

# Career Choices and the College Decision



A life Decision Manual for Teens

Meredith Curtis



MEREDITH CURTIS

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## Your Ministry

Every believer is called to be plugged into a local church. Each member has a job to do. What needs to be done in your local church? Start there. Serve where you are needed. Sometimes career and ministry overlap. Pastor Dan earns his living by working for a church and its congregation. Jose is a Bible study leader and impacts many lives too, but he has a full-time job as a policeman.

In our church, almost everyone helps out by teaching Sunday school or working in the nursery one hour a month. Not all of these people are excited about their week to serve, but they want to meet a need. Some of them are extremely gifted at ministering to children and they become the lead teacher and oversee the other helpers.

You will find that you become skilled at certain ministries and really enjoy them. This is how God planned it. Josh started helping his dad lug sound equipment to church when he was eight years old. When he was twelve, he joined the sound team. At nineteen, he often serves as stage manager or sound technician, as well as leading the PowerPoint team. You see, Josh was faithful in the little (helping his dad carry equipment carefully and with a cheerful heart). As he grew, he got more and more responsibility. He was faithful in each new step. When we are faithful in our ministries, God will give us more responsibility.

You can serve in your church too. It's not only an amazing way to grow in Christ and serve fellow believers, you will gain experience in areas that will prepare you for your future. You will also grow in godly character as you are faithful week after week, arrive on time, build relational skills, and go the extra mile. Employers look for character too!

## CAREER CHOICES & THE COLLEGE DECISION

Here are some ways young adults serve at our church.

Children's Ministry	Teaching /Mentoring	Worship/Sound Team	Other
Lead Teacher	Mentor	Sound Helper	Greeter
Assistant Teacher	Teach Homeschool Co-op Class	Stage Manager	Usher
Nursery Worker	Give Music Lessons Tutor	Sound Technician PowerPoint Slides Musician Singer Lead Worship at LIFE Group	Plan Teen Events Plan Church-wide Events Witnessing Share Testimony

## Your Life Verse

My husband's life verse is Romans 8:28: "And we know that God causes all things to work together for those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose" (NASB). This verse came alive to him as a teenager when a damaged knee prevented him from going to state finals for wrestling. He had prayed beforehand that the Lord would take away anything that would keep him from growing closer to Jesus. He loved wrestling so Mike had to press into God and trust Him. For the rest of his life, this verse has ministered to him.

You might have a verse like that that comes to your mind over and over. There might be a passage of Scripture that you cling to when you are afraid or discouraged. I don't have just one, there are several passages that are precious to me. These verses guide me in my life direction and decisions.

If you have a life verse, write it out here:

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## Your Mission Statement

Our company mission statement is "Being world changers; raising world changers." That is our family mission statement too because we want to impact the world for the glory of God. If you have a purpose, a dream, a vision, then try to put it into a short phrase. Sheryl's mission statement is "Love God; love His people; reach the lost." It reminds her of her purpose here on this earth. Your mission will influence the job you choose.

### **Here are some personal mission statements.**

"To live my life with integrity so that my example motivates others to raise their standards."

"Using my musical creativity, I will make people laugh and inspire them to trust God."

"I will be a safe place where people can pour their hearts out and receive healing."

"Love God. Love my Neighbor. Change my neighborhood for God's glory!"

"Researching the past for accuracy, I will teach others HIS story from creation until He returns."

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“Teaching to change lives.”

“With my eyes on Jesus and my arms around people, I will help others discover their purpose in life.”

“I will teach biblical principles with my life and words.”

### Now it's your turn.

To create your own mission statement, identify success in the past, what you value most, and who/what you want to impact.

Steve has had success in reaching out to children through basketball. He values leading people to Christ and growing stronger in his relationship with the Lord. Children living in inner-city poverty stir up his heart.

Mary has an amazing ability to create artwork for church events on posters. She even painted Bible scenes on the nursery wall. She has a passion to see teens walk in purity and has high standards of modesty and wholesome talk in her own life.

Jordan plays the guitar and writes songs that people love to sing along with. He loves the holiness and grace of God and is often found studying the Bible when not playing his guitar. Jordan is always challenging other teens to study the Bible more and focus on Christ.

### Write a Mission Statement for Steve, Mary, and Jordan.

Steve's Mission Statement:

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Mary's Mission Statement:

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Jordan's Mission Statement:

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Now it's time to think about your own mission statement. First, list your past successes in work, volunteer work, or ministry.

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List things that you value. What is important to you?

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Finally, list the people you want to impact. Where do you want to make a difference?

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Write your own personal mission statement.

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You might want to make your mission statement beautiful with artwork or attaching it to a photograph. Here is one of my life verses. I made it into an ad for our homeschooling high school conference.



## **God's Call for Career & Ministry**

Think about everything we have talked about so far and answer the following questions.

What are the steps to discovering God's Will for your career?

How does prayer help you choose a career?

How does talking to your parents help you choose a career?

Now, we are going to start investigating different careers.

Let's interview five of your family members, acquaintances, and friends about their careers. Try to choose a wide variety of careers.

The goal here is to explore as many different kinds of careers as possible. Don't just limit yourself to the medical field or the business world. Talk to as many people as you can.

Fill out the charts for at least five different people you talk to about their career.

CAREER CHOICES & THE COLLEGE DECISION

Name	
Job Title & Description	
What is a typical work day or shift like?	
What do you love about your job?	
What is the most challenging about your job?	
How are you able to witness and minister in your position?	
What skills are needed in your job?	
What schooling or training is required for your job?	
What things have you learned on the job?	
What is the salary range for an entry level position?	
What is the market like for your job?	

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## FW Radio Interviews on Careers

I have interviewed several people on FW Radio about their careers. You can listen to the show on the Ultimate Radio Network page or on I-tunes. Listen to both shows and answer the questions below.

### Exploring Careers in Real Estate and The Pool Industry



You will meet Leanne Benjamin, owner of her own real estate company, and Donald Nolette, manager at a pool company. Leanne started out as a teacher, but decided to switch to real estate, first as an agent, and eventually starting her own company. Donald started cleaning pools as a teen, working his way up in the pool business to management. You will learn about the responsibilities, benefits, education, and future possibilities in these fields.

[ultimateradioshow.com/fw-radio-exploring-careers-in-real-estate-the-pool-industry/](http://ultimateradioshow.com/fw-radio-exploring-careers-in-real-estate-the-pool-industry/)

As you listen to these interviews, please answer the following questions.

Before Leanne became a real estate agent, she was a teacher. What made her leave teaching to go into real estate?

What skills are required for Leanne's job? What did she learn in real estate school and what did she learn on the job?



## **Being World Changers! Raising World Changers!**

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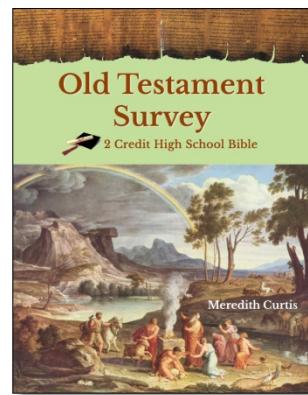
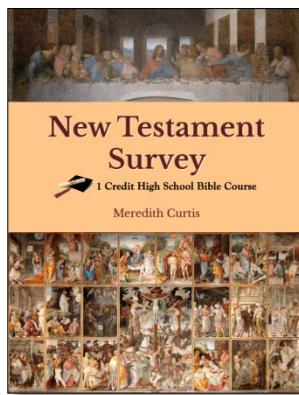
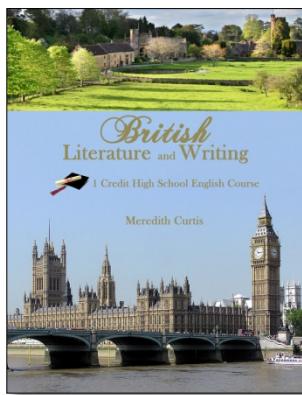
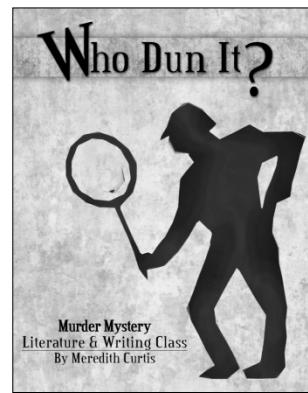
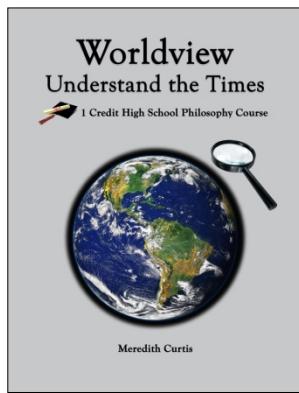
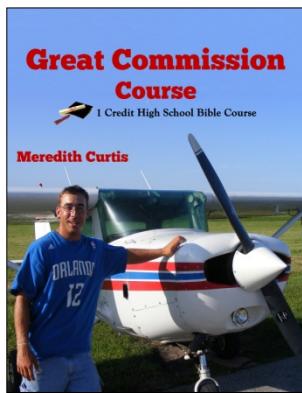
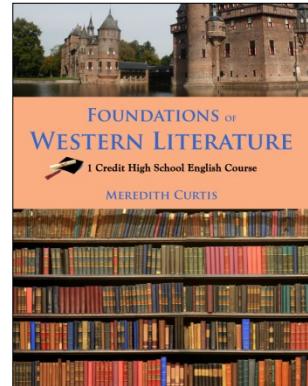
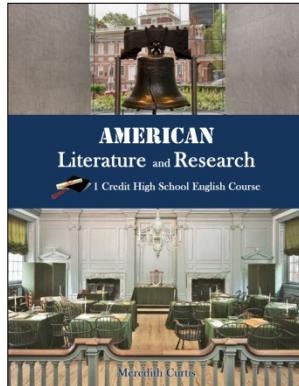
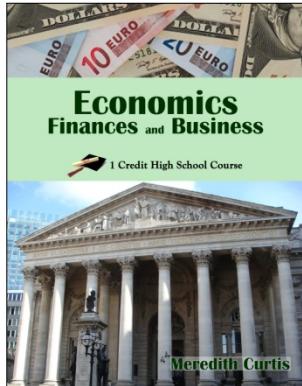
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## High School Classes

Who says high school has to be boring. Learning is an adventure! In our family, we learn with living books and prepare for real life. Each of our classes is a one credit high school class. We offer English courses, as well as Economics, history, life skills, and Bible. If you want to read great books, enjoy fun projects, and get an education that is excellent, it's time to avoid mediocrity and start to enjoy your education.



## More High School Classes

