PROTIPS

Career Shift by Marlene Legaspi-Munar

Kamakailan ay may isang bagong kasal na humiling sa akin na ipanalangin ko siya regarding his next job. Nag-resign na kasi siya sa kanyang regular na trabaho sa isang bangko dahil iniisip niyang sumunod sa kanyang bagong kabiyak na nagtratrabaho naman sa ibang bansa. Like him, many men and women in their 30s and 40s are now shifting careers for a variety of reasons.

One of the reasons for shifting careers concerns **balancing work, family, and life in general.** Tulad ng sitwasyon ng nabanggit kong bagong kasal kanina, may mga tao ngayon na handang mag-iba ng linya ng trabaho alang-alang sa ikabubuti ng kanilang pamilya. Handa silang magpalit ng trabaho kung sakaling malalayo sila sa kanilang asawa at mga anak. Others have had too much stress and are now realizing that there are other important things in life aside from work na dapat din nilang pag-ukulan ng panahon kaya naghahanap sila ng ibang trabaho na makakapagbigay sa kanila ng sapat na panahon para sa ibang mahahalaga ding bagay.

Some men and women are also shifting careers because they want **to better serve God and to contribute something significant to this world.** You have probably heard of some doctors, engineers, architects and others who have turned their backs on their profession to give their full time to church ministry. Nagawa nilang iwan ang kanilang mga propesyon dahil narining nila ang tawag sa kanila ng Panginoon na maglingkod sa paraang nais Niya. If you are one of those people whom God is calling to join His labor force, do not fear a career shift. Serving God could be the most challenging job you'll ever have, but it's also the most satisfying with eternal benefits.

Speaking of satisfaction, **the search for greater job satisfaction and fresh challenges** is another reason why others change the direction of their careers. Sa America, sinasabing 80% ng mga empleyado ang nag-iiba ng trabaho pagkaraan lamang

ng tatlong taon dahil natanggal sila sa trabaho, o di kaya'y naghahanap sila ng mas magagandang oportunidad. Others look for a job na mas mataas ang sahod o mas maraming benefits. Ang iba naman ay nababagot na marahil sa paulit-ulit na routine, at trabahong walang masyadong room for improvement kaya naghahanap sila ng ibang klaseng trabaho.

Finally, others change careers out of a **desire for greater independence.** A person who likes to move around will eventually leave a job that limits his movements to the four corners of an office. O ang isang tao namang gustong maging malaya sa paggawa ng mga desisyon, o gustong laging nag-eeksperimento ay maaaring magnegosyo na lang ng sarili o magfreelance para lalong maging mas independent. Whatever your reason for shifting careers, be sure that you made the move after you have carefully thought about it and prepared for it. Kaya makinig bukas sa Protips kung paano nyo paghahandaan ang pagbabago ng inyong career. Remember, wise people think before they act.

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There could be many reasons why people shift careers. Nagbabago sila ng trabaho dahil gusto nilang unahin ang kapakanan ng kanilang pamilya, o di kaya'y tinatawag sila ng Diyos sa ibang klaseng paglilingkod. Ang iba naman ay naghahanap ng greater job satisfaction, challenges, or independence. Whatever your reason or reasons for changing the direction and focus of your career, it's best that you prepare for it. Here are some questions for you to think about if you're planning your next career move:

First of all: **Are you willing to follow God's direction for your career?** Some people think hindi na dapat abalahin ang Diyos pagdating sa kanilang sariling trabaho dahil masyado na Siyang maraming ginagawa. But the truth is, God is concerned even in the minutest details of our lives. Your career is not just a minor part of your life; ang

totoo isang major part ng iyong buhay ang iyong pagtratrabaho na kadalasan pa nga ay nakakaapekto sa iyong relasyon sa Diyos. That's why may say ang Diyos sa iyong trabaho. Allow Him to lead you in the right career path. Submit to His will for your life which is good, pleasing, and perfect.

Second question: **What are your skills and competencies?** Anu-ano ang mga God-given abilities mo? Saan ka mahusay? Do you have an expertise or technical know-how? Sa puntong ito na maghahanap ka ng bagong trabaho, kailangan mong alalahanin ang lahat ng kaya mong gawin because the more skills and experience you have, the greater your chance of marketability. What are your strong qualities? What are your weak ones? You need to be aware hindi lang kung saan ka magaling, kundi saan ka rin mahina para magawan mo pa ng paraan.

In relation to this, ask also yourself: **What key skills and abilities are required in your new field of interest?** Anu-ano ang mga kakayahang kailangan sa bagong trabahong nais mong pasukin? Meron ka ba nito? Kung wala, ano ang puwede mong gawin para magkaroon ka ng ganitong skill o competency? For example, if you want to shift to a teaching vocation, pero hindi ka naman tapos ng Education, you need to get at least a minimum of 18 professional units para ka makapagturo. Today, there are many kinds of short term courses available that can help you gain some background on the field you want to enter.

Another important question is this: **Is it more beneficial for you to change career right now?** Mas makakabuti ba kung mag-iiba ka ng linya ng trabaho ngayon o mas mabuting manatili ka sa kasalukuyan mong ginagawa? Count not only the benefits, but count also the cost. Are you ready to pay the price that goes with changing careers? Kung natitiyak mong mas mabuti ngang ibahin mo na ang takbo ng iyong career, then stick to your decision. Enjoy your new career and ask God to give you the grace to persevere through trials and challenges sa iyong bagong trabaho. At sa lahat ng iyong gagawin, gawin mo ito na parang naglilingkod sa Diyos at hindi sa tao at ang Panginoon ang tiyak na maggagantimpala sa iyo.

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According to Brian Koslow, "The freedom to move forward to new opportunities and to produce results comes from living in the present not the past." Kung gusto mong sumulong at umunlad sa larangan ng iyong propesyong pinili, kailangang mamuhay ka sa kasalukuyan at hindi sa nakaraan. Pero sinabi rin ni Jose Rizal, "Ang hindi lumingon sa pinanggalingan ay hindi makararating sa paroroonan." Before you move forward to new job opportunities, don't forget to do the following things:

First, **talk to your family, friends, and mentors about your career plans.** Ayon sa Proverbs 15:22, "Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed." Maaaring makapagbigay sa iyo ng mga insights at leads ang mga mahal mo sa buhay. Most of all, they can pray for you and help you discern God's will as you make your career move.

Second, **revise and send out your resume.** Update your resume especially the sections on education, work experience, skills, and other qualifications. Place your resume on job sites sa internet. Send resumes sa mga kumpanyang naghahanap ng posisyong target mo. Makinig sa mga radio stations tulad ng DZAS na merong mga job vacany announcements. Contact your friends and acquaintances in the industry who might know some companies na nangangailangan ng posisyong nais mo.

In the meantime, **complete your assigned work and hand-over your duties to your successor.** Tapusin mo nang maayos ang lahat ng mga responsibilidad mo sa iyong kasalukuyang pinagtratrabahuhan kung hindi pa in effect ang iyong resignation. Mas mainam na sa pag-alis mo sa iyong kasalukuyang trabaho, walang pangit na masasabi sa iyo ang iyong boss at ang iyong mga katrabaho. Instead, may maiiwan ka pang magandang testimony dahil naging masipag at responsible ka sa iyong trabaho.

Kung sakali namang na-dismiss ka sa trabaho, **ask management about the nature of your dismissal so that you can be aware of your faults and shortcomings.** Aminin mo kung nagkulang ka nga at nagkamali at sikapin mong iwasan ang ganitong pangyayari sa bago mong lilipatang trabaho.

Bago ka umalis, **check also with your superior or with the accounting office matters regarding your termination benefits.**

Finally, **be thankful to God for all the blessings and learning experiences you had while on your previous job.** Kalimutan mo na rin ang mga naranasan mong hindi magaganda at patawarin mo ang mga kasamahan sa trabahong nakasakit sa iyo. Have a clean slate by forgiving others. Only then can you truly move forward and receive the blessings of God on your new career.