



Understanding Your D.E.S.I.G.N.

INTRODUCTION:

Have you ever wondered what you were created for? Or perhaps, what God has “called” you to? The answers to those questions are simpler to find than you might think. Consider the Psalm below.

¹³ For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother’s womb.
¹⁴ I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.
¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.
¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.

Psalm 139:13-6

Scripture teaches that you were hand-crafted by God. Each of us was “fearfully and wonderfully made.” To put it simply, we were created on purpose. Since that is the case, it should not be too difficult to gain some insight into what we were created for. One way to gain insight is to take a deeper look at who you are, at your D.E.S.I.G.N.

YOUR D.E.S.I.G.N.

If God made you, then to some degree your **desires** will tell us about what he made you for. If God “ordained our days,” then to some degree the things that you have **experienced** throughout your life will give us insight into what you are



being prepared for. If God gives us **gifts of the spirit**, then those gifts will empower us to do what we were created to do. If God has called us to do a certain thing, then He might use the **input** of others point us in the right direction. If God designed a purpose into us, then when we are living that purpose we should **grow** exponentially. Lastly, if we are doing what God made us to do, then to some degree that thing should come **naturally** to us.

Therefore, if we were to take some time investigating each of these areas in your life it is possible, at the very least, that when they are all considered together, they will tell a story. A story about who you were made to be. A story about how all your desires, experiences, spiritual gifts, input from others, areas of growth, and your naturally abilities come together to help you do what you were created to do!

That is what the DESIGN Worksheet was created to for. To help you investigate who God created you to be. Or, what He created you to do!

INSTRUCTIONS

For each of the categories on the DESIGN Worksheet write down 5-10 answers as you think through your life. The more time and thought that you put into this process the more helpful the tool becomes.

D – List 5-10 the things you **desire** out of your life. What are your hopes, and dreams? Write them down. Be as specific as possible.

E – List 5-10 **experiences** in your life that have helped shape who you are. These can be good experiences, or difficult experiences. It does not matter what kind they are, as long as they played a role in shaping you.

S – List your top 3 **Spiritual Gifts**. If you do not know these, you will need to take a spiritual gift test. The test will help you identify the spiritual gifts that you have



been given by God. These gifts were given to you on purpose. God gave them to you to empower you to do what he has created you to do!

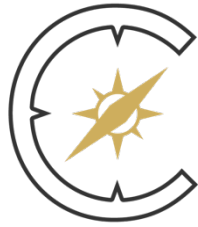
I – List 5-10 things that people have said to you throughout your life concerning what you are, or might be good at. Perhaps someone at some point came up to you and said, “You should consider being a teacher, you’d be great at it!” Or perhaps someone had a “word from the Lord” and spoke it over you. Whatever you can think of here in terms of **input** that people have given you could be helpful.

G – List 5-10 things that you have done or experienced that have caused you to **grow**. This will feel very similar to the **experiences** section above. But rather on focusing on what experiences shaped you, focus more on what has specifically helped you grow the most throughout your life.

N – List 5-10 things that you do that come **natural** to you. Things that you don’t have to work very hard at because you are naturally gifted at doing them. This can be anything (ex: fishing, a sport, caring for the hurting, baking, art, music, math, etc.).

Once you have completed the worksheet. Set a meeting with some trusted advisors, mentors, or friends. Have them look at the worksheet with you. Together look for themes that overlap as you look at each category. Hopefully you will see something jumping off the page like leadership, caring for people, caring for kids, a love for ministry, etc. In some cases, you might even see more specific themes like teaching, missions, a love and gifting for theology, business, or building with your hands.

Finally, once you think you see a theme, consider how your spiritual gifts help you accomplish that potential calling. The spiritual gifts can be a great confirmation to a theme or calling that think you are seeing on the worksheet.



COMPASS
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Understanding Your D.E.S.I.G.N. Worksheet

- D – Desires
- E – Experiences
- S – Spiritual Gifts
- I – Input from Others
- G – Growth
- N – Natural Abilities

D – _____

E – _____

S – _____

I – _____

G – _____

N – _____
