

# “Time to Get a Job: Things to Consider When Selecting a Career”

## I. GET A JOB

(This particular approach could also easily be adapted to use before they enter the job market if they are choosing between colleges, and even general decision making.)

- a. Start by playing game “Job Jeopardy” asking the kids questions about different jobs but really put the “volunteers” in jeopardy by having audience throw stuff (non-harmful) at them when they get the question wrong. (An easier to clean-up option is to whack them with a fun noodle)
- b. After Game ask them series of questions:
  1. How did you make your choice on what answer you gave?
  2. After you knew you were going to get pelted did that change the pressure you had on you to give the correct answer?
  3. (insert other questions that may be appropriate)
- c. Now ask the whole audience how they normally make choices. (write their answers down where they can see them. (They may say things like, “whatever seems right,” “I pray about it,” “weigh the options, and try to make the best decision,” “flip a coin,” “do what my friends are doing,” etc...Make sure as you bring the conversation around to choosing a career and make sure “making money is mentioned” as that is often a deciding factor we use.”
- d. Depending on the response help by throwing out things or ask something like, “What do you do if after weighing the decisions everything seems equal?”
- e. Bring out point that depending on the magnitude of the decision it could be really easy or difficult. This is where we jump to the *job* topic.

## II. How will you decide what you want to do? These are not necessarily the order you need to do them in just some things you need to consider (some of these are no brainers)

- a. **Do what you are good at. How do you know?**

Do kids flock around you at Church?(what could you do), Good at math (?) Solving problems (engineer), photography, What have you done really well at in LTC? Compassion...(Get youth talking by sharing how what they are good at now could lead to a career)
- b. **Do what you enjoy?**
  1. Relate Personal experience...Decided on BBA/Marketing even though I thought teaching or youth ministry would be a better fit. )
  2. Do not let financial decision be the deciding factor
  3. It took several years to figure out being good at something was different than enjoying what I did.
  4. Basically do not be afraid to change course if you realize it is not for you

5. **DISCLAIMER:** Do not mistake something that challenges you for something you are not good at or enjoy. Some of the greatest joys I have had in my careers are things that have been very challenging.

c. **In all decisions and plans put God in the equation?**

*Jer 29:11-14 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. 12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. 13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.*

1. This verse is very well known especially around graduations but do you know the context of the verse? Back up to see...

*Jer 29:4-9 This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: 5 "Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. 6 Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. 7 Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper." 8 Yes, this is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: "Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have. 9 They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them," declares the LORD.*

2. What's the big deal? (Explain the captivity to Babylon) God is basically saying be content wherever you are. Work hard and work hard for Peace. Keep God as your priority (Remain Faithful) and He will not fail to remember His promise to His Children.
3. Don't try to shut the door If God has his foot in it. (Personal experience on how we ended up spending 10 yrs in Ohio.)

*Prov 16:9 In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps.*

4. You can make your plans but it is essential to understand that God should be in control—keep your priorities straight and look for His guidance in your steps. If this is your mindset then if layoffs come or struggles arise you can have the same attitude Paul had in *Philippians 4:11-13*. Contentment
5. (Time Permitting) use *James 4:13* and following

*James 4:13--17 Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city..., spend a year there, carry on business and make money." 14 Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. 15 Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." 16 As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil. 17 Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins. (Point is not about making money...it is about whether we even care about God as we are making our plans)*

III. Conclusion:

- a. If you have time play "Mind reader" game with them. Point out the decision is easy if you have the right help with the answer.
- b. Remind them of points, Remind them to ALWAYS include God
- c. USE this verse as your personal key to success in whatever you do...

*Col 3:23-25 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, 24 since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. 25 Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism.*

Success will come whatever you choose if you work with this mindset.

(May choose to close with James 4:13 vs if it seems more powerful)