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Melvin University
and Me

A special lecture on graduation

I gave two special lectures to the graduating classes. One was about "the relationship between the fish and the pond"; the other was about "short-term projects." Of course, these two were talked about a lot elsewhere, but it was the first lectures for graduates.

The story of fish and pond was about the relationship between the people, the institution, and itself when they graduate and operate a ministry or something. Whether it's a ministry or a church, when they start, ordinary people usually gather. Whether it's in Korea or here, it seems the same. Then, over time, new people, especially better people, come in. Here, better people have intelligence, money, and in a word, big fish.

Usually, the problem begins at this point. The pond is not ready to accept the big people. The institution is puzzled and helpless by the sudden appearance of the big people. The leadership test of the best guidance begins when the moment comes to decide whether to accept such big people or leave them behind.

Whether you are a pastor or a leader of any organization, you will experience these times. For the organization to grow, other people and better people must come in. Otherwise, the situation will be stagnant and you will face an ordinary, so-called gradual closure. Why can't they accept such different and bigger people? First of all, it seems to be a matter of vested rights. The other is thought to be the lack of competence of the chief leader. These two are of course essential processes for the success of the ministry, but they are also very

difficult during the period of direct confrontation.

In the second lecture, I talked about a short-term projects, and it was an opportunity to share my personal experience by talking about the process of founding Melvin University. Focusing on the book I wrote ("The 7 Principles for Short-Term Project"), I only selected and emphasized the exceptions on how to succeed in a short-term project.

Most of the graduating students agreed and accepted the above two lectures. It seems that it is because these are assignments that touch the skin the moment they leave the school after the graduation ceremony. This is because these two are absolute challenges that touch the skin when they leave school and enter society, whether at church or in society.

I also came this far through this process, so I had to emphasize it because their concerns and concerns felt as if they were mine.