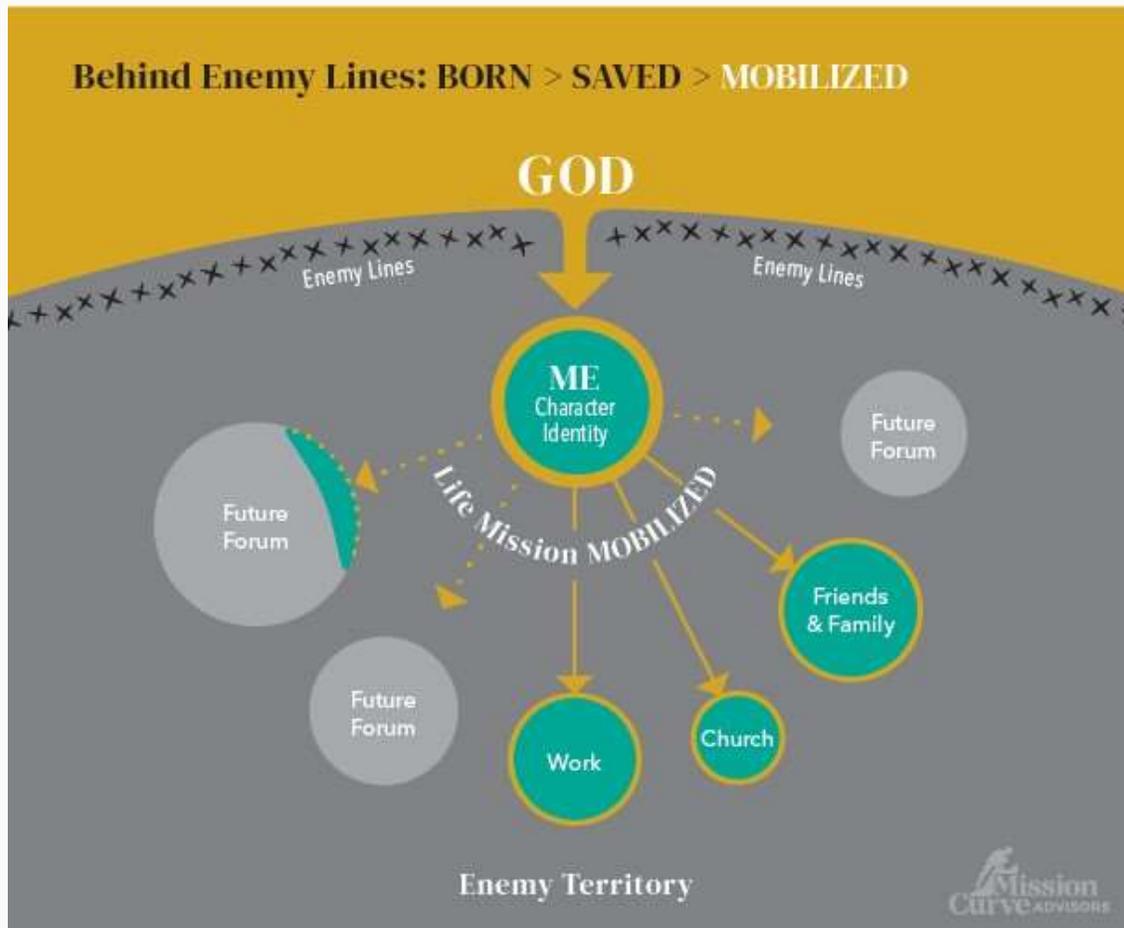


# Seek Forums... not jobs



*“While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply troubled by all the idols he saw everywhere in the city. He went to the synagogue to reason with the Jews and the God-fearing Gentiles, and he spoke daily in the public square to all who happened to be there. He also had a debate with some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers.”*

## *Acts 17:16-18a (NLT)*

It's time to think differently....

From our youth, the world's model has been instilled. Asked over and over, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" the pressure to make a living was on. Freshly graduated, we scrambled to find a job, praying for the "perfect" one. Now down the road, perhaps somewhat successful, the perfect job eludes. Is there such a job? You realize you're a replaceable cog, settle into a routine of working hard and then going home to live the rest of your life, compartmentalized. You wonder, "What happened?"

Rationalizing, you tell yourself, "I have to make a living, this is life! I'll be a good Christian at work." Like an old boss of mine often said, "Yes, but..." (I hated to hear that but!) Of course, you need to make a living and be a good Christian at work, BUT you also need to advance your Mission. How do you reconcile this? Can you, especially when push comes to shove?

*Reflect: Am I living a compartmentalized life?*

Paul's Mission was to "bring the Good News to the gentiles." Like you, he had to make a living, but the scripture above shows how he aligned his whole life around his Mission. Unconstrained by the world's structure, Paul saw opportunity to advance his Mission everywhere. Did he simply clock in at the synagogue (i.e., work for the church) offer the Good News there, then go home to a separate life? No! He went to

the synagogue, public square and met with secular thought leaders. He also was a tent maker... Imagine sitting next to him while sewing, how could he have kept himself from sharing the Good News with you there?

What if you reframed your life, replacing the constraining worldly concept of "jobs" with Paul's example? What might a Mission centered life look like for you?

*Consider: My Mission transcends my entire life.*

Your Mission, received directly from God, transcends all. Instead of jobs, imagine Forums. Forums are the places you operate in (work, family, friends, church, community) where you carry out your Mission. They evolve over time as you press toward those with the greatest potential fruitfulness. By constantly seeking new Forums where he could advance his Mission, Paul's job (his entire world) formed around him instead of him conforming to it. Liberated, he was able to capitalize on the unique way God designed and gifted him and his Mission advanced incredibly.

*Imagine: Seeking Forums opens me to newfound creativity.*

How might your job shift if you carry your Mission focus into it? Could there be opportunities you have never considered before where you could carry out your Mission in a greater way? Perhaps you can spot unmet needs and become an entrepreneur... As you focus more and more on advancing your Mission, your world will form around it and you'll become incredibly fruitful.

*"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need." Jesus Christ (Matthew 6:33)*

What about those worries? Jesus says, don't let fear dictate your path!  
Courageously trust him as you make the shift to...

**Seek Forums... not jobs.**

Go off the grid and ask these questions:

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### Coach's Questions

How do I move my life into alignment with this new thinking?

1. Look for the Forums where I can fulfill my Mission best. (Start here when searching for job/career.)
  2. Pursue my Mission in multiple Forums, across the entire spectrum of my life. Over time, move away from less and toward more fruitful Forums.
  3. Consider entering new Forums where I can have greater fruitfulness.
- 

## Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

**Seek my Mission first and I will be nourished.**

"Then Jesus explained: "My nourishment comes from doing the will of God, who sent me, and from finishing his work."

Jesus Christ | John 4:34





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