Calling is Calling: Interdisciplinary Insights on Its Meaning and Outcomes

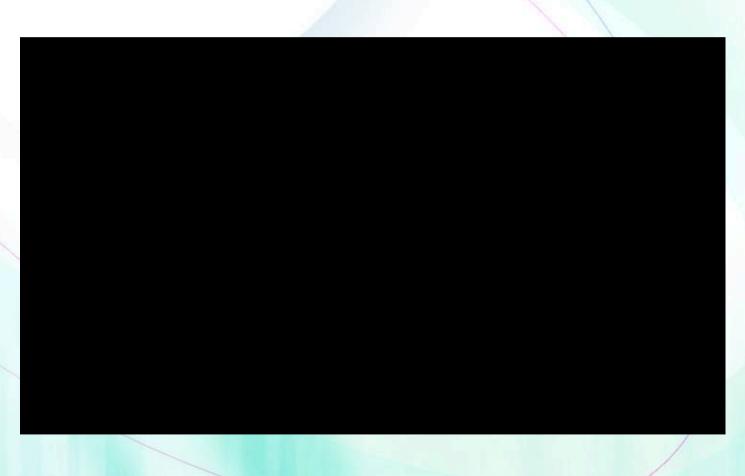
Symposium workshop "Servant-Leadership and Meaningful Work"

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What If Money Was No Object? Alan Watts



Calling matters today ...

5 Reasons You Must Follow Your Passion

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OPRAH'S LIFECLASS:

Steve Harvey on the Major Difference Between Your Career and Your Calling

Forbes / Tech

JUN 26, 2012 @ 02:22 PM

933,503 VIEWS

20 Ways to Find Your Calling

6 Signs That a Passion or Calling is "True"

You need to know what to look for, and here's a primer



Posted May 06, 2015



What does the word "calling" in relation to work/ career mean to you? How would you define it?

Origins of calling

History

- Religious connotation (M. Luther, Calvin, in Hardy, 1990)
- One's calling is derived from God-given gifts and talents

Contemporary understanding

- Sacred calling [intrinsic religiousness] (the religious nature of calling, being called by a Higher Power)
- Secular calling [meaning in life] (focus on finding personally fulfilling and meaningful work)

Interdisciplinary view on calling

Vocational and counseling psychology

<u>Calling</u> is a transcendent summons toward purposeful work that services other-oriented ends (Dik & Duffy, 2009).

Interdisciplinary view on calling

Management discipline

- <u>Calling</u> is a consuming, meaningful passion people experience toward a domain?(Dobrow & Tosti-Kharas, 2011)
- <u>Calling</u> is a course of action in pursuit of pro-social intentions converging on person's sense of what she wants to do, should do, and actually does? (Elangovan, Pinder & McLean, 2010)

If tomorrow you would find your calling, how would it look like?

Outcomes of calling

- Job satisfaction
- Work engagement
- Life satisfaction
- Career planning
- Occupational self-efficacy
- Organizational commitment
- Meaningful work
- Etc.

- Sacrifices of time, pay, well-being
- Less acceptance of career advice
- Accepting discrimination
- Exploitation
- Workaholism & Overidentification
- Limited competence building





Calling in organizations

- Business is a calling (Novak, 1996)
- Entrepreneurship is a calling (Steve Blank)
- Passion is crucial for entrepreneurs (Cardon et al., 2009)

Should a leader have a calling?

Thank you for your attention!

Want to know more about my current and future research initiatives: e.lysova@vu.nl