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# Halftime Newsletter October 2010

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## This is Hard!

By Jeff Spadafora

Halftime Director of Coaching and Product Development

A Halftimer I've been coaching emailed me the other day saying he was making steady, but slow progress discerning God's will for his second half and adjusting his life accordingly. He wrote "This is hard!" You see, he has 4 businesses and serves on many boards – none of it is bad, per se. It's just that much of what he's done in the past doesn't serve the greater purpose he is sensing God has for his future. Extracting oneself from obligations and responsibilities can be emotionally, spiritually, relationally, and sometimes financially, challenging.

I couldn't agree more. When I was in the thick of Halftime in 2005, I couldn't figure out where to find the time to go deep in the Word, get intentional about research, and start low cost probes that would leverage my skills, energize me, and make a difference in peoples' lives. My days were packed with work, family, and community obligations. Making the decision to walk away from certain things (and, I might add, wonderful relationships associated with those things) was difficult.

While, creating margin in one's calendar and finances can be difficult, hearing God's voice is another part of the Halftime Journey that can be challenging. We often wonder if we are interpreting His will correctly. One way to know is to match up what you think God is saying to you with what Jesus says in the Gospels. (If you're not clear on Jesus' message after reading the "red letters" of your Bible, I encourage you to read *Crazy Love* by Francis Chan, *The Hole in Our Gospel* by Richard Stearns or *Radical* by David Platt.) I have yet to meet the person who decides to follow Jesus more fully who isn't challenged by deciding what parts of their life to leave behind. Nor have I met the person who has successfully made the transition to a life of love and kingdom impact who says they want to go back to lives of busyness, self-focus, and accumulation.

If you feel like you're slogging through Halftime – half in this world, half in the Kingdom – battling against the "cares and worries of the world" – **don't beat yourself up over it**. Unlearning things about ourselves takes time, courage, and a huge helping of the Holy Spirit.

Halftime is hard, but you already know (you wouldn't be receiving this email if you didn't share this view) the **payoff is huge**. It's a chance to *really* live. Keep praying. Take baby steps. Stay intentional. Stay in Word.

[I hope this song gives you some encouragement.](#)

Your friend,

Jeff Spadafora



**Jeff Spadafora** spent 19 years consulting with Fortune 1000 companies helping them improve their management and leadership capabilities. During those years, a desire for more meaning and purpose in his life was building. In 2005, he read *Halftime*, went to the Halftime Institute and worked with a Halftime coach. Eventually it was clear that his calling is to help people discover their calling. Jeff is now the Director of Coaching and Product Development. He focuses on coaching individuals in Halftime and training others to be Halftime coaches and leaders of the Halftime Roundtable process in their communities.

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### Sharing Your Second Half Dream



Michael Blanton has been a stalwart in the Music and Entertainment Industries for 30+ years. He and his partner, Dan Harrell, founded Reunion Records and were responsible for launching the careers of Amy Grant and Michal W. Smith, to name a few. While he has seen great success in the entertainment industry he is recognizing the need to develop a plan for what the next 20 years will look like. After attending a recent Halftime Institute, Michael is gaining clarity on what he will do in his second half. He gained clarity not only around his own second half mission but also the impact of including his spouse on this journey. As Michael shares in the video, he is excited to go home and talk this over with Paula, his wife.

Have you discussed your dreams for your second half with your spouse? Have you asked her/him to share her dreams? Allow us to encourage you to grab a cup of coffee and begin a dialog around the following questions:

1. "You know that God has been stirring my heart to redirect my time and talent toward something more meaningful in my life, but before I get ahead of you – and possibly God – what dreams do you have for yourself and for us as a couple in this next season of life?"
2. "What can I be doing to help you realize those dreams?"
3. "What do you think about our financial situation – are we in a position to give more money away or to spend less or to live on less? Or, do we need to make more so that we can give away more?"