Brief Calling Scale


Some people, when describing their careers, talk about having a "calling." Broadly speaking, a "calling" in the context of work refers to a person's belief that she or he is called upon (by the needs of society, by a person's own inner potential, by God, by Higher Power, etc.) to do a particular kind of work. Although at one time most people thought of a calling as relevant only for overtly religious careers, the concept is frequently understood today to apply to virtually any area of work.

The following questions assess the degree to which you see this concept as relevant to your own life and career. Please respond honestly, not according to what is socially desirable or what you feel you "ought" to think. Please indicate the extent to which each of the following statements currently describe you, using the following scale.

1 = Not at all true of me
2 = Mildly true of me
3 = Moderately true of me
4 = Mostly true of me
5 = Totally true of me

1. I have a calling to a particular kind of work.
2. I have a good understanding of my calling as it applies to my career.
3. I am trying to figure out my calling in my career.
4. I am searching for my calling as it applies to my career.

Presence of calling: 1, 2
Search for calling: 3, 4