



SPARROWS HI CURRICULUM

Vocation, Calling & Life Purpose

PURPOSE

The purpose of this framework is to help students understand that their lives have purpose, that their gifts matter and that faithful discipleship involves discerning how God is calling them to live and serve.

Questions about vocation and purpose are among the most significant a young person will face.

Sparrows HI seeks to help students approach these questions with confidence, humility and faith in a God who has purposes for their lives.

PHILOSOPHY

God does not call us to a career. He calls us to Himself — and then sends us into the world as His people.

Vocation is not primarily about what we do for a living. It is about who we are becoming and how we are living for God and others in every area of life.

Every student at Sparrows HI is called. The question is not whether God has a purpose for their life. The question is whether they are willing to seek it and pursue it faithfully.

GRADUATE OUTCOME

By graduation, students should:

- understand the biblical concept of vocation and calling;
- have begun exploring their own gifts, passions and values;
- understand that every legitimate work can be an act of worship;
- be equipped to make wise decisions about further education and work;
- demonstrate growing clarity about how they hope to serve God and others;
- hold their plans with open hands.

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

Created with Purpose

Students explore:

- created in God's image for relationship and stewardship;
- fearfully and wonderfully made;
- created for good works prepared in advance.

Called by Name

Students study:

- God's personal call throughout Scripture;
- the call of Abraham;
- the call of Moses;
- the call of the disciples;
- Paul's understanding of calling.

Work as Worship

Students explore:

- the creation mandate to tend and keep;
- the dignity of work;
- Colossians 3:23 as a framework for all work;

- the eschatological dignity of work.

UNDERSTANDING VOCATION

Vocation includes:

- our primary calling to follow Christ;
- our secondary callings: family, church, work, community;
- the interconnection of all callings;
- the priority of character over career.

Students learn that their highest calling is to know and love God — everything else flows from there.

DISCOVERING GIFTS

Students explore questions such as:

- *What do I love doing?*
- *What am I good at?*
- *What needs do I see in the world?*
- *What do others affirm in me?*
- *Where do I sense God might be leading?*
- *What makes me feel alive?*

Gift discovery is a process over time rather than a single moment of clarity.

TYPES OF CALLING

Paid Work

Students explore how their gifts and interests might connect with meaningful paid work, exploring a range of vocations including:

- trades and crafts;
- arts and media;
- science and technology;
- education;
- health and medicine;
- business and finance;
- ministry and church;
- law and justice;
- community and social work.

Unpaid Service

Students recognise the equal dignity and importance of:

- homemaking;
- parenting;
- volunteering;
- community contribution;
- caring for family members;
- church service.

Church and Ministry

Students explore:

- vocational ministry as a calling;
- lay ministry within ordinary life;
- the priesthood of all believers.

WISDOM IN DECISION-MAKING

Students develop skills for wise vocational decision-making:

- prayer and discernment;
- seeking counsel from trusted advisers;
- gaining experience;
- considering gifts, passions and opportunities;
- holding plans loosely;
- trusting God's sovereignty over outcomes.

CHARACTER BEFORE CAREER

Sparrows HI consistently teaches that who you are matters more than what you do.

A student who is humble, honest, hardworking and servant-hearted will contribute well in almost any field.

Students are encouraged to invest as much energy in developing character as in planning a career.

FAITHFULNESS IN THE ORDINARY

Not every calling is dramatic.

Students learn that:

- faithfulness in small things prepares us for faithfulness in greater things;
- ordinary work done with integrity honours God;
- the most significant contributions are often unseen;
- we are called to be faithful, not impressive.

PERSEVERANCE AND PATIENCE

Clarity about calling often develops gradually.

Students learn to:

- trust God in seasons of uncertainty;
- remain faithful while discerning;
- learn from each experience;
- resist the pressure to have everything figured out.

LEARNING PROGRESSION

The program is structured across three stages of secondary education.

Years 7–8

- Created with purpose;
- gifts and interests;
- serving in the community;
- different kinds of work.
- Emphasis: every life has purpose.

Years 9–10

- Biblical vocation;
- gift discovery;
- character and work;
- exploring different fields;
- wise decision-making.
- Students begin connecting gifts with possible futures.

Years 11–12

- Vocational discernment;
- further education;
- work experience;
- calling and the Kingdom;
- holding plans with open hands.
- Students prepare for the transition to adult life.

LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Students should regularly participate in:

- meeting Christians in various vocations;
- work experience where possible;
- reflective journalling about gifts and calling;
- mentoring conversations;
- service that helps them discover their strengths;
- discussing their hopes and questions openly.

ASSESSMENT

Growth is demonstrated through:

- increasing self-awareness;
- growing intentionality about service;
- reflective journalling;
- mentoring conversations;
- evidence of exploring different opportunities.

Assessment values the quality of the student's engagement with the question rather than the certainty of their answers.

INTEGRATION

Vocation, Calling and Life Purpose connects with every other area of the Sparrows HI curriculum.

Every framework contributes to forming students who are equipped to serve God faithfully wherever He places them.

The most important question is not what will I do with my life, but who am I becoming and how will I love God and serve others along the way.

A CLOSING WORD TO STUDENTS

You are not an accident.

God knew you before you were born.

He has purposes for your life that are greater than you can imagine.

You do not need to have everything figured out. You need to stay close to Jesus, keep growing in character, serve faithfully wherever you are placed and trust Him with the rest.

The life He is calling you to is more wonderful than anything you could design for yourself.

OUR PRAYER

We pray that every student will leave Sparrows HI with a settled conviction that their life has purpose, that their gifts matter and that following Jesus faithfully is the greatest adventure available to any human being.

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10