MY JOB, MY MISSION, MY PASSION

by:

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Most of us wanted to be the best in our respective jobs, whether as a teacher, master teacher, head teacher, a principal or a high ranking official in the department. Furthermore, we seek promotion for various reasons. Even a newly hired teacher will want to get promoted after two or three years of being in the field, primarily to enjoy the benefit of salary increase, to share their expertise, and many other reasons. We have different strategic action plans in mind toward achieving this common desire, but some may seem to fall short of what is being expected of them after promotion. No one wants to end up in that situation, so we need keep on striving in doing the things that are deemed to be necessary and important in our job. However, there is one question that keeps on ringing in our minds. How to be a good and effective worker? There are three questions you need to answer before you can create the formula for being a good and effective worker. Now, let us discuss each question.

The first question is, “What is my job?”. One must be clarified of his function or role in an organization. You, as a teacher, department head or principal, must know your job, not only by reading and understanding your job description but also by taking internally your purpose on why you are there in that particular position. After determining your job, the next question you need to answer is, “Is your job your mission?”. Rick Warren, the author of the best-selling book, The Purpose Driven Life, said, “To live is not mere existence.” Living is determining your real purpose or mission in life. Ho Leon (2020) said, “Life without a purpose has no meaning.” Let us now connect this to our job as educators. If you are a teacher, it is not enough that you teach students. You also need to determine the reason why you are teaching. Of why you are leading if you are an administrator. Thus, it is not enough that you have your job. It is most vital
that you do your job because it is your purpose. “Is your mission, your passion?”, this is the third and last question you need to reflect on. Michael Jordan, the famous basketball player in the NBA, was idolized by many, not only by Filipinos, but also by different races around the world. In one of his interviews, the reporter asked him on why he always shows his tongue whenever he performs slam dunk. He said, “I can’t help it. Whenever I play, I feel so excited and joyful. Because of that, my tongue comes out and I can’t help it.” He was so happy in doing what he likes which makes him successful.

In every kind of work, the question, “Are you happy?” has been a recurrent one. According to a study, we spend 50% of our waking hours in our work. Then, if you are not happy with your work, you are making your life 50% unhappy. To be happy in our work, we must pour our passion to it. In times when your passion seems to be darkened by some factors, you must reignite it. Here are some methods on how you can ignite your love for your work.

1. Have your brain involved. Do not be afraid to try on new things. Grasp some innovations. Attend some trainings and accept changes. When you learned and tried something new, your spirit will then be lifted, and you will feel excited.

2. Look for your meaning. Value your students or subordinates and extend your help to hem. Helping others to learn and move up to the ladder of success will contribute to your meaning.

3. Accept more responsibilities. Sometimes we feel discontentment with what we are doing because we are already used to it. An additional responsibility can give extra color to our job.

4. Clear up your office table. Remove all unnecessary documents and decide on which of them you should keep. Decide what documents are important to you. In this sense, you will feel more relaxed and comfortable.
5. Be open to changes. Many workers tend to always change their careers. Some teachers had to move from being teachers to policemen, firemen or to other agencies. If you feel like that you are no longer productive in your current job, try to consider moving up to another position which you think will fit you better.

To sum it up, for us to be effective in our chosen careers and professions, we must first know our jobs well. We should have clear definitions of what we are doing which will then lead us to our purpose. It is not only knowing how to teach or to how to lead, but also knowing why we are teaching or leading. To keep us motivated in our jobs and in doing our purpose, we should maintain the burning passion in our hearts. When our job is our mission and our mission become our passion, others will be inspired to follow our lead.

References: