

10 Ways to Know if You are on the Wrong Seat in the Bus

Jim Collins' book, *Good to Great*, popularized the concept of "getting the right people on the right seat in the bus." It's not uncommon in church consulting to find church staff members who seem to be in the wrong seat. If you're wondering about your role, here are some indicators of that possibility:

1. **You get no joy in the work.** Even when things are going well, you have no intrinsic sense of "there is great eternal value in this work."
2. **You struggle going to work.** You may not dread it, but nor do you look forward to it. It doesn't wake you up in the morning.
3. **You give up easily when things don't work well.** When you're living your passion, you press through the tough times. If it's not your passion, it's easy to give up.
4. **You're constantly looking for other roles/way to fulfill your heart.** You might even do other things without pay just because you really love them.
5. **You find yourself easily annoyed with little things.** The smallest things can get on our nerves when our nerves are already on edge.
6. **You wonder what it would take to prepare for another role.** You might even have checked out other training, other degrees, etc., already.
7. **You envy others in the role you think you'd love.** You don't want to be jealous, but it's difficult not to be when you think you're in the wrong seat.
8. **You wonder if you "missed God's will" when you took the position.** That phrase is a spiritual way of saying, "I'm not sure I'm in the right seat."
9. **Your spouse is tired of you looking for the greener grass.** Our spouse is usually the first person to recognize our discomfort in a position (in fact, our spouse may have warned us against taking the role in the first place . . .).
10. **You find it hard to pray, "Lord, your will be done."** You want to pray that way, but you wonder what you'll do if God leaves you where you are.