

## Research Assessment #2

As I continued to research the topic of business and how I may incorporate ministry. I was presented with an article from my teacher that really caught my attention. This article is called “Why Business Is ‘Full-Time Ministry’”, and it was published by the Theology of Business Institute. Before I even read the article, my first thought was that this was perfect. This is the exact topic I want to research. However, as soon as I began reading, I realized that I have been thinking about ministry from the wrong angle. The way I perceived ministry, in the business world at least, was making a Christian company. However, that is not the case at all.

The article first discussed the CEO of Chick-fil-a Dan Cathy, who is known for amplifying ministry through the entire multi billion dollar company. He approached the topic of what ministry is which enlightened me on the concept entirely. Ministry is not just working in the church or for non profit organizations, in fact it is the complete opposite. As a Christian, I should be glorifying God’s message through my actions and my words. Instead of only focusing on Christian company’s I could plant seeds that can flourish in places that have not recognized God as their center of focus. If a man who, in my opinion, is in charge of one of the most powerful fast food chains in the world can say this about leading his company, then how can I argue with that.

The article states that “approximately 85% of the Christian workforce works in a for-profit company” (Shearer 2018), this statistic made me wonder how that is possible. If so many Christians work in, I guess, “non-Christian” jobs, then how is their presence so unnoticeable. Then I began to understand that the world is under the impression that in order to be perceived as a “working Christian”, then that person must work in a Christian company or Church. In order for someone to be able to discuss Christian topics, then that person needs to be at Sunday Service to do so. That, however, is not how it should be at all. In order to fulfill God’s will and his plans for me, then I need to be able to show how I am being a minister in a for-profit company. And I should not need to work at Chick-fil-a in order to be perceived as one. I need to be able to do that no matter where I end up.

The next point that the article discussed that brought my thoughts full circle was when they described the way Jesus acted. Jesus was known for performing miracles, for preaching to the people of Israel, and for presenting God as the way to live our lives. The acts and words Jesus expressed are very much the exact thing a Christian should do, but what is interesting to me is that he almost always did these things in public. The article explains that “of Jesus’ 132 public appearances in the New Testament, 122 were in the marketplace” (Shearer 2018). As I continued to ponder on that, it made me realize that I had no excuse to not be a minister in the business world.

As I look to find where my ISM journey will take me next, I am now going to be aware that I must go somewhere that Christian leadership is not present. I will continue to find places, people, and jobs that interest me and that I feel a calling to pursue. I have linked the full article below that I feel inspired me so much.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1b-U\\_jLZduuZkHO8Jh\\_kZJiw02aF2Mbtr/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1b-U_jLZduuZkHO8Jh_kZJiw02aF2Mbtr/view?usp=sharing)

### Works Cited

Shearer, Darren. "Why Business Is 'Full-Time Ministry.'" *Theology of Business Institute*, Theology of Business Institute, 13 July 2018, [www.theologyofbusiness.com/why-business-is-full-time-ministry/](http://www.theologyofbusiness.com/why-business-is-full-time-ministry/).