Sermon Notes for 11/8:

Career – A structured path of paid work that is built overtime.

Calling – A deep sense of purpose or mission that shapes how you use your life in alignment with your values and abilities.

Acts 18:1-4
After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus. He had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul visited with them. Because they practiced the same trade, he stayed and worked with them. They worked as tent-makers. Every Sabbath he interacted with people in the synagogue, trying to convince both Jews and Greeks.

2 Thessalonians 3:6-6
Brothers and sisters, we command you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to stay away from those who live an undisciplined life that is not in line with the traditions that you received from us. You yourselves know how you need to imitate us because we were not undisciplined when we were with you. We didn't eat anyone's food without paying for it. Instead, we worked night and day with effort and hard work so that we would not impose on you. We did this to give you an example to imitate, not because we didn't have a right to insist on financial support.

Parker Palmer (Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the voice of Vocation)
Vocation does not come from a voice "out there" calling me to become something I am not. It comes from a voice "in here" calling me to be the person that I was born to be, to fulfill the original selfhood given to me at birth by God.

Acts 9:36-42
In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha. Her life overflowed with good works and compassionate acts on behalf of those in need. About that time, she became so ill that she died. They washed her body, and laid her in an upstairs room. When the disciples heard that Peter was nearby, they sent two men to him. They urged, "Please come right away!" Peter went with them. Upon his arrival, he was taken to the upstairs room. All the widows stood beside him, crying as they showed the tunics and other clothing Tabitha made when she was alive.

Peter sent everyone out of the room, then knelt and prayed. He turned to her and said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes, saw Peter, and sat up. He gave her his hand and raised her up. Then he called God's holy people, including the widows, and presented her alive to them. The news spread throughout Joppa, and many put their faith in the Lord.

Hebrews 11:38-12:2
Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (Your Life's Blueprint)
When you discover what you're going to be in life, set out to do it as if God Almighty called you at this particular moment in history to do it…If it falls to your lot to be a street sweeper, sweep streets like Michelangelo painted pictures. Sweep streets like Beethoven composed music. Sweep streets like Leontyne Price sings before the Metropolitan Opera, and sweep streets like Shakespeare wrote poetry. Sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will have to pause and say, "Here lived a great street sweeper who swept his job well."