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Accomplish what God gives you to do

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John 17:4

1. Discuss the meaning of Jesus' words in John 17:4
2. We are invited to have the same testimony; we can give God glory in our vocation. How?
3. Joseph as Prime Minister of Egypt exercised a role of considerable influence both during years of plenty and years of drought. How did he give God the glory? (as an EG ref. Genesis 50:18-21)
4. Reflecting on Joseph's earlier 'vocational journey' where he endured hardship and showed persevering faith, can you recall other instances of Joseph giving God the glory?
5. Read Acts 9:36-43. Tabitha illustrates someone in a job /vocation that like many of us, is not 'high profile' yet she was prepared to help others. (a) Do you think she was greatly noticed by others? (b) Was she particularly noticed by God? (c) Do you think she was flourishing in what she did? Discuss.
6. Allan suggested that Paul let God stir him and that Paul gave God glory for his vocation. (Ref 1 Tim 1:16) How might we be more open to God's stirring within us, particularly in relation to our vocation/job?
7. Reflecting on one of the three lives described above, how do you feel encouraged or challenged in the position that God has currently placed you?
8. Allan outlined four principles (listed below) that might help us discern our vocation. What thought do you find new or helpful? Discuss.

VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT PRINCIPLES:

- 1 It has something to do with other people.
- 2 Something to do with others' needs
- 3 Something to do with my own uniqueness and my gifts
- 4 Something to do with God using me

How might we react to the challenges of World events as Christians at the current time – some suggested approaches:

1. *Pray believing prayers: pray into this space including for world leaders*
2. *Kingdom vision: God is the same today as always. He remains in charge; we are encouraged to have hope*
3. *Sacrifice: How are we sacrificing for the sake of third world countries, eg supporting & encouraging missions; encouraging and even participating in mission trips? Are we prepared to sacrifice extravagantly?*

