Summit Student Mobilization Talk // *(Using Matthew 6:33)*

***Tonight has two purposes:***(1) That you make the mission of God a defining reality in your life(2) That you avail yourselves of some of the opportunities we are providing for you in mission

***1. That you make the mission of God a defining reality in your life***

* There is a myth among Christians as it relates to calling: you need a special call to leverage your life for the mission of God. Rather, this was in the call to follow Jesus. The Great Commission was not a special calling for a sacred few, but a mandate for all followers of Jesus.
  + My discovery of that. “I was really struggling with the truth that Jesus was the only way, so I dedicated one who semester to just reading and understanding the book of Romans… Romans 2:12🡪railroad tracks vs. cheerios
* The question is no longer whether you are called to the mission of God, but where and how.
* Not all of you are supposed to go into full-time ministry, but God has given you something to be leveraged for the Great Commission: ***Do what you do well for the glory of God; do it somewhere strategic for the mission of God.***
* Some of you need to think about your life differently—as a seed you sacrifice for the gospel (John 12:24–25)

***2. That you avail yourselves of some of the opportunities we are providing for you in mission***

* We want you to consider two things specifically:
  + Give one summer to one of our mission projects (last summer we had 300);
  + Spending the first 2 years after you graduate as a part of one of our church plants (this year we’ve had 100 committed—***you’ve got to get a job somewhere, why not get it where God is doing something strategic for his mission?***)
* Why summer project?
  + It gives us time to take you deeper into theology; train you in apologetics and worldview; teach you to lead other people to Christ and to disciple them; and help you explore your gifts and specific callings in ministry
  + No matter where you “end up” in life, you need to be able to win and disciple others. This gives us a season to train you in that.
  + “But I need to do internships and make money over the summer.” **Matthew 6:33**: If you seek first God’s kingdom, God will take care of that. This is giving God first place.
* Why the 2 year commitment?
  + Again—***you’ve got to get a job somewhere, why not get it where God is doing something strategic for his mission?***
  + Apply Matthew 6:33 here—think of it as “tithing” your career: giving God the firstfruits.
  + Here’s what will happen: if God *has* called you to church planting long-term, this is likely the place that it will happen. Your callings tend to grow out of your experiences. This gives you the experiences out of which God will call you.
  + “But I’ll get behind in my career!” Again, apply Matthew 6:33 here. You honor God with the firstfruits; God takes care of the rest.
    - Interesting corollary—an unusually high number of high level executives in Fortune 500 companies have spent time in the Marine Corps. Their years of service in the military gave them the *character* qualities to lead, which was more valuable than a head start on their career. That’s what we want to do—think of this summer and 2 year commitment as “Boot camp for Christians.”

**Personal:** I did both of these things: I took off 1 year at the beginning of college simply to learn the Bible and apologetics, and shortly after I graduated I spent 2 years in Indonesia. It was 2 of the best decisions I made in my life.

* God fulfilled Matthew 6:33 in me.
* Regardless of where God takes you in the future, you need to know his word, be in touch with your spiritual gifts, develop a biblical worldview, and be skilled at leading others to Christ and discipling them—in whatever vocational field God leads you into. *The summer project and the 2 year graduation commitment* are the steps to take to ensure that happens.
* This is one of the only times of your life where you are “unencumbered” and have the freedom to explore your calling and the mission of God in the world! Give him these years (Matthew 6:33).

Last year we had 300 on summer mission projects and 100 seniors commit their first two years to live on mission here in RDU or at one of our church plants domestic or international. Here are a few of their stories.