

- 1 Gain their attention. What did you want to be when you were a little kid?
- 2 Introduce yourself (and ask their name), state your purpose, and ask for permission. Hi, I'm _____ with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, and we are talking with people today about our futures and how God might influence our career decisions. Do you have a few minutes to participate?
- 3 Invite them to put a sticker on an emoji on Panel 1. When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up? I wanted to be a _____. Could you place a sticker next to the emoji that represents that? Thanks for participating. Has that changed from when you were a kid? What do you want to be now?
- 4 Introduce Panel 2. We want to talk with you more about your career choice and ask how you're feeling about your future career. These emojis represent feelings. When you think about your future, how do you feel about it? Please place a sticker next to the emoji that best represents that feeling.

Great, thank you. Why did you pick that emotion?

Future career choices are big decisions. What influences your big decisions in life?

5 Transition to Panel 3.

We believe that future career choices are actually a spiritual endeavor and that God can have an impact on what we do with our future. Take a look at this conversation with a guy whose career was affected when he met Jesus. The narrator is speaking on the right, and Peter and Jesus are talking on the left. (Invite them to read the text conversation on the Panel).

- 1 How did meeting Jesus affect Peter's career in this story?
- 2 What changed about Peter that day?
- 3 If you could ask Peter why he did what he did, what do you think he would've said?

What was so amazing about Jesus that made Peter follow him?

- 6 Share the gospel. Beyond giving cool fish, Jesus' story is what makes him so compelling. Can I share with you how God has chosen to reveal himself in your life through the story of Jesus?
- 7 Invite them to respond. Jesus isn't necessarily asking you to ditch your current desires for your future. But if you follow him, he will bring new significance to your career, wherever he takes it. What would it take for you to follow Jesus right now and join with others in God's mission of bringing hope to the whole world?



Circle One:

- 1 This circle represents how God wants us to experience life. He created us for right relationship with him and with each other, and to do meaningful work in the world—that's where our careers were supposed to come from. Things were perfect! All work perfectly fit with God, ourselves, others, and the world.
- 2 But we thought we could do better ourselves. We told God to "shove it," and decided to find our own way to meet our needs and find happiness.
- **3** This ends badly for us. Because of our selfishness, we actually experience death and not life. This is not a happy future.

Circle Three:

- God could have easily given up on us and left us to the consequences of our decision. But God loved us enough to get involved through Jesus.
- 2 Jesus came to show us that he knows us, and he sees our desires and our needs. But in order for God to be back at the center of the story, Jesus had to deal with our rebellion and our desire for control.
- **3** Jesus took my selfishness on himself on the cross. Through his death and coming back to life, he opens the door to transformation in our lives.
- 4 We invite Jesus into our dissatisfaction, and we trust him today and for the rest of our lives to meet our needs. We have a choice to make. We have to decide to let Jesus influence all areas of our lives, even our careers.

Circle Two:

- 1 In order to understand how careers went wrong, we have to take a good look at our world. We have war, abuse, poverty. And careers are characterized by frustration, conflict, exploitation, and greed.
- 2 As we look at the world around us, we see the results of putting ourselves at the center of the story. Our choices, including what we want to do with our future career, give us control that we probably shouldn't have. Turns out, we are all very selfish people and we are not very good at playing God.
- **3** By focusing so much on ourselves, we have caused brokenness and hurt and are separated from God. This is a sad story. Where are you dissatisfied with the world around us, or in your personal life?

Circle Four:

- Part of the life that God offers us is to be difference-makers in our hurting world. We get to share God's hope in a world full of brokenness and despair. But this path is through serving others, and service sometimes feels like suffering or dying to ourselves. Jesus promises that as we lay down our lives for his sake, he will give us true life, life that satisfies now and lasts forever. Life with purpose, love, hope, joy, and depth. Our careers are meant to contribute to this kind of life.
- 2 Unfortunately, many Christians often stay in the third circle, happy to be loved by God, but not offering this life to others. Meaning and love are found by giving our lives away, not living for ourselves, even when it comes to our career.
- **3** It also means joining with a community of people who follow Jesus to be God's hands and feet, bringing hope to a broken, selfish, dysfunctional world.