Can listen to previous recordings (last week’s talked about profiles we can take, etc.,). People can skip the first 10 minutes on the Life Purpose Planning one if they don’t want to listen to into info. [www.collegeplus.org/prepared-for-life/watch](http://www.collegeplus.org/prepared-for-life/watch)

Dewey Novotny, author of Life Purpose Planning: Answering the Second Great Question in Life

Invitation to join God in His purpose for your life (purpose and calling – once you figure it out, you get equipped for, set goals, action steps, then get going)

Ps 29:18

How do we get started in discovering purpose?

You need to know the destination to know your journey

How do you decide on college, major, courses, if you don’t know your purpose?

It’s hard to offer wise alternatives if you don’t know what’s being considered. Harder to pray for them too. Don’t want to spend resources on something that doesn’t have any eternal motivation.

Psalm 16:11, Jeremiah 29:11 -- It’s a journey: where am I going? How am I going to get there?

Novotny spent about four hours with his daughter.

Start praying, asking God. He’s not waiting to get started. He started a long time ago.

Who has God brought into your life who has had a big impact on you?

What skills, gifts and talents has God given you?

What kind of calling have you responded to in the past?

One student didn’t feel he’d had a specific call, but the closest that had come to it was his love for music. That gave them a good place to start.

With his daughter, they started listing what they had been doing in the past. Which of them did you enjoy? It’s good to know why s/he enjoys it.

“So, can you help me understand what you mean by this specific phrase? Can you give me a specific example from this taking place in your life?”

Start mining gold nuggets from this discussion.

List of things not enjoyed. “What would you have added to that event that would have made it more enjoyable?” Our young people are already wired to know what fits and doesn’t fit. “Help me understand why those missing elements are important.”

How do you do with a quiet student? Or one who answers with a lot of “I don’t know.”

We’re looking for life-shaping events. We’re looking for activities that require big commitment, etc.

They usually do know all along.

Dive Deep Questions:

Why is that important to you?

What would that look like?

Tell me more about…

Help me understand…

What do you mean by?

Use lots of prayer. Ask lots of questions. Be gentle. Don’t be overly parental. You need God to help you discern what’s going on. His plan will work; your answers will not work.

You can use these even when driving, running errands, etc. Doesn’t have to be a four-hour life purpose meaning.

Needs to be student, God and parents involved in this process.

Bring wisdom, seek understanding, apply knowledge.

Bread crumb trail:

Look for the way he has always been.

Look for the big a-ha’s!

Blogs

Name

Heroes

Speakers/Topics

Books

Movies

Activities

People interactions

Spiritual gifting

Passions

Talents/Abilities

Burdens

Outlets

Personality

Look at their effective methods (and ineffective)

Ask them to rate things on scale of 1-10 (10 etched in gold by the hand of gold, 1 – my sister’s idea that I pulled out of the trash can because I was desperate)

What if they have a lot of 10s? Ask, “What would be the best possible outcome?” Also ask, “What if you couldn’t do that?” If I couldn’t cook, I’d put on a tea party (want to be involved in hospitality). What about politics? No problem; I’d just volunteer. Easy to came up with alternatives. Then, “What’s the best possible thing you could get?” That pushed her farther. For music, best possible would be making a music book that would talk about the great composers and address the character that made them great. Spanish: translating a major spiritual book. Cooking would be cookbook. The pattern was writing. “What if you couldn’t write?” “What do you mean? How could I not?” Realization: that was the thing that needed to be encouraged: writing. Sent to desktop publishing course. Just two weeks. Loved it, did a good job, was effective. So then she pursued further training. Watched how God used it. Got a call from an organization in OK asking her to come and work with them. Hadn’t heard of this organization, so wondered how they knew of her daughter. Org had used the desktop publishing group to find someone that fit what they were looking for. They recognized God directed her steps through that. She did ultimately do that. Learned great skills, how to serve well, etc.

When you see delight and effective methods and service to people, then you can move forward to the next step.

How does individual purpose differ from Great Commission calling?

They need to know the what and the why.

This process can start young. Watch for what they take delight in doing. Try putting it in the form of service to someone and see how that goes.

Starting at 18 is starting rather late.

Find a way to serve. Find people to serve. Jot down specific commitments at church. Even at 8 years old, you can start seeing spiritual gifts, learning styles, etc. Assessments are great. Hopefully they’re telling you what you already know. If not, I’d be suspicious.

[www.Lifepurposeplanning.org](http://www.Lifepurposeplanning.org) – Dewey is available to interact with you

Bible is most important. Make sure you have a biblical model in Scripture. Is there one that really stands out? For Gina, it was Pr 31 woman. “What do you think the Proverbs 31 woman was doing when she was your age?” Find a way to make application from the Scriptures.

www.collegeplus.org

Closing thoughts:

You are looking for:

Significant audience young person cares about and has burden for

Delightful method

Life-changing message to pass on that will have an eternal impact (faith-hope-love)

Process:

Surrender to God’s will

Seeking His purpose and calling

Committing to it

Getting equipped to accomplish

Engage in life-to-life ministry

Get involved with other people who are accomplishing it

It’s not so much about where they are now, but about where they are headed.