

# multiplyvineyard®

DISCOVER COURSE

## Participant Guide

[www.multiplyvineyard.org](http://www.multiplyvineyard.org)

---

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Session One: Figuring Out What God Wants Me to Do .....	3
Session Two: Developing the Characteristics of a Church Planter.....	6
Session Three: Growing in Your Calling .....	10
Session Four: Navigating the Emotional Side of Finding God’s Call ...	14
Next Steps .....	18

---

# Session One: Figuring Out What God Wants Me to Do

## **Session One Overview:**

*1.1 The General Call of God*

*1.2 The Specific Call of God*

*1.3 Five Aspects of How God Made You*

*1.4 Six Ways to Find Out What God Wants*

*Total Session Time 2 hours*

**Learning Outcome:** You will gain practical tools for discovering God's will for your life.

### *1.1 The General Call of God*

How does it (or should it) impact your life that your primary call is to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and to love your neighbor as yourself?

How does it (or should it) impact your life that Jesus tells each of us to go and make disciples of all the nations with specific instructions to baptize and teach those new disciples?

---

## 1.2 The Specific Call of God

What word or concept does God seem to be emphasizing to you from Proverbs 3:1-12? What is the significance of this word for you right now?

## 1.3 Five Aspects of How God Made You

When you think of your own unique shape (spiritual gifts, heart, abilities, personality, and experience), what is one of your strengths, and how do you see God using that?

What is one way you want to grow (either in spiritual gifts, heart, abilities, personality, or experience)?

### **KEY QUOTE**

*“God has special work for every single human being to do.” — Michael Gatlin*



---

## 1.4 Six Ways to Find Out What God Wants

How have you sensed God's call on your life up to this point? (God's word, God's voice, God's reasons, God's people, God's signs, and God's peace)

How is your relationship with God?

When you look at the big picture of your life, what do you sense that God is calling you to?

### **KEY QUOTE**

*"I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do." — John 17:4*

---

# *Session Two: Developing the Characteristics of a Church Planter*

## **Session Two Overview:**

- 2.1 Sense of Call*
- 2.2 Faith-Driven Mission*
- 2.3 Disciple-Making Skills*
- 2.4 People Gathering Skills*
- 2.5 Healthy Communication Skills*
- 2.6 Creative Evangelistic Skills*
- 2.7 Intentional Planning*
- 2.8 Financial Management Skills*
- 2.9 Vineyard Values and Methods*
- 2.10 Marriage/Single*
- 2.11 Emotional Maturity*
- 2.12 Vital Spiritual Life*

**Learning Outcomes:** You will learn the 12 characteristics of successful church planters. You will identify where your strengths and weaknesses lie in relation to 12 characteristics. You will create your next step for personal growth in 12 characteristics.

What's one thing you really like to do when it comes to ministry? Why do you think you like to do it?

---

## *Developing Church Planter Characteristics*

Classify whether each characteristic is an ability of yours, a desire you have, or an opportunity you will need to pursue. Follow your gut feeling as you decide which column to place that characteristic under. Don't think too much about it. Consider:

- Do you already have ability in this area (is it one of your strengths)? If so, put it in the first column under “**Ability.**”
- Is this something you'd really like to learn to do (or are you currently pursuing learning this with joy)? If so, put it in the second column under “**Desire.**”
- Is this something you probably won't work on until you need to (or are you currently in a situation where you need to develop this)? If so, put it under “**Opportunity.**”

**Here are the 12 characteristics of a church planter:**

1. Sense of Call
2. Faith-Driven Mission
3. Disciple-Making Skills
4. People Gathering Skills
5. Healthy Communication Skills
6. Creative Evangelistic Skills
7. Intentional Planning
8. Financial Management Skills
9. Vineyard Values and Methods
10. Marriage/Single
11. Emotional Maturity
12. Vital Spiritual Life

ABILITY	DESIRE	OPPORTUNITY

---

## Evaluating your strength and weaknesses in the characteristics

Which do you think is your strongest ability? Circle it.

Which of your desires *or* opportunities do you think is most critical to pursue at this point? Circle one.

What would be a good next step for you in pursuing either the desire or the opportunity you circled above?

Look at the balance of the three columns. Which column has the most characteristics? The least? Do you see any significance or patterns in which characteristics are in each column?

What does this exercise teach you about how prepared you are for church planting? (On a scale of 1 - 10, how prepared do you think you are to be a church planter?)

Do you hear God saying anything to you in relation to this session? Or what's one thing you've learned?



---

# *Session Three: Growing in Your Calling*

## **Session Three: Overview**

- 3.1 Learning from Paul's Call to Ministry
- 3.2 Paul's Initial Call
- 3.3 An Encouraging Mentor
- 3.4 An Unexpected Command from Jesus
- 3.5 A Pivotal Mission Juncture
- 3.6 Emerging from the Shadow of His Mentor
- 3.7 Bobby Clinton's Stages of Leadership Development

**Learning Outcomes:** You will realize that God's call on your life will become clearer with time. You will identify your next step in hearing and responding to your calling.

### *3.1 Learning from Paul's Call to Ministry - Acts 9:1-19*

What was Saul's call to ministry and how did he receive it?

In what ways did Ananias minister to Saul?

What else stands out to you in this story about how God calls people to leadership and ministry?

### *3.2 Paul's Initial Call - Acts 9:26-30 and 11:19-30*

In what ways did Barnabas invest in and develop Saul?

What are some things that Saul might have learned from Barnabas when he served on the Antioch church leadership team with him?

What are key learnings for us to learn from the story of Barnabas and Saul about how leaders are called and developed?

---

### *3.3 An Encouraging Mentor - Acts 22:17-22*

What was Paul doing when he “fell into a trance”?

Based on his own reasoning and passion, who was Paul wanting to minister to?

Who did Jesus tell him to minister to?

Why do you think Paul felt called to minister to the first group?

Why do you think Jesus redirected him to a different group?

What might we learn from this part of Paul’s story about our own passions, reasoning, and God’s call on our lives?

### *3.4 An Unexpected Command from Jesus - Acts 13:1-5*

In verse 1, assuming that the leaders were listed in order of rank or importance with the most important being listed first (as was Luke’s custom), who would the “senior pastor” of the church in Antioch have been? Who was the junior associate or possibly the youth pastor? Who was perhaps the pastoral intern (verse 5)?

Did Barnabas and Saul receive a call, or an affirmation of a call?

---

What else stands out to you about how Barnabas and Saul were sent out?

Why might Barnabas and Saul have chosen to take their mission trip specifically to the island of Cyprus and eastern Asia Minor—modern day Turkey (see Acts 4:36; 22:2-3)?

What are some lessons for us to learn from this passage and story?

*3.5 A Pivotal Mission Juncture - Acts 13:6-12, 42, 46, 50; 15:36-41, Colossians 4:10, 2 Timothy 4:11*

Barnabas' name consistently is mentioned before Saul's name in all passages before Acts 13:9. Then things abruptly shift and the story is about "Paul and his companions" and "Paul and Barnabas."

What do you think happened?

Considering that Barnabas was from Cyprus and Paul was from Tarsus in Cilicia, how might geography or "turf" have played a part?

How might Barnabas have felt when his leadership began to be eclipsed by Paul's?

How does Paul feel about John Mark in Acts 15:36-41? How does he feel about him years later when he is writing the second letter to Timothy (see 2 Timothy 4:11)?

What are the most important lessons for us about leadership development and calling from the story of Barnabas, Paul, and Mark?

---

### *3.6 Emerging from the Shadow of His Mentor*

What stands out to you from the teaching and discussions on Paul's development as a leader?

### *3.7 Bobby Clinton's Stages of Leadership Development*

Which stage(s) of leadership development are you in right now (Sovereign Foundations, Inner-life Growth, Ministry Maturing, Life Maturing, Convergence, or Afterglow)?

What is one thing that God is teaching you or developing in you?

What are one or two lessons that stand out to you from Paul's life?

What are the next one or two steps for you to apply that lesson or lessons to your life?

#### **KEY QUOTE**

*"What you see as you look at the life of Paul, is that God is constantly at work in your life." — Jim Egli*

---

# *Session Four: Navigating the Emotional Side of Finding God's Call*

## **Session Four: Overview**

4.1 The Process of Finding Your Call

4.2 Dream and Honor

4.3 Relationships

4.4 Fears, Courage and Obedience

4.5 The Vineyard Discernment Process

Total Session Time 2-2.5 Hours

**Learning outcomes:** You will learn healthy ways to process and walk out God's call on your life.

### *4.2 Dream and Honor*

What is one dream you have that is worth pursuing? (This may be something you are already pursuing or something you are just now considering, and it may or may not directly relate to church planting.)

What is one thing concerning the church you are presently in that you can give honor to?

What pastor are you talking with about potentially planting a church? (Or who would you like to start talking with? What do you need to talk over with your sending pastor?)



---

### *4.3 Relationships*

How likely are you to seek help when you are feeling low? Who can you go to for support? Who are peers that you can process both the good and the bad with?

Who are your closest friends? What will it take for you to develop and/or maintain healthy friendships?

How are you doing emotionally in dealing with your shortcomings?

### *4.4 Fears, Courage and Obedience*

Up to this point, how have you handled complexities in life?

---

What is your greatest fear or insecurity? What is your next step in facing it? Who can help you overcome it?

Would you classify yourself as cautious, willing to take healthy risks (courageous), or a daredevil? What implication does that have for walking out your call in church planting?

How willing are you to obey God no matter what?

---

*Additional Notes*

---

# Next Steps

## *Fill out the Getting to Know You Form*

Ready to take the next step in your church planting journey? Please tell us a little more about yourself with our initial application.

<https://info.multiplyvineyard.org/getting-to-know-you>

## *Schedule a Call with the Multiply Vineyard Team*

Our team would love to help you get connected to the answers and resources you're looking for. Sign up to chat with someone from our team to talk through your next steps.

<https://multiplyvineyard.org/contact/15-min-call/>

## *Take the Next Course: Vision*

The Vision Course helps potential planters discern the specific vision and purpose for the church they will lead in their unique culture and style. The course includes lessons on components to include in your church planting vision, defining your philosophy of ministry, developing your three-year plan, and more.

<https://multiplyvineyard.org/onlinecourses/>

## THANK YOU

Thank you for completing the Multiply Vineyard Discover Course.

### **Contact us**

**email:** [office@multiplyvineyard.org](mailto:office@multiplyvineyard.org)

**website:** [multiplyvineyard.org](https://multiplyvineyard.org)

**twitter:** [@multiplyvin](https://twitter.com/multiplyvin)

**facebook:** [www.facebook.com/multiplyvineyardusa](https://www.facebook.com/multiplyvineyardusa)