

PROF. VICTOR UWAIFO: THE INTELLECTUAL AND MOTIVATOR

Discovering and harnessing your creative talents. A lecture delivered on Friday 10th September 2010 at the main Auditorium University of Benin on the occasion of the Rotary 9140 meeting (Rotaractors)

Discovering your creative talent starts with a question by asking yourself: “Who am I?” Am I an observer in this world? If the answer is no, then you are a partaker. The second question “Was I created like others?” Yes every being, has talent because, we are a spark of our creator, and therefore, the whole world is yours. Everything you need is within your reach and is your responsibility to look and discover it. This is the beginning of your creativity and success story. Creating is 3 dimensional. It could be spiritual, mental and physical.

The thrust of this lecture or paper is centered on creativity and self-actualization from different perspectives.

Discovering your creative talents is the first step to take if you would ever step into the track and field events of life. Harnessing them is another step that ensures the trend is metamorphosed.

Those treasures lying fallow right inside you are non-functional and will remain immobile if not properly harnessed. The farmer’ seed will only germinate and blossom if properly nourished on good soil, with manure and weeding round the ridges.

Gold will only become valuable when refined. The gold miners get raw gold the break the rocks (24 carats). The gold must go through the furnace of fire for refinement with all sorts of designs before it gets to the market.

In the 16th century, from Italy emerged a man who excelled in the fields of engineering, architecture, painting, poetry and science, Leonardo Da’ Vinci. He conceived the idea of a flying machine, the aircraft that was eventually actualized by the Wright brothers later in the 20th century. He painted the most beautiful woman on earth called the Mona Lisa and painted the Last supper etc. Michael Angelo, the sculptor, engineer and painter, sculptured David, Moses and painted the Last Judgment of the Sistine Chapel of St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome to name a few. These people understood who they were and the talents they were endowed with.

For me, I never doubted by abilities in the sciences and engineering, because I felt them and took interest in them, but I was more passionate about the ones everybody sees today. Imagine, if I discovered all these area of talents and I never acknowledged them, what would I have been known for today?

“Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek ad you shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you” (Mathew 7: 7). Ultimately, hidden treasures (creative talents) lie within you.

The hallmark of creativity is development

1. Once you are able to discover your potentials, you must take adequate steps in ensuring the right development. Take the performing and visual arts as case study. It is not enough to be naturally endowed with good voice for singing. You may sound good to the ordinary ears, yet your singing is still amateur and ordinary. The right development in the form of voice grooming or training will ensure that your voice becomes an identity for professional use.
2. You must give priority attention to your personal purpose. Know that your purpose (talent) is the most intriguing aspect of your being. That thing you do so effortlessly with all enthusiasm and burning passion, that thing you love to exhibit in the presence of others (audience, spectators, congregation, etc.) even if nobody pays you a dime is your creative talent.
3. Your creative talents would obviously ensure you are unique and original in your approach. You have to go through various levels of creativity. Your creative talents are considered to be products of innate, talent heredity in you, or the affections of environmental influences.

Innate talents are naturally in-born. The word “latent” originally, is associated with images as in photography that need to be made when a photographer focuses his camera on an object or figure and subsequently in the process exposes the lenses of the sun. The resultant effect is a record of an image (latent) ready to be discovered in the laboratory and then printed. This concept inadvertently is the bridge both the personality and environmental influence.

As I speak, I have not used 50% of my brain in all that I have achieved in life. I can recall my childhood days through my youth to adulthood. I was always positive in ability to achieve results. For instance, as an infant, I started by experimenting my potentials in all spheres from music to engineering, making toy cars and aeroplanes from art to architecture, making cages for birds, flying kites, drawing on paper and other materials, plotting a play and acting it under the moonlight. These and many more informed my decision to choose from a wide variety of talents in my life. Most parents do not encourage their children to read any other profession if it was not medicine, engineering or law partly because of their mindset that that their children will get a ready-made job after graduation. Other professions they regarded would not put food on their table. Quoting from my 520 – page autobiography (book) by Associate Prof. Awodiya, I have this to say that: creativity is an arsenal of war against fear. If you are creative, you are confident. It is often quoted that the heights that great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight.

Harnessing your talents to achieve creativity can be described as giving birth to an idea, giving a new meaning to something, creating a brand, carving out your identity, dreams made manifest, cause and effect, invoking your hidden talent (awakening it) remolding your ideas, combining other ideas to form a new one, drawing from inspiration, from inorganic, or inanimate objects to reality everything visible or invisible, tangible or intangible can be tapped from and harness them to achieve results. Ideas rule the world, multiple ideas, visualize inexhaustible without end, creating something out of nothing, going the

extra mile to achieve results, trying something new is creativity. The worst plan is better than no plan at all. Speed, timing and precision are very effective and they influence creativity. Every moment counts, learn the ropes, your tomorrow is in your hand, wake up your destiny, don't wait for your destiny to wake you up. Everything has value and it is your responsibility to attract the value. Success is the brainchild of an inquirer. You want to know, you want to know more, you want to find, you find, you want to experiment, you experiment you get results. Creativity is going into action, charting a new path and opening your eyes to see, to probe. It is sound and vibration, it is vision, it is made up of alphabets, it is made up of numbers, it is made up of colors, it is made up of musical notes. You should not be the same person today as yesterday, (improve on yourself) be superior to yourself of yesterday. To be happy, be busy and creative. Doing things and how to do it, first think of what to do, self-confidence is your greatest weapon, open up your mind (you shut-up your mind, you shut out ideas), you need wisdom and not muscles or strength to create, commitment and enthusiasm provide results.

Working together achieves greater results and less work. Team work is like 1st eleven in a football pitch. One good player alone can't play against the other eleven. Don't underestimate anything in life. To be original you stand a better chance than playing a second fiddle.

A bird sings not because it has a solution but because it has a song. Nothing is impossible, I can do it, yes I can do it, this must be your driving force, this is the mind of a winner or achiever. Special privileged knowledge is an esoteric experience, you can also experience it.

Intuition is your freehold. Grab it. Conjecture of positive thinking and strong drive will make a difference. Spiritual concept can propel terrestrial know-how, sometimes; creativity is an accident of birth from meditation and concentration.

Affections of immediate dwelling place and exposure give birth to creativity, equilibrium of thoughts of high vibrations yield results, compose a song and sing it. To join alphabets, from words and makes sentences and write anything you wish to write. Recognize and act upon a little idea that comes to your mind.

Finding a solution to a problem to foresee the future is the pacesetter's strong hold, it is unlimited in scope with unlimited boundaries, like radio waves and television signals, its fluid waiting for you to tap for it, is a mirror of the mind; the interpretation of thoughts is a mystery and supernatural gifts.

Creativity is the brainchild of a probing mind, a result of several experiments. It's an art of science, is an invisible power, a living power, a living energy of signals in space at more than one million bytes and a thousand decibel per second.

Offspring of the law of attraction is positive thinking, freedom, a master key to greatness, in tandem with laws of nature. It is a propeller of multiple ideas or the invoked spirit of new birth of ideas at your command, an art and symphony of thoughts, the accuracy of imagination, a freeborn of new consciousness and exploration of inner mind. It is an open cheque to cash; it is the success story of all that has been, all that is today and all that will be tomorrow.

Synchronization of thoughts may come in flashes at the speed of light. As people build physically to become super-human being heavy weights, athletes and weight lifters, so also you can build your mind and develop it into a receptacle of attraction and creativity.

It is important to dream, it is important to remember, it is important to have ideas, it is equally important to harmonize the thoughts, listen to the intangible crying of matter, cry for freedom by those ideas trapped in an inorganic or organic matter; recognize the vision and composition of your inner spirit. The liberation of trapped dreams, the master plan of hidden ideas unraveled; harvest your in-born capsule of a new formula, aside of the normal routine of daily life.

Creativity is nuclear and twinkling like stars according to the laws of coherence. Turning old things to new ones is synonymous to magnetic waves ready to be magnetized by creative magnetic brains. It is the apprehension of a conglomeration of ideas made manifest.

If you inflate a balloon, it expands becomes light and floats. The more you exercise your brain, the more it flourishes, you nourish a flower, it will blossom, ignore it, withers. Creativity is how to become superior to yourself day by day, week after week, month after month and year after year. Plot a graph to show the improvements in your life and what you were yesterday is not what you are today. It is a web network of vision, an imaginary composition in the abstract; you capture it and bring it alive, self actualization, the ingenuity of a man to figure out plans in his life. Experiment the confidence of getting things done without doubt, a good measure of faith in whatever you perceive in your mind's eye.

Creativity is giving you a second chance. If you fail, try again, chance after chance until you get what you desire. Creativity is a mechanism of breaking barriers. Creativity is to structure and restructure your strategies in all spheres of life. For example, plan A and plan B as an alternative. Creativity is the chemistry of discoveries fired by your intuitions.

In all of these, nature does not always play by the rules. You also need the grace of God. Ecclesiastics 9:11 the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor riches to men of understanding, nor favour to men of skill but time and chance happeneth to all.

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