

Research Interview Assessment #3

This will be the second assessment relating to the research interview with Mr. Mike Rodriguez, there were so many topics that we discussed that I could not sufficiently incorporate it into one assessment. As we continued to discuss what business ministry looks like, the main thing from the entirety of the interview that I took away was that of Mike's description of the words occupation and vocation.

Mr. Rodriguez described how too many people nowadays just have occupations, which is why there are so many people in the workforce who are unhappy with what they do. We met at Dunkin' Donuts and he used that as an example. He first gave me a number of ten employees, and out of those ten employees six of them, or 60%, come to work everyday and do the same thing on repeat. They wake up, go to work, clock out, then go home. All without complaint. And when Friday comes around they are excited that it is almost the weekend. Then he said that three of the Dunkin' Employees, or 30%, show up late, do not want to be there, and just complain. That being said, nine out of ten of those employees have an occupation every single day. Back to the words occupation and vocation. The root word of occupation is occupy, which means taking up time, which means that every day these people have jobs that just take up time, and do not mean anything.

After describing the meaning of occupations, Mike described what vocation means. The root word for vocation is, vocace. This word means calling. Every person has a calling from God to do different things, these specific things have to do with the gifts that God has bestowed upon us. Going back to the Dunkin' analogy, Mr. Rodriguez explained that one out of ten employees go to work every day excited to work. Instead of being the stereotypical american who dreads Mondays and looks towards Mondays, Mike lives every day waking up thinking "Yes it is Monday!" or "Yes it is Thursday!!!". This is due to the fact that he is doing what God has specifically called him to do. And it is exciting.

After the analogies, he brought the topic to me, so that I can personally relate, and he said that first I must figure out the gifts that God has given me, and use them to find a vocation. For Mr. Mike, his occupation is going around, being hired by companies to speak to them about leadership skills; however, his vocation is being an evangelist and teaching. Which is why he is excited to wake up every morning and do what he does. That is how I want to feel when I get a job, I want to be able to express the gifts that God has given me, which I think is my ability to communicate, preach, and teach to other people.