

BUSINESS AS CALLING: The New Frontier?

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Issues.....?

- What is “missions”?
- What is “calling” and how does that relate to “missions”?
- How does this impact how Christians view work and their role in the workplace?



Issues.....?

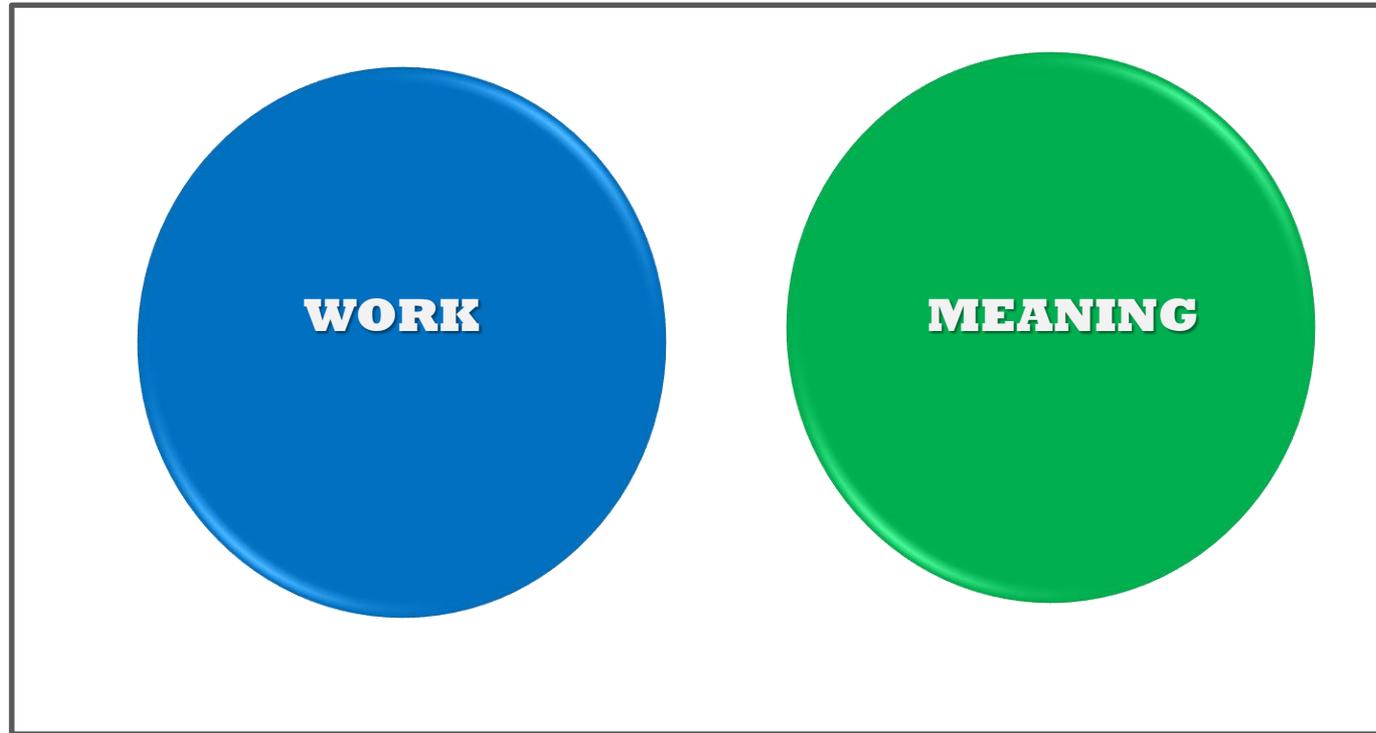
- How do Christians in business view their calling?
- Starting point is to look at meaning in the workplace
- Is this a “new frontier”?
- Billy Graham – “the business arena is the most important mission field of the 21st century”

Introduction: Outline

- I. Meaning at Work: Traditional & Humanist Approaches
- II. Meaning at Work: Christian Approach
- III. Christian Approach: Finding Your Calling
- IV. Christian Approach: Making A Difference



I. Meaning at Work: The Traditional Approach



I. Meaning at Work: The Rise of The Humanist Approach

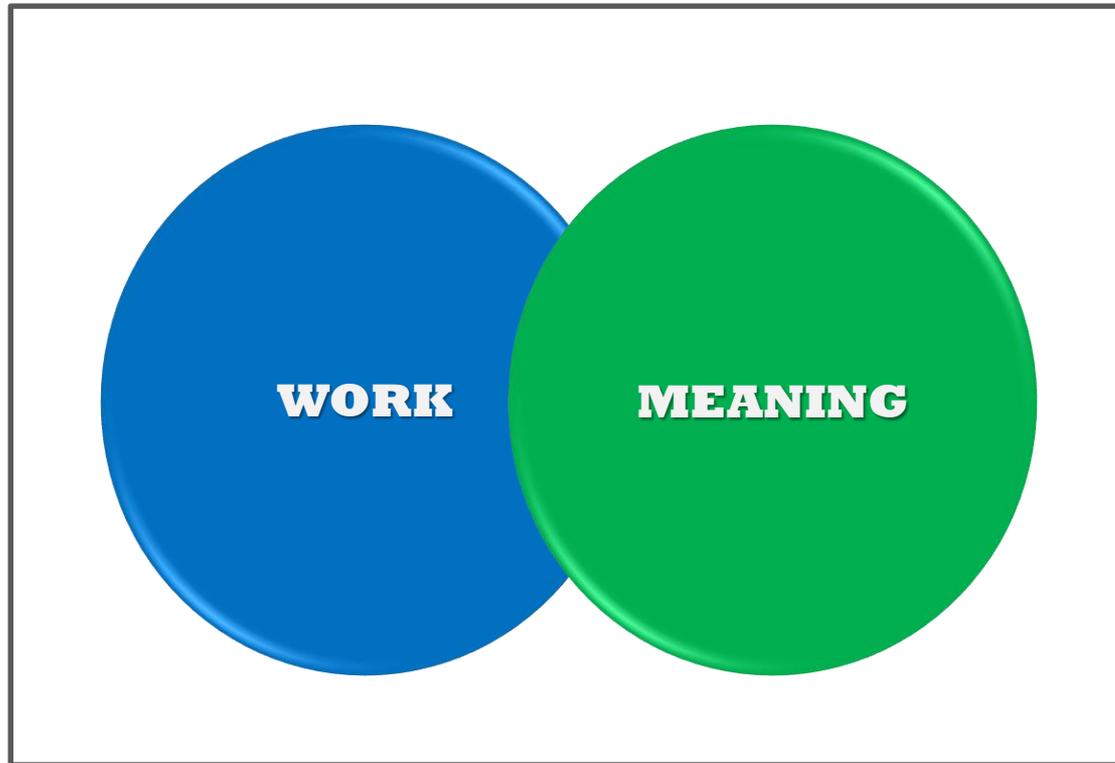
Societal Trends:

- De-institutionalization
- Post-modernism
- Human Potential Movement

Self-crafted “Spirituality”



I. Meaning at Work: The Humanist Approach



I. Meaning at Work: The Humanist Approach

“But before you can determine what your role [you in your business] will be, you must ask yourself...What do I value most? What kind of life do I want? What do I want my life to look like? Who do I wish to be? Your Primary Aim is your answer to all these questions.”



Michael Gerber, The E-Myth

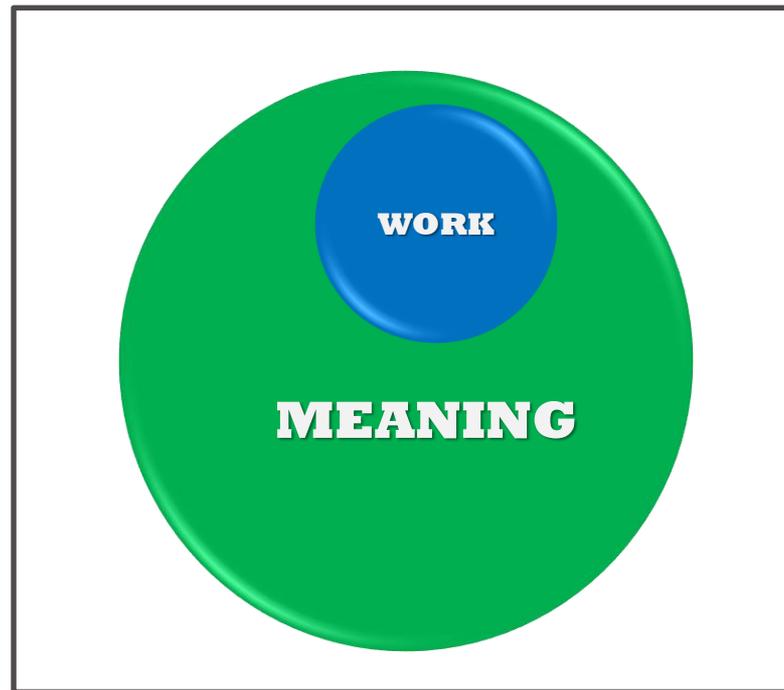


II. Meaning At Work: The Humanist Approach

#	Humanist Approach
1	Self Narrative
2	Horizontal Laws
3	Attributes
4	Self-Oriented Niche
5	Self Help



II. Meaning at Work: The Christian Approach



II. Meaning At Work: The Christian Approach

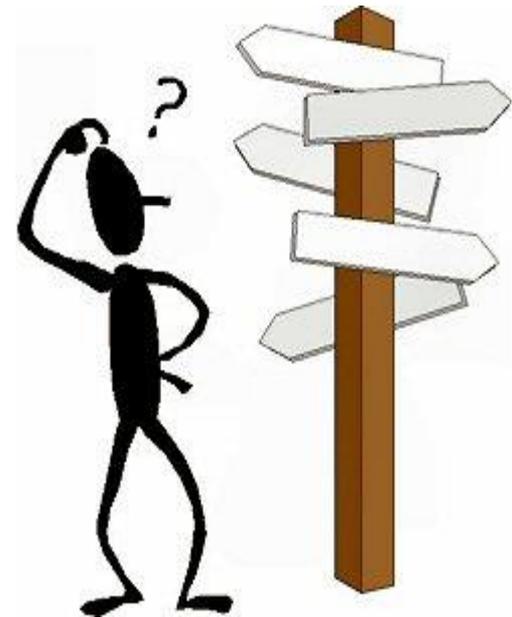
#	Humanist Approach	Christian Approach
1	Self Narrative	God Narrative
2	Horizontal Laws	Vertical Laws
3	Attributes	Virtues
4	Self-Oriented Niche	Communal Gift
5	Self Help	Divine Help



II. Meaning at Work: The Christian Approach

Top Five Misunderstandings
Around “Calling”:

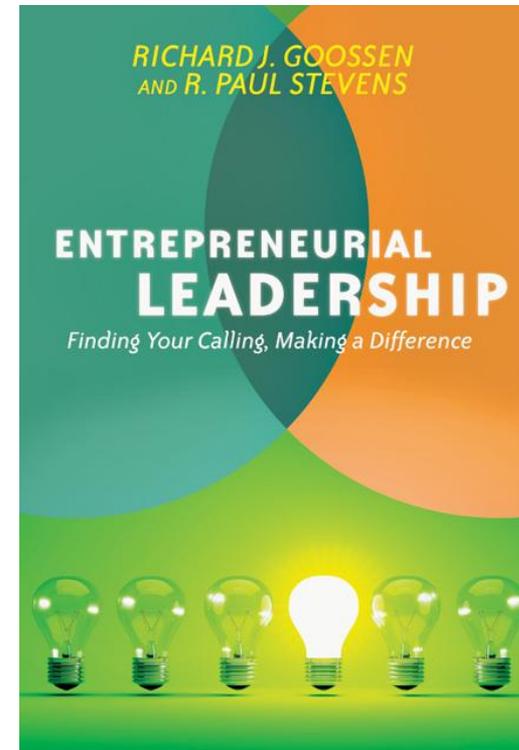
1. Sacred / Secular
2. One-time event
3. Must be Audible
4. Calling is your job
5. Individual Pursuit



II. Meaning at Work: The Christian Approach

Core Aspects of Calling:

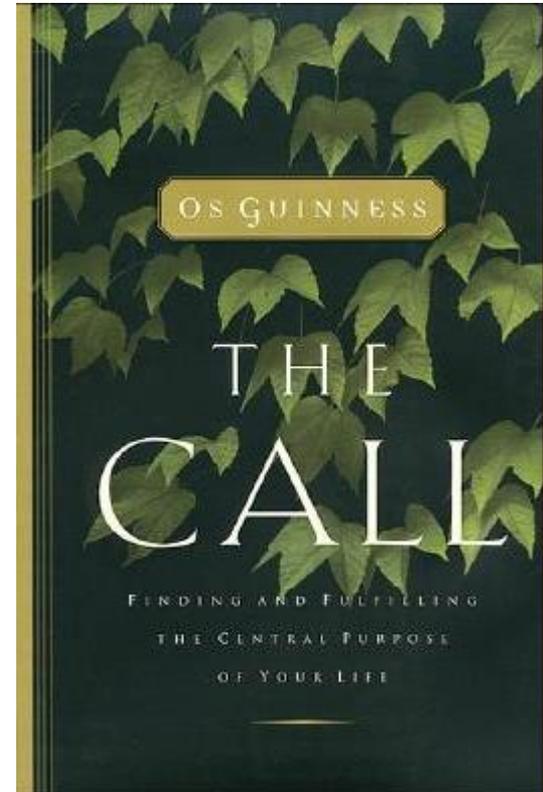
1. Belonging to God
2. Being Godlike people in behaviour
3. Doing God's work in the world
4. Experiencing Life Purpose



III. Calling

Os Guinness – Calling & Life's Challenges

- Purposeful Journey
- Calling v Vocation
- In God's Hands



II. Meaning at Work: The Christian Approach

“Calling is the truth that God calls us to himself so decisively that everything we are, everything we do, and everything we have is invested with a special devotion and dynamism lived out as a response to his summons and service.”



Os Guinness

The Call: Finding and Fulfilling the
Central Purpose of Your Life

III. Christian Approach: Finding Your Calling

P1 = Passion

“I want to be a noisy Christian. I am passionate about telling biblical stories through mass media. Christians are presently the largest and most ineffective tribe in the world. The world will be won, when we are one!”



Mark Burnett, Hollywood Producer &
Entrepreneurial Leaders Award Recipient 2013

III. Christian Approach: Finding Your Calling

P2 = Purpose

“the world of business has become a channel of distribution for fulfilling and living my faith....to embrace and engage those who do not believe as I do”



Bill Pollard, Ex-Chairman, Service Master Corp & ELO Keynote Speaker, Vancouver, 2014

III. Christian Approach: Finding Your Calling

P2 = Purpose

“I believe God made me for a purpose, but he also made me fast. And when I run I feel his pleasure.”

Eric Liddell,
Chariots of Fire (1981)



III. Christian Approach: Finding Your Calling

P3 - Priorities

“We plan to keep growing our business as good stewards. Why keep growing? My father [David Green, Founder] always says that every extra bit of profit means greater Kingdom impact.”



Mart Green, Chairman
Hobby Lobby Group, ELO Keynote Speaker, Toronto, 2014

IV. Christian Approach: Making A Difference

- Businesspeople: see their business as a mission opportunity; they often feel misunderstood and not supported by their church
- Church: businesspeople can financially support church initiatives; they are often too independent and non-consensus oriented



IV. Christian Approach: Making A Difference:

Based on the research, the “self-declared” thinking and motivation of Christian businesspeople:

- They find meaning in work due to faith
- They view business as a mission field
- They want to make a difference



IV. Christian Approach: Making A Difference

Based on the research, there are 4 types of responses of businesspeople in relation to the church:

1. Disengage / remove from church
2. Remain in church / but be passive
3. Remain in church / focus on para-church organizations
4. Remain in church / active through church



Conclusion: The New Frontier?

- All believers are called, including to missions
- There is no hierarchy, sacred-secular distinction
- Business people are having a profound missions impact, outside of formal channels

I Look Forward to Hearing From You!

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*“The World’s Network for Christian
Entrepreneurial Leaders”*

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