

210 PROJECT

DISCOVER YOUR PLACE IN GOD'S STORY

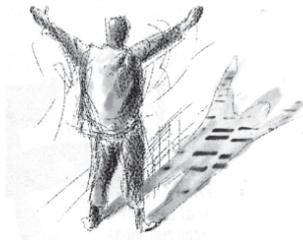
MY PLACE

Chris Arnold Sr

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S.O.L.O. Workbook

(Stop • Observe • Listen • Obey)



MY SPIRITUAL DNA



MY LIFE PATH



MY LIFE MISSION

*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,
which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*

—Ephesians 2:10

WELCOME TO YOUR DAY OF SOLITUDE*

*"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."
Proverbs 3:5,6*

This process will help you answer two questions:

- "Why am I here?"
- "What does God really want me to do with my life?"

Your Day of Solitude will help you reflect on your life, consider your unique wiring, gifts, and experiences—all toward the goal of hearing God's voice. As you know from *The 2:10 Project* book, Ephesians 2:10 gives us a blueprint for understanding who we are and what God calls each of us to do:

*"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,
which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them" (NKJV).*

You'll see that God doesn't offer a one-size-fits-all approach. Instead, just as each person's story is unique, so is each person's process. Through the process, we pray you'll discover (or rediscover) a vibrant relationship with God, the One who absolutely knows what He has made you for. In a very practical way, you will find your next assignment (or assignments) from God.

In the following pages, you will capture 3 important components for discovering your place in God's story, your **Spiritual DNA**, **God's Path for Your life** and your **Life Mission**.

The SOLO Process: Getting the Most From Your Day of Solitude

To get the most out of your time with God, keep in mind the following framework and suggestions for your SOLO time:

S: *Stop and be silent before God*

O: *Observe, looking closely at your life's story, the data of your assessments, and other inputs.*

L: *Listen, to your own heart, to the voices of trusted friends, and most importantly, to the Lord's voice in your life.*

O: *Obey, being careful to write down what you feel the Lord is directing you to do so that you can follow through, putting words into action.*

"Day of Solitude" is our recommendation. However, it is also possible that your Day of Solitude could be a "Time of Solitude," such as a weekend retreat, a dedicated series of daily devotions, or another time configuration. It is totally up to you. These materials will support any approach that you take to listen to God's voice over a sustained period of time.

Things you might want to take with you on your day of solitude

- Bible
- Pin
- Spiral Notebook
- iPad, iPod or other device to play worship music

Here are a few recommendations for you to get the most out of your SOLO time:

1. Remember, often we ask God, "What should I do?" But He is answering another question, like, "Who am I really?" Or, "How should I live my life?" He will answer our questions, but not necessarily when we want Him to.
2. Be sure to pray, meditate, and write down your thoughts and reflections. This is an interactive process between you and God. The more you interact with the process, the deeper the learning goes. What we find is a lifetime process— seeking God, knowing Him, and following His will and ways for our life.
3. Don't be intimidated by the process of listening to God's voice and writing your thoughts out. We are all in process, on the journey, and learning how to do this mysterious thing called life. Give God your questions, concerns, doubts—all of it—and He will meet you right where you are and he desires to direct your path.

"In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps."
Proverbs 16:9

A Path for your SOLO Time

Focus on Him first, make your requests of Him last

Worship God

Start out your time by listening to some worshipful music on your iPad, iPod or other device. Give yourself time to unwind and set your mind on Him. Meditate on Romans 8:5-9: *"For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is Life and Peace!"* Read through some of your favorite Psalms: Psalm 8, Psalm 27, Psalm 91, Psalm 103 are some of our favorites. Read a verse and then stop and pray about what this verse is saying to you specifically or about God. This will lead you into a time of Praise and Adoration of Him.

Confessing Your Sins, Doubts, Honest Thoughts

This is your time to clear your heart before the Lord. He knows what you have done and not done, so come clean to Him. Ask His forgiveness, and to make your heart clean and pure again. Also, consider confessing your sin to another close friend who can agree with you in prayer for your forgiveness. During your time, ask God to bring to mind anyone whom you have wronged. This can be a difficult process. Be courageous— it is important to know He has plans for you, especially as you humble submit yourself to Him and others. This is a very powerful truth. Enter the persons' name here:

Make notes in your 210 MAP as to any type of restitution you may need to do with others whom you have wronged.

Read Ephesians 1...the entire chapter. Focus on Verses 11-12 *"In Him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of Him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of His will, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of His glory."*

Meditate on verse 17 – Paul prays that your heart would be enlightened to understand all that he has just written in verse 1 – 17. Ask God to give you revelation into His delight in you and His will and plan for you. Our prayer for you is that you will grasp the reality that you are an integral part of His plan, one that He has already mapped out for you.

Let's get started! Here is a prayer to begin your Day of Solitude:

Dear Father, I am ready to seek You. I am reminded that You have wonderfully and fearfully created me. You have a future for me. Help me to listen to You in the moments and months ahead. Give me wisdom to discern the meaning of my own life. Be glorified in my life and help me to hear Your voice and follow Your ways. In Jesus' Name...

Discovering Your Unique Spiritual DNA



When you believe and embrace who God is and who He has created you to be, then your calling, purpose, and life mission work themselves out.





REFLECT

YOUR NATURAL GOD-GIVEN STRENGTHS

Your natural God-given strengths come from how God has wired you. The first step in learning who you are also sets you up to know how you can invest this asset, your strengths, by acknowledging that God has made you different from every other person. In God's economy of human relationships, we're not only bound by what we share in common, but also by differences that unite us for a yet eternal purpose.

Consider meditating on the following passages (and any others that God brings to mind). Remember the process: S.O.L.O. (Be Silent, Observe, Listen, Obey). Let the word of God renew your understanding of this idea, your God-given strengths.

• 1 Peter 4:7-11

• 1 Corinthians 12:12-18

• Psalm 139

YOUR GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

Chris wants to be seen as a responsible person, and will avoid behavior that could be seen by others as irresponsible. **He likes to start and finish activities. Others who work with him know they can depend on him.** Once Chris has come to a decision, others may find it difficult to change his mind. If changes are inevitable, and he sees enough benefits, they will be made. **He wants challenging assignments that can be followed through to completion. He prefers tasks of a technical nature.** Chris usually develops strong attachments for his work group and family. Loyalty and being a team player are usually his goals. He is a good, steady, dependable team member. **He can be friendly with others in many situations, but primarily with groups of established friends and team members. He is sociable and enjoys the uniqueness of each human being.**

Chris tries to use balanced judgment. He is the person who brings stability to the entire team. **He is persistent and persevering in his approach to achieving goals. He is good at analyzing situations that can be felt, touched, seen, heard, personally observed or experienced. His motto is, "facts are facts."** He uses logic to assist him in decision making. This tendency is helpful to others in his group. Chris may want to think over major decisions before acting. He must be convinced that actions will produce the desired result. **Making plans and following those plans is important to him.** When faced with a tough decision, he will seek information and analyze it thoroughly.

Chris is somewhat reserved with those he doesn't trust or know. After trust has been established, he may be open and candid. He is more motivated by logic than emotion. To him, logic represents tangible research. **Rarely does he display his emotions; that is, he projects a reserved demeanor. Others may get the feeling that he is unfriendly, when in reality he is not. He can be outgoing at times. Basically introverted, he will "engage" in social conversation when the occasion warrants.** Chris likes to know what is expected of him in a working relationship and have the duties and responsibilities of others who will be involved explained. Communication is accomplished best by well-defined avenues. He may guard some information unless he is asked specific questions. He will not willingly share unless he is comfortable with the knowledge he possesses about the topic. He usually is considerate, compassionate and accepting of others; however, on some occasions can become stubborn. Stubbornness surfaces when his ideals and beliefs are confronted.

YOUR UNIQUE VALUE

- Presents the facts without emotion.
- **Good at reconciling factions--is calming and adds stability.**
- Always looking for the logical solutions.
- Service-oriented.
- **Objective and realistic.**
- Dependable team player.
- **Excellent troubleshooter.**
- Patient and empathetic.

WHAT MOTIVATES YOU

- Limited exposure to new procedures.
- To be part of a quality-oriented work group.
- Straight talk supported with facts.
- **Limited socializing.**
- **An environment where he can ask specific questions--not just "beat around the bush."**
- Time to adjust to change.
- Instructions so he can do it right the first time.
- To be recognized for his continuance of quality work.
- **Facts and data for making decisions.**
- Information in logical order.
- Time to perform up to his high standards.
- Tangible evidence of effort.



REFLECT

YOUR LIFE PASSION

Remember, your Passion provides clues for you to know the people and places God is calling you to serve. Your Passion resides in the deepest part of your heart and serves as a catalyst to gaining insights into your calling.

YOUR LIFE PASSION STATEMENT

I am called to guide followers of Jesus through a process of discovery of an intimate, personal relationship with our Heavenly Father and an understanding of His unique calling for their lives.



REFLECT

YOUR GOD-GIVEN GIFTS

Spiritual gifts, quite simply, are the supernatural assets God gives to every believer in order to carry out his or her calling and assignments in God's Kingdom. Often, these gifts serve as a wonderful and mysterious expression of partnership between God and mankind—God gives the gifts, and we participate in their “delivery” to the very people and in the very circumstances where they are needed.

We have presented the spiritual gifts in three grouping, motivational gifts, situational gifts, and five-fold equipping gifts. You'll find detailed information in chapter 4 of The 2:10 Project book.

YOUR TOP 5 SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Equipping Gift - Leader -- God uses me to start new churches, projects, or ministries, and help believers grow and use their gifts for service to build the Kingdom.

Motivational Gift - Leading -- In group situations, I often find myself taking charge because I have a clear idea about where we should go and what is best for the group.

Situational Gift - Word of Wisdom -- I have the ability to hear what God is saying and apply it for the specific challenges and situations of life, helping people live wisely.

Situational Gift - Faith -- God gives me an extraordinary confidence to stand on His Word in challenging times, and this trust in God strengthens others around me.

Motivational Gift - Ministry / Acts of Service -- When I am with people, I am quick to see practical ways to help, and I follow through with actions that benefit everyone.

Documenting God's Path for Your Life



God has provided several arenas of "good works" for us, and He desires that we learn to walk in them, thus fulfilling our mission and calling.



GOD'S PATH FOR MY LIFE

Through the online experience, you captured your story on a series of timelines. As you thoughtfully and prayerfully review the milestones and significant experiences in the pages that follow, listen for God's voice and ask Him to help you "interpret the parable of your life."

Your story is where you find intersection with the story of our generation and with the story of God's redemption. The key to this part of the process is to understand that a timeline can speak to you about where God's calling for your life began to emerge or came under attack. Remember, God's leading and His presence with us shapes our calling, taking the events and circumstances of our past and using them to make us fruitful today and in the days ahead.

In the Book of Acts 17:27, Paul makes an astounding statement, "From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. *"God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us."* Paul is telling us that God ordained—made it happen—the time that we live in AND the places where each of us lives. Wow. God's plan. At this time. In this place.



RESPOND

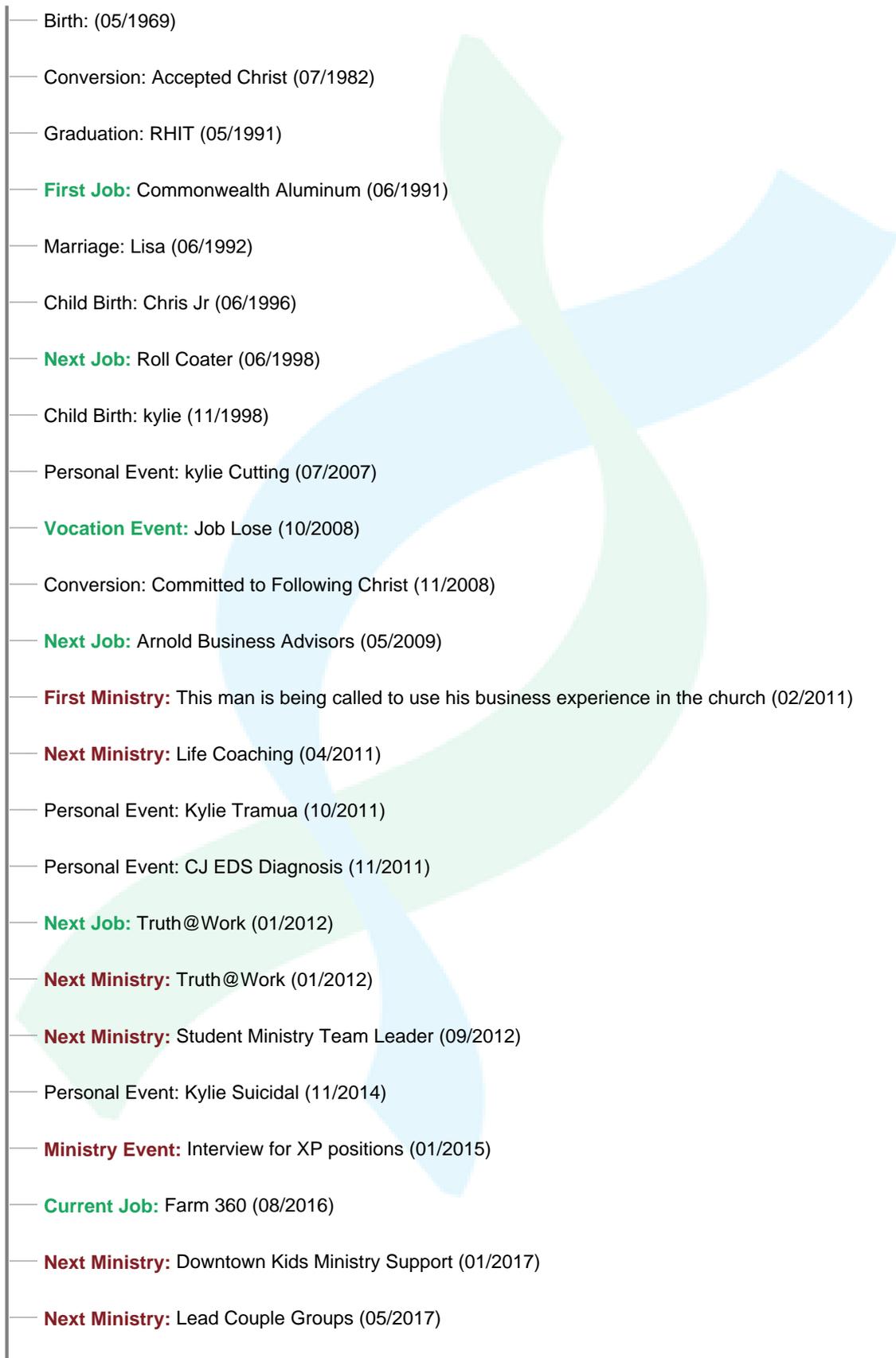
Write down a few of your thoughts about this truth when you consider that God has a place for you in His story:



RESPOND

Do you sense the Lord saying anything specific to you about where and/or to whom He has called you?

α



Ω



Now it is time to write out a practical set of activities that will help build a plan based on what you have learned about your unique spiritual DNA, God's truth about His plans for us, and your online interactions. Though it may take a lifetime to gain wisdom to know how to walk out our calling, God gives us practical places to start. There are big areas of our lives where God has prepared His good works for us to walk in, our vocation, our ministry, to our neighbor and to our family.

We lay them out here not in order of preference or importance, but in an order that is easy to work through. We start with our vocation because often we have our clearest understanding of our contribution at the places of our work. The 4th area "Family" is arguably the most important—if we don't serve and minister in our homes, it is hard to find the margin and confidence to serve anywhere else.

As you work through each area, keep your ear attuned to God's voice to get an idea of where He is calling you first to go. Write down what you believe you are hearing God say. It is amazing over time how faithful He is to the things He has spoken to us, even if we aren't sure the timing, context, or details.



REFLECT

VOCATION

What is your plan for impacting your workplace? We spend a large percentage of our lives at our workplace. It's often the place where our lives intersect with people we might not otherwise meet. Our workplace is also where we work, making our contribution to the world—great or small, we know that our work in itself is important to God.



RESPOND

Based on your strengths, passion(s), spiritual gifts, abilities, and what you believe the Lord is speaking to you today, name 1 or more practical steps you can take to bring glory to God through your work, and to love and serve the people with whom you work:

1. _____
- _____
2. _____
- _____
3. _____
- _____



REFLECT

MINISTRY

What is your plan for living out the Ministry God is calling you to? Each of us has been given a ministry. Often, it is an opportunity right in front of us: a group of young people who need encouragement, a need for prayer, a chance to provide practical help to others. Also, our ministry can change from season to season in life. Ask God what He is calling you to engage at this time in your life.



RESPOND

Based on your strengths, passion(s), spiritual gifts, abilities, and what you believe the Lord is speaking to you today, name 1 or more practical steps you can take to minister to another person:

1. _____
- _____
2. _____
- _____
3. _____
- _____



REFLECT

NEIGHBOR

What is your plan for impacting your neighbor? As we learned in The 2:10 Project book, our neighbor is the person God brings into our lives who has need, and often cannot repay us for our kindness or help. We are also reminded by Jesus that *“as you do to the least of these, so you do unto me.”* In other words, how we treat those who are in need (our Neighbor) is of great importance to the Lord.



RESPOND

Based on your strengths, passion(s), spiritual gifts, abilities, and what you believe the Lord is speaking to you today, name 1 or more practical steps you can take to love your “neighbor.”

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



REFLECT

FAMILY

What is your plan for impacting your family? How can you include them in things you are a part of? One of the greatest things you can do is simply take your family along for the ride. Our spouse and children can be greatly impacted by watching us live out our calling to serve.



RESPOND

Based on your strengths, passion(s), spiritual gifts, abilities, and what you believe the Lord is speaking to you today, name 1 or more practical steps you can take to love and serve your family.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



REFLECT

MARGIN

Jesus isn't calling you to make commitments that you cannot fulfill in His strength. He says that His yoke is easy and His burden is light. In fact, sometimes the road to finding the good works that God has prepared for you is to say "no" to some good things in order to make room for God's opportunities.

As a result, one of the questions you need to explore is how much margin do you really have at this time and season in your life? Many of us have demanding schedules, children to raise and issues we all face. Sometimes it can seem like they keep us from finding our place in God's story.

However, remember that this is a life long journey and that seasons change. The areas of margin in your time, season and resources often are God's signals as well, so don't be in too much of a rush to find that big thing. Start small. Be content with one good work at a time. Make your life an intentional missional life and God will open the doors.

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."
Matthew 7:7-12



RESPOND

Reflect on the questions below and use the notes area on the following page to write out your thoughts.

- How much margin do you really have?
- Realistically, where are the one or two places you can start living out your calling?
- Are there things you should stop doing that are a drain on you? (Take some time to examine all of the things you are committed to and prioritize them to identify these less important activities.)
- What should you be saying "no" to in order to say "yes" to your mission opportunities?
- What commitments do you currently have that align with your mission? (Remember that people are involved in most of what you do, so look for ways to serve others. This is where your family and work are naturally your mission field.)
- What activities can you combine? (Example: One woman who spoke of her work with college students also has a heart for the elderly. She is now taking her college kids with her to shop for the elderly, spend time with them and care for them. She developed this strategy on her SOLO day, realizing she could maximize her time by combining these two worlds. This increases her impact as she modules to these students what ministry is all about. It is a blessing to her, the students and the elderly.)

Life Mission

*God both delights and surprises us through the people
and experiences He uses to equip us to live out our
calling, mission and purpose.*



Life mission is about taking a step in the direction of God's calling. It's not figuring it all out. It's not getting everything lined up so you are guaranteed the perfect kingdom assignment. Trust the process, listen to God for your next step. It's a marathon, not a sprint.

For those of you who are weary, with little to offer (from your perspective), consider meditating on Isaiah 55, a rich passage describing God's wonderful provision in the day of scarcity. Perhaps you feel left out, or left behind, or forgotten. You might consider reading about the life of Joseph, where you can see how God used these times of exile to prepare Joseph for God's big assignment in his life (Genesis 37 and following). Also, remember that God does a lot of speaking to us at times we don't expect (see Psalm 16), or during times of great warfare (see 1 Kings 19 where God speaks to Elijah in the still, small voice).

Consider bringing your family along with you. As you find your assignments from God, take those you love along with you into the mission field. More important even, help your family members and those close to you to also complete The 2:10 Project, going through the same exercises you are completing, and listening for God's voice in their own lives. For some husbands and wives, this can be a very difficult process, but also one God richly rewards for those who press in and trust Him. What we teach and give away is truly what we know and own for ourselves!

MY210&MAP

DISCOVER YOUR PLACE IN GOD'S STORY



MY SPIRITUAL DNA



MY LIFE PATH



MY LIFE MISSION



RESPOND

Now it's time to log back in (www.the210project.com) and insert a few of your answers from your S.O.L.O. Workbook and generate the MY 210 M.A.P. (Ministry Action Plan).

Our hope is your time today was rich, rewarding and fulfilling. It is our prayer for you that you make this a habit in your life from this point on. Plan a day every month to be alone with the Lord. Make it part of the MY 210 M.A.P. to plan these important days to be part of Alliance's 210 Project Movement. God has more to say to you, so make it a propriety in your life mission to understand the heart of God and learn to listen to His voice; He longs to speak to his beloved.

Remember: God's assignments are on His timetable, not yours. Be patient and do the small things first, starting with your family and workplace. These are your immediate God-given assignments. The purpose of this process is to set you on a journey where God will intersect your life with His assignments. Of course this process goes on the rest of our lives. **Keep your radar up and be on the lookout.**

Knowing yourself and your unique spiritual DNA will help you learn to say "no" to things you should not do and "yes" to the opportunities that align to your life mission. Be patient and learn to wait on the Lord. Don't become discouraged if you don't have some awesome plan today. Keep working on it, interact with others and find people that are looking for you. All of this will lead you to pray more and trust God more deeply. You can be assured that this process will lead you to a more fulfilling life as you follow God's plan and discover you are definitely part of God's story.

A FINAL REQUEST

Tell us about your day. We would love to pray for you and suggest ministries that may help you connect to your life mission. Remember, you are not alone in this amazing journey. And finally, be careful and quick to give God all of the glory and thanks for what He will do in you and through you in the months and years to come.