

Southern Adventist University

KnowledgeExchange@Southern

The Main Thing Devotional

Chaplain's Office

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Start With Why

Joseph Khabbaz

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And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" - Luke 2:49

When you commit your *why* to God, He will work out the *how*. In his book, *Start With Why*, Simon Sinek states that most people are unfulfilled in their jobs and that most organizations are uninspiring because they have forgotten their *why*. He uses the example of the Ohio-born Wright brothers who built the first engine-powered plane in 1903. The Wright brothers had an inexperienced team, no significant ties to the industry, and no financial support. Yet, they did what their more powerful competitors could *not* do - they enabled humans to fly. They knew their *why*. Even though they didn't know exactly what to do or how to do it, their *why* gave them the determination and perseverance to keep going.

Many people will live their lives knowing *what* they do but not know *why* they are doing it. Jesus once asked Joseph and Mary this fundamental question, "Why were you searching for me?" As Jesus served humanity, Jesus had a clear revelation of His *why*. In Luke 4:43 Jesus stated, "I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent." When you know your *why*, it becomes the compass that directs your path.

God promises that when we commit our *why* to Him, He will work out the *how*, "Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, and He will do it." Psalms 37:5

Reflection

What is the *why* question Jesus is asking you during this season of life? Before you start making a list of what you want to accomplish, perhaps it would be more useful to ask God, "Why do I want to accomplish it?"

Prayer

Our Father in Heaven, thank you being a God we can trust during life's challenging circumstances. Our human understanding is limited and has failed us time and again. Give us the confidence in knowing that the same God who created us is the same God who knows the purpose for our lives. We therefore can take heart knowing that when we commit our lives to You, You will work out how all things will be accomplished. Our thoughts are therefore on You, we will not be troubled or afraid! In Jesus' name, Amen.

NEWS AND RESOURCES

- Join us for Vespers tonight at the BIG Tent at 6:30 or 8:00 with guest speaker, Roger Hernandez.
 - 6:30pm Zoom Link: <https://southern.zoom.us/j/95186680742>
 - 8:00pm Zoom Link: <https://southern.zoom.us/j/93458504346>
- **HURRY - Engaged/Newly Married Couples Event:** On Friday, April 23 and 24 in the Hulsey Wellness Center upper-level classrooms, The School of Religion and the Office of Ministry and Missions are collaborating to give our engaged and newly married couples practical steps for building a loving and healthy marriage. **Register Now:** [Sign-up](#) (Spaces are limited!)

- Share your prayer requests or praises with us via text message using your mobile phone. **Text-to-Pray: 423-281-8996.**
- **Need to talk to someone?** We encourage you to make an appointment with Chaplains [Anna Bennett](#) or [Joseph Khabbaz](#) if you need someone to talk to for support, prayer or have a desire to grow spiritually.