

## Vocation Talk: High School 3 - High School (Grades 9-12)

**PLEASE NOTE:** this is not a traditional, 'scripted' talk. Structurally, it comprises three parts: 1) a brief welcome/introduction from the speaker; 2) a roughly six-minute-long video; and 3) a free-form discussion of the students' takeaways from the video they've just watched. As with High School Vocations Talk 2 (see above), you will need to use a classroom that is equipped with both a video screen and a computer that is connected to the Internet.

**PLEASE NOTE:** it will be very important for the speaker to contact the classroom teacher well in advance of the date of the presentation in order to ensure Vocations Talk 3 is the right option for their class, since its structure assumes a classroom full of students who get more engaged in learning via videos and free-form discussions than they do via in-person speakers and more structured discussions.

Fr Mike Schmitz What's My Vocation? By Ascension Presents

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJz9PbakIzY>

In his trademark style, Fr. Mike Schmitz delivers a concise but example-filled summary of what a vocation is, how to get to the heart of one's vocation, and how to move forward in pursuing one's vocation.

Speaker begins with the following remarks:

**SPEAKER:** Good morning/afternoon. We're going to watch a short video today. It answers a question I think a lot of you might have: what is my vocation? The man talking in the video is an expert on that subject. He's someone who is part of a very popular YouTube channel. He has a lot of followers. You might have heard of him before, or watched some of his videos, but I don't want to spoil anything for you. I will let him introduce himself.

So, please pay attention to the video...and please do this, too: as you watch the video, write down three 'takeaways' — three things that you learned from the video...three things that you found valuable in it...three things that you will take with you from this presentation. We will discuss those things after the video is over.

Speaker plays the video and makes sure students are writing things down per the instructions. At the end of the video, the discussion phase of the presentation is introduced to the students as follows:

SPEAKER: Thank you for your time and attention in watching that video—and thanks for writing down your thoughts. Now, please share some of those thoughts. I'm going to guide everyone through this – it's easy! I asked you to write down three takeaways from the video. What were they? You don't have to share all three; you can share just one or two of the items you wrote down.

Would someone please help get us started? Please raise your hand if you want to help us get started. [CALL ON SOMEONE TO START THE DISCUSSION]

At this point, the discussion begins. Questions that can be used by the speaker to help move the discussion along are as follows:

1. Why were the things you wrote down important to you?
2. Were the things you wrote down new to you? Or had you previously known them, but maybe saw them today in a new light thanks to the video?
3. Think again about what you wrote down during the video. Did what you wrote down maybe spark additional questions for you about vocation? If so, what are those questions?

When you feel the discussion has achieved sufficient depth and breadth to where you can move on, then proceed to the last part of the presentation:

SPEAKER: Thank you for that great discussion. I appreciate your willingness to share. Now, I want to wrap up our time today with a final thought and a prayer.

Remember that prayer...and quiet time with God...are two things that will help you in your discernment. Pray about it often. And take time in a place like the adoration chapel at your parish to just sit and be quiet before God.

If you ever have questions about vocations or want to talk to someone about where you think God might be calling you, feel free to talk to me or any priest or deacon or religious.

Now, if you'd please bow your heads and join me in a closing prayer:

“Lord, my God and my loving Father, you have made me to know you, to love you, to serve you, and thereby to find and to fulfill my deepest longings. I know that you are in all things, and that every path can lead me to you. But of them all, there is one especially by which you want me to come to you. Since I will do what you want of me, I pray you, send your Holy Spirit to me: into my mind, to show me what you want of me; into my heart, to give me the determination to do it, and to do it with all my love, with all my mind, and with all of my strength right to the end. Jesus, I trust in you. Amen.”