



## You: The Sweet Spot | January 25, 2017

### Discussion Guide

#### The Scoop

It's safe to say we are all searching for meaning. We're all looking for that sweet spot where we know we are doing what we were meant to do.

#### Key Verse

Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

*For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.*

#### Discussion

Remember growing up when you thought you knew better than just about everyone, especially your parents? When we heard "no" as a kid, we always asked, "why?" If we didn't like the reason, we either talked about how everyone else was doing it or sometimes we did it anyways.

1. What is one thing you did as a kid that directly disobeyed your parent's wishes?
2. Can you think of a time where you did something you weren't supposed to do and found out the hard way why you weren't supposed to do it?

We are all searching for meaning: that sweet spot where what we want to do aligns with what we think we are supposed to do. If you consider God in that search, it's where our desires and passions align with God's. Much like our disobedient childhood selves, there are several things that can get in the way of actually finding that meaning: 1. We think we know better than God. 2. We wish we had someone else's skills, passions, calling. 3. We worry about what others will think.

3. Which of these 3 things is most prevalent in your search for meaning? Are there any other things that get in the way?

Ephesians 2:10 reminds us that we are God's masterpiece. He has put certain skills, passions, opportunities in front of us, but many of us get hung up on at least one of the 3 issues above. Typically our passions are, at the very least, a hint toward what God wants from us. He manages the passions, we manage the skill set and work to accomplish or achieve.

4. What are your passions?
5. If you really eliminated these barriers, what do you think you would do differently?

#### What's Next?

Bill Hybels, Executive Pastor at Willow Creek, says, "Most of us find our calling through trial and error." He also ascertains that not everybody lives out their calling occupationally. Consider examining your passions...1. What are you drawn to? What is exciting to you? 2. What makes you angry? What problems of the world do you feel desperately need to be fixed?

As you go through the week, consider taking a step toward God by applying your skills, time, and effort to one of the things that you think might be one of your passions. This is the first step in trusting God, discovering calling, and unlocking meaning. It's the first step in trial and error.