

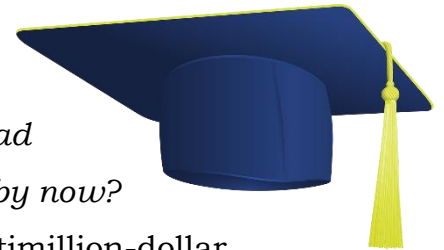


# The Leaf

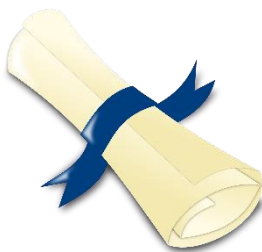
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## What's Next?

Graduation means something's ending. Commencement means something new is beginning, and for many seniors, that's a frightening thought. You may be wondering *What do I do next?* or *Will I succeed at this new job or grad school?* or *Wasn't I meant to have my life together by now?*



In a world where 24-year-olds routinely build multimillion-dollar startups, college graduates can feel like they're under immense pressure to succeed immediately and extravagantly. All too often, we forget that **there's no shame in finding success slowly**, and that **success has many faces**. If your "success" means you eventually attain your dream job, that's fantastic. If it means you have a loving family, that's excellent. It's even OK to start out by aspiring to own a car that works reliably. All that matters is that one day, you can look back and say, "I did God's work well."



To illustrate this point, here's a sampling of some Oakwood faculty and the first jobs they had after college. As they'll show you, **any place God puts you is the right place.**

### **"What was your first paid job after college?"**

**Dr. Lisa Dalrymple (biology):**

"Teaching high-school biology and physical science."

**Dr. Richard Blanco-Topping**

**(business):** "Public health administration."

**Vashon Williams (health & exercise**

**science):** "Working as a PE teacher and athletic director."

**Rebecca Brothers (library):** "House cleaning."

**Jeshua Hinton (library):** "Renovating historical homes."