Ryan Prather

Jasmine Hiland, Carrie McKay

INT-1100-06

12/12/2021

Ryan Prather Link Paper

In my first semester at Trevecca Nazarene University, I learned a lot about myself. I took two different personality tests including the MBTI and Strengths Quest. I agreed with almost all my test results, especially my strengths test. One of my strengths that I agree with the most is Futuristic. This strength is great to have because it means that I am always working towards the future and trying to be better. I enjoy life in the present, but I also enjoy looking at things that I can do in the future. I fully agree with this. I am always looking forward to something in my life, whether that is a new car, my next semester in college, or something smaller like next weekend. Understanding this strength that I learned in link group has helped me use it to its fullest potential. I can now see when I am being futuristic and learn to control it. I tend to skip over the present and past, however, now I can take more time to relax. An example would be that I am saving for a new car. Because of this, I tell myself that I will not spend any money at all until I purchase the car. This is of course good; however, it can quickly turn ugly if I don’t give myself small treats along the way. By understanding my futuristic mindset, I can make sure that I keep myself accountable.

One of my MBTI results was Introverted. I agree with this to a certain degree. Whenever I am in large crowds, I get very nervous and introverted. However, when I am with my friends, I am very outgoing. I remember taking this test in the past and I had gotten extroverted. I thought it was interesting to see how much my personality has changed over the past two years. I think that I have slowly gotten more introverted, and I agree with this test result.

I also agree with one of my other MBTI results of Intuition. I tend to always look at the big picture and the end goal. Because of this, I agree with my intuition result. I like to think about things in ways that other people have not thought of, and to use my knowledge to plan out my life. As I said above in my futuristic strength, I think that these two-character traits mesh very well. By understanding these traits that I have, I can learn to take advantage of them and use them to their fullest extent.

For one of my link group presentations, Andrew, a fellow classmate, and I talked about a Habitude called the Half-Hearted Kamikaze. This habitude tells unless we need to be committed instead of just involved. By simply being involved in my work or classes, I am not getting the full learning and information that I would be getting if I was fully committed. By being fully committed, I can learn more in class and pay more attention. I would not have thought about this if I had not done a presentation on this habitude, therefore, I am very thankful that I had the opportunity to learn this habitude.

I also resonated with Bryant’s presentation about the importance of building a barn prior to building a house. I agree with this habitude because I feel as though in order to live, we need to make money. Once we have a strong foundation (barn) we can build off that and be able to expand and have fun (house).

When I learned these things about me, I wanted to take a deep dive into what kind of person I want to be. I want to be a loving and helpful person, someone that people want to be around. I want to be welcoming and willing to help people out. I want to be able to take these things that I have learned about myself and put them into practice. I can achieve this by focusing on how I am talking with people and how I perceive people Finally, I want to be someone with strong character. I want people to look at me and think that my parents did a great job raising me.

So how do I become this person? I can begin with forgiveness towards people who have wronged me and turn myself towards a new beginning with those people. I want to help more people, whether that is helping with school, or volunteering more. I can set realistic goals in my life and work hard at my job to make enough money to achieve those goals. I will work hard though the summers when I do not have school so I can save money and purchase a new car. I will graduate college and get a secure job in IT and be able to provide for my future wife and family. Everything that I do now affects the future me. I cannot be the man who drops out and doesn’t persevere. I need to assure that I persevere.

This last section is tough for me because I don’t like to think about not being alive. How do I want to be remembered? I want to be remembered as a loving family man who always put others before himself. I want to leave a good impact on the earth and bring God to people who otherwise would not have known him. I want to be remembered as someone who made goals and reached those goals. I don’t want to be someone who makes goals and does not go through with them. I do not like to disappoint people. I want people to look at me and think that I “beat life”.

I want to ultimately have someone look at my body when I am gone and say, this man was not perfect, but he did his very best and caused me to change my life for the better. I want to make an impact. I want people to think of me as a hard worker, someone who was always giving 100% and doing his best. I know it sounds kind of bad, but I want to also be known as the cool, chill, and nice guy. I like when people like me, and I want to be remembered as a cool and chill guy.

Life is Hard. We have all heard it so many times, and for good reason. Life is Hard. We will have good days and bad days. Life is Hard. We will have triumphs and struggles. Life is Hard. But Work harder anyway. Your grade in class dropped again. Work harder anyway. Your bank account is lowering by the day, Work harder anyway. The moment that we give up is the moment we lose. So don’t lose.