with the rest of your life.



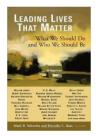
Helping College Students Find Purpose: The Campus Guide to Meaning-Making – Robert J. Nash, Michele C. Murray, and Sharon Daloz Parks

More students are demanding that their college experiences address the core questions of meaning and purpose. *Helping College Students Find Purpose* provides a theory-to-practice model of meaningmaking. This guidebook provides the background knowledge and tools necessary to create a meaningful community by encouraging faculty and administrators to act as mentors to students.



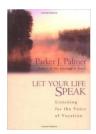
Ignite - Mitch Matthews

Whether you can remember them or not, you've got some big dreams. They are in there, you just need a catalyst to help you take that first step. *Ignite* is that catalyst. It's a book to re-spark your big dreams. It provides simple, yet powerful ideas to get you thinking and stories that will inspire you to take action on your dreams. Upon finishing *Ignite*, readers will have a plan to put into action and reach their big dreams.



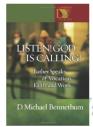
Leading Lives that Matter: What We Should Do and Who We Should Be – Mark R. Schwen and Dorothy C. Bass

Leading Lives that Matter draws together a wide range of texts – including fiction, autobiography, and philosophy – offering challenge and insight to those who are thinking about what to do with their lives. Instead of giving prescriptive advice, Mark Schwehn and Dorothy Bass approach the subject of vocation as an ongoing conversation. The text includes some of the Western traditions' best writings on human life. Leading Lives that Matter will help readers clarify and deepen how they think about their own lives.



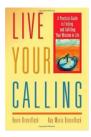
Let Your Life Speak - Parker J. Palmer

With wisdom, compassion, and gentle humor, Parker J. Palmer invites us to listen to the inner teacher and follow its leadings toward a sense of meaning and purpose. Telling stories from his own life and the lives of others who have made a difference, Palmer shares insights gained from darkness and depression, as well as fulfillment and joy, illuminating a pathway toward vocation for all who seek the true calling of their lives.



Listen! God is Calling: Luther Speaks of Vocation, Faith, and Work – D. Michael Bennethum

The Christian faith has implications for all of life. Yet, many Christians do not make the connection between the resources of their faith and the challenges they face in daily life and work. In *Listen! God is Calling*, D. Michael Bennethum presents Martin Luther's teaching on vocation as a resource both for individual believers, helping them find deeper meaning in their ordinary daily labors; and for congregations, encouraging them to develop a climate that supports their members at work.



Live Your Calling: A Practical Guide to Finding and Fulfilling Your Mission in Life – Kevin and Kay Marie Brennfleck

An action plan for self-fulfillment that helps people find their true calling in life. This practical and inspirational guide helps Christian men and women of all ages identify and use their God-given gifts to find purpose, direction, and joy in their life and work. Based on their years of counseling and experience, Kevin and Kay Marie Brennfleck offer action-oriented tools and a proven methodology to help readers develop the decision-making skills they need to discover and live a meaningful life.



Make Your Job a Calling: How the Psychology of Vocation Can Change Your Life at Work – Bryan J. Dik and Ryan D. Duffy

In *Make Your Job a Calling*, authors Bryan J. Dik and Ryan D. Duffy help the reader navigate the many challenges—both internal and external—that may arise along the pathway to a sense of calling at work. Over the course of four sections, the authors define the idea of calling, review cutting-edge research on the subject, provide practical guidelines for discerning a calling at all stages of work and life, and explore what calling will look like as workplace norms continue to evolve.



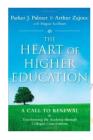
Soulpancake: Chew on Life's Big Questions – Rainn Wilson, Devon Gundry, Golriz Lucina, and Shabnam Mogharabi

Somewhere over the course of history, chewing on Life's Big Questions lost its cool factor. Fortunately for mankind, Rainn Wilson and a bunch of his friends are on a mission to change that. Based on the wildly successful website SoulPancake.com, this book urges you to explore philosophy, creativity, spirituality, love, truth, science, and so much more. *SoulPancake* creates a space for you to stimulate your brain stem, spark your soul, and figure out what it means to be human.



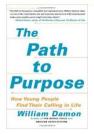
The Garden at Night: Burnout and Breakdown in the Teaching Life - Mary Rose O'Reilley

Whether you're a beginning teacher trying to sustain your idealism, or an experienced professional courting burnout, take a deep breath and read Mary Rose O'Reilley's *The Garden at Night*. O'Reilley draws on numerous experiences from the classroom and collegial life, and identifies strategies that tap your own courage and strength. *The Garden at Night* will help you find the quiet well of energy within that nourishes your teaching by aligning it to the present moment and revitalizing it during darker, more stressful times.



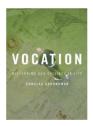
The Heart of Higher Education - Parker J. Palmer, Arthur Zajonic, and Megan Scribner

The Heart of Higher Education revisits the roots and reclaims the vision of higher education. This text proposes an approach to teaching and learning that honors the whole human being—mind, heart, and spirit—an essential integration if we hope to address the complex issues of our time. This book is for all who are new to the field of holistic education, all who want to deepen their understanding of its challenges, and all who want to practice and promote this vital approach to teaching and learning on their college campuses.



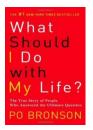
The Path to Purpose – William Damon

Drawing on the results of a landmark study, William Damon brilliantly investigates the most pressing issue in the lives of youth today: why so many young people are "failing to launch" (living at home longer, lacking career motivation, struggling to make a timely transition into adulthood, and not yet finding a life pursuit that inspires them). He discusses a key ingredient to launching one's life successfully; having a clear sense of purpose that motivates an individual and gives them direction.



Vocation: Discerning Our Callings in Life – Douglas Schuurman

The Protestant doctrine of vocation has had a profound influence on American culture, but in recent years central tenets of this doctrine have come under assault. *Vocation: Discerning Our Callings in Life* explores current responses to the classic view of vocation and offers a revised statement and application of this doctrine for contemporary North American Christians.



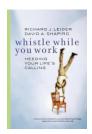
What Should I Do with My Life? - Po Bronson

In What Should I Do with My Life? Po Bronson tells the inspirational true stories of people who have found the most meaningful answers to that great question. With humor, empathy, and insight, Bronson writes of remarkable individuals—from young to old, from those just starting out to those in a second career—who have overcome fear and confusion to find a larger truth about their lives and, in doing so, have been transformed by the experience.



What You're Really Meant to Do - Robert Steven Kaplan

Building a fulfilling life and career can be a daunting challenge. Each of us is unique and brings a distinctive set of skills and talents to any situation. So why is it that most of us fail to spend sufficient time learning to understand ourselves and creating our own definition of success? In this indispensable new book, Kaplan outlines specific steps and exercises to help you understand yourself more deeply, take control of your career, and build your capabilities in a way that fits your passions and aspirations.



Whistle While You Work: Heeding Your Life's Calling - Richard J. Leider and David A Shapiro

Everyone has a calling with a unique purpose to fulfill in the world. Heeding it is about deliberately choosing a way of life and work consistent with individual gifts, passions, and values. Through powerful stories and a guided exploration of 52 possible callings, *Whistle While You Work* helps readers discover how to make a living doing what they were born to do. The authors provide a framework for embracing a very abstract subject in a systematic, practical, and fun way.

