***Lives Explored* Interview Questions**

**Experience of Calling and Discernment of Callings**

1. What did you dream about doing or being when you were a child?
2. What is your work? Is your work a calling?
   * If so, who or what has called you?
   * When did this calling begin to emerge in your life?
3. As you look back over the course of your life, how have you typically figured out what you are being called to? Think back to a specific time when you were discerning a calling. You may have been invited to consider a new role, job, or responsibility. You may have been at a crossroads deciding which direction to take. You may have been in a transition unsure of how to proceed next.
   * What was the calling you were discerning?
   * What did you do that helped you discern?
   * Who was a part of the process?

**Religious Dimensions of Work**

1. What particular aspects of your work are the most fulfilling and energizing? Think back to a specific time when you felt fully alive at work.
   * Who was involved?
   * What happened?
   * How, if at all, did this experience shape your understanding of your calling?
2. Have you ever experienced unintended results, disappointment, or a sense of failure in your work or in responding to calling?
   * If so, what happened?
   * Who was involved?
   * Who or what helped you to sustain your commitment to your calling in the midst of this experience?
3. In what ways do notice God at work in your work? What are the ways in which your work offers an opportunity to put your faith into action?

**Understanding of Professions**

1. Do you consider yourself a member of a profession?
   * If so, how did you decide to become part of your profession?
   * What gifts did you have for this work?
   * Which persons or communities have helped you to discover or called forth your gifts?
2. How important is it to you to work for the benefit of your profession?
3. In what ways have you contributed to your profession? For example:
   * Teaching
   * Leadership in a professional organization
   * Mentoring and calling forth others into the profession
   * Leadership development in the profession
4. What changes would you like to see in your profession? What would you most like people to know about your profession’s calling?

**Work and Service**

1. Which communities are you called to serve?
2. In what ways does your work serve or contribute to the common good, whether in your local community or in the wider world?
3. What legacy do you hope to leave through your work?

**Sense of Calling Over Time**

1. Looking ahead, as you think about what you most truly want for your life and what you believe God most deeply wants for you, what comes to mind?
   * Where do you think God may be calling you next?
   * If you had three wishes or hopes for living out your vocation, what would they be?
   * If you could ask God a question about your vocation, what would you ask?

Conclusion:

* Is there anything you would like to add or a question you’d like to return to?
* What did you hear yourself say today that might be new or especially meaningful and you want to make sure you remember?