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## "The Life and Miracles of Fisher Alumnus Justin Miller, 2007"

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## "The Life and Miracles of Fisher Alumnus Justin Miller, 2007"

### **Abstract**

In lieu of an abstract, below is the essay's first paragraph.

"It has been two academic years since I graduated with a B.A. in English and Religious Studies. I found college a great experience, but as it came to a close I was itching to get out of the classroom and begin a fulfilling career. I was of the impression that, just as diplomas are distributed upon graduation, employers would automatically provide studious and hard-working graduates stellar jobs. I felt entitled to such a position. After all, I worked hard for four years, was involved in clubs and organizations, participated in internships, etc."



*"The Life and Miracles of Fisher Alumnus Justin Miller, 2007"*

It has been two academic years since I graduated with a B.A. in English and Religious Studies. I found college a great experience, but as it came to a close I was itching to get out of the classroom and begin a fulfilling career. I was of the impression that, just as diplomas are distributed upon graduation, employers would automatically provide studious and hard-working graduates stellar jobs. I felt entitled to such a position. After all, I worked hard for four years, was involved in clubs and organizations, participated in internships, etc.

Needless to say, the business world was quite a shock for me. I was blessed to find a full-time job in Rochester only a month after graduation (how the economy has changed!), but I found myself standing on the lowest rung of the corporate ladder very difficult. I knew I had more skill than the position asked of me, and yearned to use and develop it. Within a few months, it felt as if the menial and repetitive tasks I was doing 40 hours a week turned my brain, so recently fine-tuned with a liberal arts education, into mush. I was frustrated, and looked for a way to escape. Over the next year I considered Graduate School, self-employment, even joining a monastery --anything to get out of my situation and do the things I thought I would enjoy more.

Thankfully none of the hackneyed "escapes" I devised came to fruition. I then began to hear how many recent graduates were unemployed; slowly I began to be thankful for my job. I also realized that the discipline of a 40-hour work week was bringing about some great fruit in my life. I also realized that I needed to make 'doing things I loved' a priority, or they would always get sidelined by the never-ending stream of errands and responsibilities that come with adult life. Within a few months I found myself submitting articles to Christian publications, reading about as much as I did in college, and coming to a far greater understanding of what I wanted to do with my life.

If you have to take a so-so job after graduation to pay off debt or just get your feet on the ground, I urge you to stick with it at least a year or two. It gives you time to prudently plan your next step, acquire good discipline, and more. Some time away from academia can be a great thing, so long as you read daily, pray daily, and surround yourself with virtuous friends.