

What People Are Saying about Jen Tringale and *Calling...*

The question “What is my calling?” burns in the heart of every generation. Jen Tringale has addressed this question with powerful answers in her book. Whether you are a young person discovering your passion at the start of your journey, or older, and the changing season has you asking God, “What’s next?”—this book is for you!”

—*David and Nicole Binion*
Pastors, Dwell Church, Dallas, Texas

Polls indicate the hunger to find one’s purpose is the strongest desire motivating most of us. After many detours and much frustration, I found mine—and in so doing, I found myself. With this wonderful book by Jen Tringale, your journey to self-identity and fulfillment can avoid many needless delays and pitfalls. I wish I’d have had it early in my journey!

—*Dutch Sheets*
Dutch Sheets Ministries, Cold Springs, Colorado

Most people know that there is a purpose for their life. The problem is that they do not know how to align their life with that purpose. Jen Tringale will help you create your own path, leading you to the place of discovering your personal purpose and fulfilling your destiny.

—*Roberts Liardon*
Author, God’s Generals series
Founder, Roberts Liardon Ministries, Embassy International Church

Jen Tringale’s message empowers believers to walk in the fullness of God’s calling and see the glory of God impact this generation. Many aspects of growing into your calling are covered in this book in a practical, but deeply spiritual, way. It is provoking, challenging, and inspiring, all the while pointing us to Jesus.

—*Patsy Cameneti*
Senior Pastor, Rhema Family Church, Rhema Bible College, Brisbane, Australia

Wow! Jen Tringale has written an incredible book that will put you on the right path to fulfilling your calling! You’ll find faith-filled encouragement to discover the call of God on your life. This is a must-read for anyone who desires to fulfill their destiny and the dream God has placed in their heart.

—*Beth Jones*
Pastor, Valley Family Church, Kalamazoo, Michigan / TV host, *The Basics with Beth*

A well-thought-out, easy-to-understand work that allows you to embark on the journey of answering the questions “Why am I here?” and “What am I to do?” Jen doesn’t just lead you on the path; she also equips you with the tools to find the answer.

—*Sara Conner*
Pastor, Word of Truth Family Church, Arlington, TX

Jen Tringale delivers powerful inspiration and profound insights to guide you into aligning your pursuits according to the trajectory of your destiny. Prepare to find your place, get into position, and take up your calling to walk out a destiny that's brighter and more beautiful than anything you have ever dared to imagine!

—*Dr. Pat Hagin-Harrison*

President and founder, Faith Christian Fellowship International, Tulsa, Oklahoma

The riches penned on these pages could well be the greatest game-changer yet for the person with an open heart and a willingness to leave the fear-dependent safe harbor of comfortable predictability. Jen Tringale makes it crystal clear: you were designed to push outward—to explore, discover, lead and enrich the world around you. Unfurl your sails, and let them fill with the divine winds of your *Calling*!

—*Len and Cathy Mink*

Len Mink Ministries, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Jen Tringale not only discerns the season of God in the earth, but she also navigationally challenges the reader into discerning the rhythms of the DNA of their own destinies. This book is a powerful, inspiring, and practical work for any believer who desires to discover, develop, and deploy their purpose and calling.

—*Reverends Cookie and Fred Brothers*

Faith Christian Fellowship International, Tulsa, Oklahoma

If you are tired of the status quo and ready to challenge life as usual, this book will serve as a gateway into your destined place and help you to recognize that you are right on time! Let this book propel you into your right-now appointed time and moment.

—*Dr. Mary Frances Varallo*

President, Mary Frances Varallo Ministries, Nashville, Tennessee

The perfect book to help you discover your unique calling and gain understanding for the journey to fulfilling your destiny. Deeply inspiring and perfectly practical, it is a must-read for anyone passionate about pursuing Jesus and the extraordinary plans God has for them.

—*Nicole Smithee*

CEO and founder, Iridescent, New York, New York

Jen Tringale's new book gives people the answers they are so desperately searching for. Through Jen's insights and personal stories, she creates a beautiful and easy-to-understand road map of answers for so many of life's questions. *Calling* will bring clarity to anyone regarding their destiny and a deeper understanding of the greater purpose for their life.

—*Chad and Marla Rowe*

Pastors, Destiny World Outreach Center, Killeen, Texas

CALLING

UNDERSTANDING YOUR
PURPOSE, PLACE & POSITION

JEN TRINGALE

INTERNATIONAL AUTHOR AND SPEAKER



WHITAKER
HOUSE

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the *New King James Version*, © 1979, 1980, 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Scripture quotations marked (κ^{JV}) are taken from the King James Version of the Holy Bible. Scripture quotations marked (MSG) are taken from *The Message: The Bible in Contemporary Language* by Eugene H. Peterson, © 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002. Used by permission of NavPress Publishing Group. All rights reserved. Represented by Tyndale House Publishers, Inc. Scripture quotations marked (WEY) are taken from *The New Testament in Modern Speech: An Idiomatic Translation into Everyday English from the Text of "The Resultant Greek Testament"* by R. F. (Richard Francis) Weymouth. Scripture quotations marked (ESV) are taken from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, © 2000, 2001, 1995 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Scripture quotations marked (AMP) are taken from *The Amplified[®] Bible*, © 2015 by The Lockman Foundation, La Habra, CA. Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org). All rights reserved.

Boldface type in the Scripture quotations indicates the author's emphasis.

The VE-RI-TAS seals depicted in Chapter 12 are registered trademarks of Harvard University.

CALLING

Understanding Your Purpose, Place & Position

Jen Tringale
jentringale.com
Jen Tringale Ministries
P.O. Box 161205
Ft. Worth, TX 76161

ISBN: 978-1-64123-146-6
eBook ISBN: 978-1-64123-147-3
Printed in the United States of America
© 2018 by Jen Tringale

Whitaker House
1030 Hunt Valley Circle
New Kensington, PA 15068
www.whitakerhouse.com

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Tringale, Jen, 1977– author.

Title: Calling : understanding your purpose, place & position / Jen Tringale.

Description: New Kensington, PA : Whitaker House, 2018. |

Identifiers: LCCN 2018025503 (print) | LCCN 2018030006 (ebook) | ISBN

9781641231473 (e-book) | ISBN 9781641231466 (alk. paper)

Subjects: LCSH: Vocation—Christianity.

Classification: LCC BV4740 (ebook) | LCC BV4740 .T75 2018 (print) | DDC
248.4—dc23

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2018025503>

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical—including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system—without permission in writing from the publisher. Please direct your inquiries to permissionseditor@whitakerhouse.com.



Contents

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Foreword..... | 7 |
| Preface..... | 9 |
| Acknowledgments | 11 |
| Introduction | 14 |
| 1. Your Calling, Your Destiny..... | 16 |
| 2. Breaking the Box..... | 27 |
| 3. The Changing of the Guard | 40 |
| 4. Transitions..... | 54 |
| 5. The Contender | 63 |
| 6. Anchor for Your Soul..... | 77 |
| 7. Faith for Your Destiny | 88 |
| 8. The Need for Speed..... | 101 |
| 9. Pressing Through..... | 111 |
| 10. Doors of Destiny..... | 122 |
| 11. The Process..... | 135 |
| 12. Keepers of the Mysteries | 145 |
| About the Author..... | 158 |



Foreword

The journey of life is an odyssey as we seek out meaning, purpose, and destiny. Questions arise from thoughtful hearts in strategic moments: Why am I here? What was I born to do? Who am I? Thankfully, God wants us to have the answers, and the insight Jen shares in this book help us to gain clarity and understanding for our individual lives. They are life-changing principles that will open up to us futures of hope and fulfillment.

The cry for significance is answered in amazing truths revealed throughout the Word. God thinks about you. The brilliant Creator of the heavens and earth, who meticulously designed the universe, thinks about you; His thoughts about you are continuously good. The apostle Paul told his son in the faith, Timothy, that God had called him and given him purpose before time began. (See 2 Timothy 1:9.) The original word Paul used for “purpose” is filled with meaning. It is the word *prosthesis*; *pro* means “before,” and *thesis* is a written report, composition, or essay. Ponder this: Paul says way back in the eternity past, before time began, the Godhead thought about why you would be, why you would exist. The prophet Jeremiah tells us they thought through plans for you. They wrote a composition with your name on it. Then God created you with gifts, talents, and abilities you would need to fulfill those intentions, meaning that your life

has spent time in the awesome mind of God. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have plans for you. You are loved and you are significant. This book will help you understand that. It will help you define your purpose, your worth, and destiny will be revealed. And perhaps most importantly, it will give you instruction to help you live it out.

I have watched Jen live the principles she writes about. She was part of our student ministries and later I became her pastor for many years. Eventually, she joined our pastoral staff. We were able to truly know her and have been privileged to watch her as an outstanding woman of God, a champion of our faith, and a leader with a clear message of faith and hope. She is a gifted minister, teacher, and an author writing life truths that inspire, challenge, and instruct. We are so proud of her!

I love the Hebrew concept of destiny and purpose. It admonishes to never give up on your future, no matter what obstacles come your way. It clearly declares God will never give up on you. In Jeremiah 29:11, God promised to give us “*an expected end*” (קִיּוּם). The word “end” in the Hebrew language is *archariyth*, meaning “out on the horizon.” God has purpose out on the horizon for you. It is also the word used to describe rowing a boat. If you’ve ever been in a rowboat, you know that often, you paddle it backwards. The front of the boat is before you and you lean into the oars going backwards. What a picture Father God paints for us! When you can see where you’ve been, but can’t see over your shoulder clearly where you are going, just keep rowing. God says, “I see the way and I have a plan. When you are rowing hard and your destiny is a speck on the horizon, just keep rowing. When you are rowing by faith and not by sight, don’t stop. I’ve got purpose for you. Listen to My voice calling you out to new horizons and row into your future with Me.”

Now, sit back and enjoy as Jen teaches you how to understand your purpose, place, and position. Take to heart God “calling” in this awesome revelation.

—Dr. Tim Sheets
Apostle and author, Tim Sheets Ministries



PREFACE

I am forever grateful for the faithfulness of God for downloading this book to my heart and giving me the ability to articulate what needed to be said. Days and nights of writing in between ministry trips on the road were a real-life reminder that God's Word really is our heart's energy, our *daily* bread. This book was written through a particularly tough season in the very beginning of the year. Through this journey, I was reminded that the most important assignments along your path typically come with a "war at the gates." The enemy of your soul sets up like an arsonist of purpose at the threshold of all you are called to affect in an attempt to burn up your passion, vision, and hope. But through this journey, I was freshly reminded of two things. First, that Jesus is "the call" we are all called to. He is so very personal and wonderful and He is the supreme strategic investor. He finds ways to bring benefit out of everything we allow Him to touch and He turns it into gold—something of great value.

Secondly, the kingdom of God has a strategy for momentum. I see it as something like this: the greater your dependency on God, the more movement takes place. Your power is in daily identifying your singular *Savior*, Jesus, and letting go of any stand-ins or imposters, including your own self-sufficiency. You and God working together is what moves you through

the gate and into your new place. My hope is that as you read this book, you will find your heart full and more deeply satisfied than when you began, and your faith emboldened. A loved person is a bold person.

“For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.” (Matthew 16:25)

“Arise O Prophet! Work My will,
Thou that hast now perceived and heard.
On land and sea thy charge fulfill
And burn Man’s heart with this My Word.”

—*Dr. Alexander Pushkin*



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to my parents, Robert and Jean Tringale, for raising me to value the instinct to listen to my heart. Thank you to my publisher, Whitaker House, to Christine Whitaker, and staff for your patience and belief in the power of this book. Thank you to Don Milam at Whitaker House, who always seemed to call at just the right time with the right words to keep going. To Peg Fallon for your great efforts in editing and keeping this project moving forward amidst my crazy travel schedule! Thank you to Rosa Reed for insisting that I write Chapter 5 and for standing beautifully in the unique calling on your life. To Jean Tringale for letting me bounce page after page off of you at all hours of the day and night and for your sage wisdom to “just walk away from it for a few minutes.” :) To Dr. Mary Frances Varallo for your encouragement through this process. You have been both a proclaimer and equipper in my life and I am forever grateful. To Kaira (pronounced *Care-Ra*; you’re welcome) McKinnon, for keeping everything running so I could steal away to write! The depth of your heart and talent pool never cease to amaze me! Thank you to my pastors, Chad and Marla Rowe, and my Destiny World Outreach family for your constant love, prayer, and support. Thank you to Fred and Cookie Brothers and the FCF Family for being a driving force committed to innovation in this generation; your support and encouragement has been a great supply!

Thank you to my prayer team that prays for me every week out on the road. I can't thank you enough for what you do behind the scenes in making the way. Thank you to our Partners, the best in the world, who have stood in faith, love, and financial partnership, and contributed to reaching people and awakening destiny all around the world!

For this book, I would like to specifically thank the people in my life who were among the "first" to exemplify and teach me the realities of God.

First, Pastor Jim and Jennifer Peterson, two individuals who have fanned the flame of the call of God in tens of thousands of young people, including me. Thank you for your sacrifice and dedication to see and develop the gifts in others. You stand among the greats for all you are and all you have sown. Your church and ministry continue to be a well of refreshing, strength, and prophetic inspiration that I can come back to.

To Pastor Cleddie and Gaynell Keith, growing up at your church in the early years of my life holds some of my greatest childhood memories. What your pastoral care has meant to my family through the years is worth more than gold. Thank you for being the caliber of ministers that you have always been. I respect you greatly.

To Dr. Mike and Colleen Murray, your example of ministry has always been one I hold close. Watching not just what you did but how you did it and your unending supply of love for people made a great impression on me. Your standard of excellence in ministry has always informed my vision. Thank you for being the superb pastors and leaders that you are.

To Dr. Tim and Carol Sheets, thank you for seeing something in me from the start and for creating space for me to use my voice on the platform you have sown your lives to establish. Thank you for exemplifying to me the power of true commitment and loyalty and for setting the example of multi-generational leadership.

To Len and Cathy Mink, in so many ways you were my "Masters Class" in the ministry and you set the bar on excellence. Thank you for loving me like your "other daughter" and for constantly showing me how to take the high road in life. You are two of the most generous people I know. Your ministry has changed my life in ways I can't even describe and the connection we share is one I treasure most. I love you both very much.

To my Rhema family, Rhema is in many ways the house that built me. It is where God directed me to go to be equipped. It was a beginning place for me to join the ranks and march around the world with this mandate we carry. It is an honor to run with each one of you.

Finally, thank you to all of the women that influenced me who walk in their own calling confidently, without excuse or apology. Your life allowed me to see the possibility of what God could do with me and emboldened my “yes.” From my heart, thank you to my grandmother, Billie Mae Burkart; my mother, Jean Tringale; my aunt, Pastor Jennifer Peterson; Rev. Leigh Ann Merrell Soesbee; Rev. Cathy Mink; Dr. Mary Frances Varallo; Dr. Pat Hagin-Harrison; Pastor Karen Mosely; Rev. Helen Williams; Trish Hodge; Rev. Patsy Cameneti; and Gloria Copeland.



INTRODUCTION

A new landscape is emerging. Mainstream sociologists are declaring, “We aren’t living in a normal moment.”

How in the face of a changing world does one train an instinct for affecting what is going on? Even analysts are asking, “How do you train an instinct that knows how to reach a world that is operating in a completely new way to human history? How do you develop an instinct to handle the inheritance of the last generation’s vision, buildings, protocols, and inventions? What do you do when you are confronted with what you have never experienced—perhaps never even considered?”

The answer is that you rely totally on the word of God, and the instincts coming from the Spirit of God within you. Every day becomes a series of circumstances for which there is no rational answer, only an instinctive response.

People can continue to believe that our current ways of doing things will work out just fine—that our leadership models will right themselves eventually—but there is a moment ahead for all of us. For some, it will be amazing. For others, crushing. But for everyone, it will be a moment in which things will happen that none of our old ideas, protocols, or senses will help us understand.

The ones who will hear the key change in the music of our culture are the ones who will lead in it, influence it, and have success in it. These are the ones who will learn instinctively how to see potential, and know how to unlock it through their *Calling*. This is the new era requirement of the called in this generation: to do what Jesus did in the midst of the thick, hazy storm of culture in Galilee—get right in the middle of it, and be a revolutionary.

—*Jen Tringale*

“I don’t want any messages saying ‘I’m holding my position.’... Our plan of operation is to advance and keep on advancing.”

—U.S. Army General George S. Patton

CHAPTER 1

YOUR CALLING, YOUR DESTINY

She was just a little girl from White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, who loved to count things. The daughter of a farmer and a teacher, she counted everything. The steps to the road, the steps up to church, the number of dishes and silverware she washed—anything that could be counted. And so it began for this young, African-American girl from West Virginia, born in 1918.

A day would come when the world paused while she calculated the trajectory for putting the first United States astronaut into space.¹

On February 20, 1962, John Glenn became the first U.S. astronaut to orbit earth—a monumental moment for the country. The Academy Award-winning movie, *Hidden Figures*², highlights how Glenn, uneasy about the computer's calculations, wants Katherine Johnson to personally check the numbers. Yes, the little girl from West Virginia who loved to count was now a mathematician working for NASA. "Get the girl to check the numbers," Glenn said. "If she says the numbers are good...I'm ready to go."

As America stood on the brink of World War II, the push for space flight advancement grew, which created a constant demand for mathematicians.

1. <https://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/a-lifetime-of-stem.html>

2. <https://www.foxmovies.com/movies/hidden-figures>

Women were the solution. Sharp and successful, the female population skyrocketed at the Langley Headquarters of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, NASA's predecessor. "These women were both ordinary and they were extraordinary," says Margot Lee Shetterly, author of the book, *Hidden Figures*.³

Katherine Johnson, now with the space task force, became its first published female author, co-authoring the paper that determined the trajectories of the first Mercury flights.⁴ This gifted woman was simultaneously shifting the trajectories of destinies of thousands who would come after her as she blazed a trail for generations to come. But she is quoted as saying, "I wasn't aware of all of that, I was just doing my job."

From 1958 until her retirement in 1986, Katherine Johnson worked as an aerospace technologist. She calculated the trajectories for the first American in space, Alan Shepherd's 1961 Mercury mission, and Apollo 11, which put the first men on the moon. She plotted backup navigation charts for astronauts in case of electronic failures. She worked on the Apollo 13 moon mission and when it was aborted, her work on backup procedures and charts helped to set a safe path for the crew's return to earth, creating a one-star observation system that would allow astronauts to determine their location with accuracy. In a 2010 interview, Johnson recalled, "Everybody was concerned about them getting there. We were concerned about them getting back." Later in her career, she worked on the space shuttle program, the Earth Resources Satellite, and on plans for a mission to Mars. In 2015, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom and in May 2016, a NASA computational research facility was named in her honor in her hometown of Hampton, Virginia.

Of her contributions to NASA, the agency said, "She was a trailblazer, forging a path that would allow many others to follow in her steps. Her spirit and determination helped lead NASA into a new era, and for that the agency is grateful."

3. Margot Lee Shetterly, *Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race* (New York: William Morrow, 2016)

4. <https://ntrs.nasa.gov/search.jsp?R=19980227091>

What Lies Ahead?

Is there anyone who desires to always stay where they are today? I think it's safe to say we all want to see what awaits us. Somewhere inside us, we carry a belief that we have a divine destiny, a calling planned for our life that encompasses the purpose we were created to fulfill and places a demand on those parts of us that are essential to who we are as individuals. Every now and then, we catch a glimpse of things that lie just past what our eyes can see today. Stretched out there, still in front of us, lies our dream—the thing we see ourselves doing. There is a voice deep inside of us saying, “There is more to you and for you than your current situation.” There is a godly yearning for what we were intended for. Its details are hidden in the unknown, but we are ever pressing toward it.

Through followers of Jesus like yourselves gathered in churches, this extraordinary plan of God is becoming known.

(Ephesians 3:10 MSG)

There is a sense of deep calling to deep, an inner voice beckoning to us, calling us to keep moving forward on this journey of life.

Let me clarify something that might be transpiring in your life right now. The voice inside of you is real. It compels you onward to consider things for your life that your mind can't comprehend as possible. In a “prove it to me” society, it can be easy to forget the reality that not all voices calling to us, leading us from place to place, are audible ones.

We can hear our destiny. We can hear the voice of the Author and Finisher of our faith, the Architect of our purpose, giving directives through the Holy Spirit, our unseen guide. We catch a glimpse with our spiritual eyes of places and possibilities that have yet to be. All of these things speak and they call out to us to continue on a path, a calling designed even before you or I took our first breath.

This path of destiny is not a stagnant path. It is a living path that is a collaborative undertaking between the Creator of the universe and the sons and daughters of God. You are living in a divine partnership with God. His is a gift of a divine life coming from the inside and igniting a blazing light on our shining path, where history is going to be made and your old history is rewritten. It is how legacies are forged to blaze a trail to

be found by approaching generations, blowing open brand new doors from the path you have carved.

Jesus Blazed the Trail for Us

Jesus blazed a trail for all of us to follow. He leads the way and gives us our purpose, which is a continuation of what He came to do. What an honor and a task: to expel my life's energy on finishing my Master's course with joy. To stand with Him and hear the Father say to us, "Well done."

Essentially, all mechanisms of travel begin with an impulse that places them on a path in which they go from one point to another. Sometimes, additional impulses assist along the path, if necessary, to keep them on course.

Did you know your destiny has its own DNA? It gravitates toward what you were designed to be. It pulls you toward things with your specific DNA of destiny attached to it to keep you on course. And along this trajectory of destiny, God has reserves in store for you. There is a vast supply along your course because what you are called to do is going to take a great supply. It is beyond what you could ever generate on your own, so He has prepared it and placed it there for you.

...What God determined as the way to bring out His best in us, long before we ever arrived on the scene. The experts of our day haven't a clue about what this eternal plan is. If they had, they wouldn't have killed the Master of the God-designed life on a cross. That's why we have this Scripture text: No one's ever seen or heard anything like this, Never so much as imagined anything quite like it—What God has arranged for those who love him. But you've seen and heard it because God by his Spirit has brought it all out into the open before you.

(1 Corinthians 9–10 MSG)

The Trajectory of Your Destiny

Your destiny follows a specific path—a trajectory much like that plotted by Katherine Johnson, only yours is plotted by God. One definition of trajectory is, "The path followed by a moving object under the action of a given force." You are the moving object and God is the force. Another definition is, "A family of curves or surfaces at a constant angle." For instance,

the earth, being round, provides a series of curves or surfaces at a constant angle. When a spacecraft circles the earth, it travels across this series of curves and surfaces. The trajectory of our destiny spans across the earth in a series of curves and turns, ever moving forward. Destiny does not play out in a straight line. The way God is leading you and the path He is directing you to take is not designed to get you quickly from point A to point B. Your destined path will have all kinds of twists and turns because God uses your path to prepare you for your calling—what He is moving you toward.

Take a look with fresh eyes at this verse in the Word of God that Paul was inspired to write:

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.
(Philippians 3:14 KJV)

Notice Paul said he presses toward “*the mark*.” Not the prize but the mark. This is a really big key Paul was giving us about how to live. He was saying, “I press toward where God is leading me right now. I’m not just making a mad dash for the finish line.” This is so important for us to know and will alleviate so much frustration in our lives. God is going to lead you on a destined path to eventually take you to your dream, but the actual path taking you there is key. In God’s way of doing things, the path is equal in value to the prize. He uses the marks to get you ready for the prize. The marks are where learning takes place. God actually prepares us along the way as He takes us to what He has prepared for us. How amazingly strategic is our God!? There is purpose in every step of your life toward the prize—and that purpose is servant leadership.

**IN GOD’S WAY OF DOING THINGS,
THE PATH IS EQUAL IN VALUE TO THE PRIZE.**

Other words that describe a “trajectory” are a course, path, route, track, or orbit. It also means “to throw across.” This gives us new insight into situations in which we feel like life is throwing us a curve ball. When we realize destiny does not always follow a straight line, it won’t throw us off balance when we experience a sudden turn. For people in relationship

with God and following His leading, those curve ball moments can be used by God to prepare you. The good news is, we don't have to sweat the curve balls anymore. All along your path is a vast supply that comes with each new step of destiny and faith we take.

Being a hearer, speaker, and doer of the Word will make the difference between going through life the easy way or the hard way. If you speak the word of God as you are walking out in destiny, your supply and every divine connection will be right on time.

It Didn't Start with You

In essence, your life is following a path that's already been in motion. It's part of the trajectories of the generations who came before you. It merely picked you up, kept moving, and now stretches out in front of you.

YOUR LIFE IS FOLLOWING A PATH THAT'S ALREADY BEEN IN MOTION.

Magnetic currents run under our feet and flow from the North Pole to the South Pole. In the skies above, there are electric currents and vibrations that we are learning to describe and harness. In the spiritual realm and in the words God has spoken, there are currents and trajectories for His plans and purposes that we cannot describe or measure in natural terms.

Three Factors Influence Your Calling

So it is important to understand that your calling, your destiny, is mainly influenced, generally speaking, by three major factors:

1. What has been handed to you.
2. Your new creation experience with God.
3. What you do with it and the decisions you make.

Let's take a look at the first factor, "What been handed to you."

Anna Robertson Brown Lindsay (1864–1948), the first woman to earn a doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania, described it this way:

“Under a thousand shifting generations, there was rising the combination that I today am. In me culminates, for my life’s day, human history until now.”⁵

This is the first ordeal set before each one of us: to rise above the heredity of the broken places in our family line from those who have gone before us and embrace all of the good, the virtue, and the nobility we have inherited.

Our current culture likes to make much of individuals refusing to be labeled by any definition. However, no one enters into the world as a blank canvas. We all are born with a definition given to us by our Creator.

WE ALL ARE BORN WITH A DEFINITION GIVEN TO US BY OUR CREATOR.

In talking about their destiny, people often ask a question about their lineage, such as, “Am I foreordained to sin?” or “Are there strains of addictions, broken places, and character flaws in me that I’ll never go beyond or be able to break out of?”

This leads us to the second factor, your new creation experience with God. We have to understand that when God is given residence within us, He is the Victor who brings triumph over all sin. Sin is at the root of brokenness that may have come because of your sin or the sin of someone else. Regardless, when you give your life to Christ, He comes to take residence in you so you receive your redeemed inheritance. His glory comes into you. Make sure you are convinced of this and read what the Bible says about it.

Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

(Colossians 1:26–27 KJV)

When you are saved, you receive Christ in you, the hope of glory. As you yield to Him within you, He changes you. The more you are immersed

5. Anna Robertson Brown Lindsay, Ph.D., *The Warrior Spirit in the Republic of God* (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1906)

in the Word of God and yield to the Spirit of God, the more you are changed by what is already inside of you. This is how you can experience, “*Christ in you, the hope of glory.*” All that is left is for you, through Him, to be the Victor in all of the great combats in life.

Whatever hardships, battles or opposition we may encounter, it does not have to have the upper hand over our souls when we are in Him because He is triumphant in us. Triumph is not an event but a place of being. Unless we are triumphant, we cannot be truly useful to someone else. It is not the degradation of what has gone on before us that has the trump card over our destiny. It is our heart, will, and faith locked hand in hand with Jesus, working together for victory. The work of my will, heart, and faith is to hold my place in Him in a world whose nature and culture oppose the very Spirit of the One who lives in me.

God has been carrying on His triumph through thousands of generations that have come before you and me. We are a part of this amazing redeemed race of new creatures that we have been born into and this ongoing march of ours. We find ourselves on the front lines with the living generations on the earth. As a person of divine destiny, and a part of the family of God, I feel a wind at my back of all they have believed, declared, and stood for. I now stand in that place because of the force of their love in spite of hate, the ground they took, and the claim they staked. And just like there are flashes and surges of electrical currents of energy, there also runs a current throughout all of mankind’s history. It is a current of spiritual power, inspiration, and a move of His Spirit that is now looking to find its voice and its movement through you and me.

Anna Robertson Brown Lindsay wrote:

“The ground we tread was once trodden by the feet of those long dead. I am taking up their room, and in due time, I myself must depart, that there may be footwear for those who are to come after me. Only the ground under me (in this moment) is really mine...”

This is my responsibility. It is the time I have been born into. There is a spirit of courage to believe that rises up inside us and compels us to go the distance and run with focused faith and vitality to reach each and every mark and destined place, to allow for whatever preparation is needed so we

will be ready for all God would have us do. Feeling this force of all that has come before us lights a fire in our hearts to see the calling He has given us fulfilled. It allows the Holy Spirit to truly be the source of our dreams that define God's plan for our lives. This force also compels a compassion and love in us for one another, remembering the big picture, that our lives do not stand separated and apart but connecting both our beginning and our ending in this life. It reminds us to travel in kindness, to give generously rather than hang on to what is only temporary.

When I stop and ponder all of this, it makes me realize nothing is too hard, too distasteful, or too insignificant. It stirs in me a sense of duty to do my best. This is His grand path of destiny working through you and me.

