

Who Has the Remote Control?

“I may be the least religious person you’ve ever had speak here.”

That’s how LPGA Commissioner Mike Whan opened his talk to a group of us. Needless to say, he had our attention.

“I used to think nothing was missing in my life,” Mike explains. “I felt like I was a good person. I didn’t cheat. I didn’t lie. I was good to my family. I had my priorities in order. For me, religion was like floss. I only used it when something big was coming up or when something was hurting.”

Mike was like many—a normal, successful and decent person with no compelling reason to go looking for a relationship with God. But God came looking for, was knocking on Mike’s door.

As Mike tells it, one of His first knocks came through a CEO who was interviewing him for a key position in his company. “He asked me if we could pray before dinner. He thanked the Lord for bringing us together and said ‘we all realize there’s no such thing as coincidence. Mike and I are here for a reason, please show us what that reason is.’”

The knock which finally got his attention came when Mike and Meg ventured into Saddleback Church one Sunday morning. As Mike describes it, “Out comes Rick Warren, who I knew nothing about at the time. His first words were ‘I’ll bet there are some in the audience who don’t want to be here. I’m thinking, *is he looking at me?* Then he said, ‘I’ll bet there are even some who haven’t really given their lives to Jesus Christ,’ I slid down in my seat and thought, *Cover me honey, he’s com’n in.*”

The pieces fell into place: prayer at the interview and now Rick Warren’s challenge. Mike decided that morning to hand the “remote control,” as he puts it, over to Jesus Christ. “I finally realized that trusting God with my life is a little like daily flossing. It’s not only good for you, it also makes you feel better. You can’t ignore God’s knock forever.”

1. Mike describes himself as being an innately “in control” person. Would you describe yourself as primarily an “in control,” “go with the flow,” or “surrendered” person?
2. Why does Mike need to go against his “in control” nature in order to grow in his faith?
3. Is there something you need to go against in your nature in order to get closer to God?

Click on the link to watch Mike’s 9 minute story

<https://vimeo.com/390771813>