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My experience as an intern at the afro-centric Christian radio station, under the guidance of my internship director, Ms. Mallory, has been a transformative and enlightening journey. Over the course of several months, I have had the opportunity to delve into various aspects of the radio industry and develop a better understanding of its place in the 21st-century media environment. In this self-assessment and experiential reflection paper, I will discuss my growth as an intern in the radio industry and reflect on the lessons I've learned throughout this internship.

During my internship, one of the main projects I worked on was making worship playlists for the radio station. This required delving deeply into the Afro-centric Christian music subgenre to identify its distinctive characteristics that set it different from other genres of Christian music. Working closely with Ms. Mallory, we investigated a range of musicians and albums, talking about their unique qualities and how they might fit into our meticulously prepared playlists. Ms. Mallory was very specific about what she wanted. She wanted me to find music that was worshipping Jesus, sung by different ethnic groups, in their country, in their language. She was very clear about me not using Elevation Worship or Maverick City in her playlists. This made finding music so much more challenging since I had to find music in different languages and looking for titles that were not written in English. I really appreciated this though because typically, I am not a music person. While I can appreciate music for what it offers, I never really searched for specific music. I always allowed my friends or YouTube Music to recommend me whatever it thinks I might like. I learned from this experience how crucial it is to know your target audience and what kinds of playlists they want to listen to. It also broadened my appreciation for the artistry and creativity involved in creating this genre of music by exposing me to a variety of musical approaches and genres within the Afro-centric Christian genre.

My internship also helped me improve my communication abilities and understand the value of networking in the radio profession. I had the chance to help Ms. Mallory contact potential interview

subjects for the radio station through email. I had to contact a Swiss archaeologist who went dark on the internet. I did hours of research on this man only to find out that he worked at 2 universities in his most recent years. Both of these universities were in Europe and I had to write an email on behalf of Ms. Mallory asking if it was possible to find the update contact information for the man. Unfortunately, none of them ever responded back, but Ms. Mallory explained that is a common occurrence on the job. Working on getting in touch with the Swiss archaeologist was difficult, but eventually rewarding. While we were unable to contact him despite my best attempts, this event let me realize the value of perseverance and the realities of industry disappointments. While not every attempt to get in touch with someone will be successful, Ms. Mallory stressed the importance of persevering and not giving up in the face of failure. She always had this saying “do not let perfection be the enemy of good” which essentially means do not focus so much on meeting every goal and needing some particular outcome so bad because then you would never be content and happy when things are simply good. You would always find something wrong with things and would never meet that standard for perfection since the bar would keep rising. Despite this failure, I have seen numerous indications where it was successful and she was able to get an interview with someone prestigious and even get them to support her nonprofit organization in Africa. The success of Ms. Mallory in obtaining high-profile interviews and backing for her nonprofit organization in Africa brought attention to the value of networking in the radio profession. My realization that networking was crucial for developing fresh chances and professional experiences in the field. As I observed Ms. Mallory's accomplishments and absorbed her knowledge, I started to see the importance of developing connections with professionals in the industry, especially since they contributed almost directly to her business and her dream. She needs sponsors to survive and it seems that she has them. Through this experience, I learned that networking is vital in any industry, as it can open doors to new opportunities and experiences. It also taught me the importance of being professional, clear, and concise in my written communication, as this can leave a

lasting impression on the recipients and shape their perception of the radio station. I discovered how crucial it is to have a concept that can touch people emotionally and resonate with them. The concept has the power to draw listeners to the radio station and increase their likelihood of tuning in. The work that Ms. Mallory did in Africa with her charity organization is a great illustration of how a cause or idea can inspire people to take action and aid others. By establishing a connection between her radio station and the charitable organization in Africa, Ms. Mallory successfully made an emotional plea that drew listeners in and encouraged them to support her cause.

I spent a substantial amount of my internship producing videos for the radio station. I learned about numerous topics like color grading, editing, and animation while working under Ms. Mallory's direction to produce and design videos. Another crucial skill I acquired while working at the radio station was editing. To make sure that our videos were interesting and well-paced, Ms. Mallory emphasized the value of effective and exact editing. I gained knowledge about how to combine video clips, apply transitions and effects, and sync audio and visual components using a variety of editing software tools. The fascinating and difficult component of my internship experience turned out to be animation. Working closely with Ms. Mallory made me gain new skills that I then applied to the creation of dynamic visual components for our videos. I experimented with various animation techniques and learn how to smoothly incorporate them with other visual elements, including maps and photographs, to produce interesting and educational information for our users. This ability not only raised the caliber of the videos I made while doing my internship, but it also helped me get ready for future employment options in fields like marketing and advertising where there is a significant demand for video material. In the digital age, these skills are extremely useful and have a wide range of applications in industries including marketing, advertising, and social networking.

I also discovered the value of paying close attention to detail and upholding high standards of quality during the video production process. Ms. Mallory's rigorous approach to video production offered as a superb illustration of the passion and dedication necessary to produce visually appealing

and expert information. The radio station's mission extends beyond only creating high-quality audio programming, according to Ms. Mallory. She wants to use additional platforms to increase the radio station's influence and reach in the long run. She frequently discussed her aspirations to build a website to help her nonprofit in Africa and a YouTube account for the radio station when I was an intern. One of the most exciting projects I worked on during my internship was the creation of animated maps to provide historical context for our videos. This task required me to develop new skills in animation software and find creative ways to present information in a visually appealing format. So that there is no misunderstanding, I did not make any maps. I tried to make maps and that completely failed. I learned that it is actually a profession and people actually go to school to make maps. What I did is find a map online that was in the public domain and tweak it a bit to make it what we were looking for while incorporating pretty animations and descriptive words so that people would understand it better. The challenge of learning new tools and techniques pushed me outside my comfort zone, ultimately leading to personal growth and a sense of accomplishment.

Throughout my internship, Ms. Mallory and I looked into the historical background of the biblical account of the Pharaoh of the Exodus. The goal of this study was to provide a fuller knowledge of the historical context, including the events, the culture, and the influences on the biblical story. I was able to have a deeper comprehension of the historical setting of the Bible because Ms. Mallory and I took the time to research and talk about this subject. This experience showed the value of approaching the Bible with an open mind and a sense of curiosity since it produced fresh ideas and a greater understanding of the material.

Through our research, we delved into various theories and perspectives surrounding the Pharaoh of the Exodus, which prompted thought-provoking discussions and critical thinking. I learned a great deal about the Bible's historical background from Ms. Mallory, who also helped me grasp its relevance. This encounter made clear how crucial it is to read the Bible with an open mind and a sense of curiosity

since doing so helped us understand the text better and appreciate it more deeply. The Pharaoh of the Exodus and the history surrounding the event from a Biblical perspective were two topics of our investigation. We were able to put together a more complete picture of the time period and the events that took place by looking at a variety of sources, including historical documents, archaeological discoveries, and scholarly interpretations. This made it easier for us to comprehend the difficulties the Israelites had both on their final trek to freedom and during their time as slaves in Egypt. Ms. Mallory also encouraged me to explore the Afro-centric Christian perspective, which opened my eyes to the rich cultural and historical connections between the Bible and the African continent. We engaged in thought-provoking discussions about the role of African nations and people in Biblical stories, such as the Queen of Sheba's visit to King Solomon, the Ethiopian eunuch's conversion in the book of Acts, and the role of Egypt as a place of refuge for Jesus and his family. These discussions were especially instructive because they gave me a fresh perspective on well-known stories and helped me to understand the variety and complexity of the Bible. Solomon's court was visited by the Queen of Sheba. This event, according to Ms. Mallory, was especially important in the context of African history because it showed the strength and sagacity of African queens as well as their capacity to govern and bargain with strong leaders in the Middle East. We discussed the conversion of the Ethiopian eunuch, which is a significant event in both African and Christian history, as recorded in the book of Acts. I was given a historical and cultural context for this story by Ms. Mallory, who described how Ethiopia was crucial to the expansion of Christianity in Africa and how the Ethiopian Orthodox Church is still a fundamental component of African religious life today. This conversation helped me understand the variety of Christian practices and beliefs as well as the crucial role that African nations and peoples have had in forming these traditions. We were able to comprehend the significance of skilled leadership in all corners of the world, regardless of gender or race, via in-depth discussion of this story. We also talked about how Jesus and his family used Egypt as a haven, especially when they were trying to flee Herod's anger. This conversation enabled us to explore the political and social setting of the New

Testament in greater detail and to think about how political unrest and oppression have impacted people's lives throughout history. We were able to get a fresh understanding of the complexity, richness, and applicability of Biblical history by looking at this event through an African lens. We were able to deepen our understanding of the subject and give our listeners well-rounded and educational content because she was conversing with academics and theologians that specialize in Biblical history and Afro-centric Christianity.

I learned the importance of approaching any subject with an open mind and a feeling of curiosity through the experience of researching and talking about the historical context of the Bible with Ms. Mallory. I learned how crucial it was to examine the historical setting of the Bible with inquiry and an open mind. We were able to challenge assumptions and pose challenging questions through our study and discussions, which ultimately helped us come up with novel insights and develop a deeper comprehension of the substance of the Bible and its applicability to contemporary life. I learned important lessons about the difficulties in reading historical texts through this investigation process. I discovered that it's crucial to take into account many viewpoints and to keep an open mind to fresh facts and concepts that might contradict our preconceptions. We can gain a more precise and nuanced understanding of the past and how it has shaped the present by doing this. We were able to discover new ideas and develop a deeper knowledge of the Bible's content and its application to modern life by challenging preconceptions and posing difficult questions. We must take into account the historical, cultural, and literary context in which these books were created rather than just taking what we read at face value. We can gain a deeper grasp of the events and concepts described in the Bible by studying primary sources and engaging in scholarly inquiry. Also, I discovered that being open-minded is essential while understanding historical texts since it enables us to stay receptive to fresh data and viewpoints that might refute our preconceived notions. By doing this, we can have a greater understanding of the depth and richness of these historical narratives and have a more fruitful

and meaningful discourse with the material.

I developed a deeper grasp of the function of radio in the media landscape of the twenty-first century throughout my internship. For millions of people around the world, radio is an essential source of information and pleasure. I learned long ago in one of my courses here that radio was the main source of news for decades and still remains a great medium today. I actually think that this internship at the end of my bachelor journey was perfect since I actually need to apply most of the things that I learned before to it. I also have a deeper appreciation for all the papers you had me write and random stuff you made me study. Now I see that those were not random nor were they unimportant, but they actually play a role in the real world. It is nice seeing it all go from abstract concepts to a perfect culmination of work. It provides a sense of community and intimacy that is challenging to reproduce in other types of media by connecting with listeners through stories, music, and conversation.

As a radio intern, I discovered the value of adopting new technologies and coming up with creative methods to interact with listeners in order to adapt to the evolving media landscape. Using social media platforms to engage with listeners, producing aesthetically appealing video content to accompany radio broadcasts, and finding fresh ways to give interesting and timely programming are just a few examples of how this can be done. The goal of Ms. Mallory's radio station to reach a wider audience by using various platforms, such as podcasts, YouTube videos, and a website, illustrates the significance of embracing new technology and coming up with inventive marketing strategies. This perfectly ties into Ms. Mallory's big picture to expand her lectures from the radio station to other mediums, such as podcast, YouTube videos, and a website to support her nonprofit in Africa. The advent of social media as a communication and engagement tool has been one of the biggest changes in recent years. Social media sites like Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook give radio stations a chance to engage with their audience in fresh ways. I actually taught Ms. Mallory on how to use social media during my internship to advertise our program, make announcements about forthcoming events, and interact with our audience. Although we haven't yet implemented these changes, I hope we can before

the semester is up.

I discovered throughout my time working with Ms. Mallory that one of the secrets to success in the radio industry is striking the ideal balance between the timelessness of radio narrative and cutting-edge communication methods. One excellent example of how to attain this harmony is Ms. Mallory's method of radio broadcasting. She makes sure that her radio station stays relevant and appealing to a large audience by giving succinct information in an entertaining way and using language that connects with different age groups. Because Ms. Mallory employs language that is understandable and relatable to both adults and younger people like myself, she has a natural ability to connect with listeners of all ages. She has a unique way of presenting stories, and she often uses humor in her broadcasts, which is delightful for someone of her generation. Her radio presentations are both amusing and educational because to the clever blending of humor and intelligence she employs. Radio stations must maintain their unique appeal and sense of community while keeping up with the constantly changing communication landscape in today's fast-paced digital world. Ms. Mallory accomplishes this by deftly fusing conventional radio narrative approaches with contemporary communication styles, such utilizing social media and other platforms to broaden the audience for her station. Being knowledgeable of current affairs and cultural trends is another essential component of remaining relevant in the radio industry. Ms. Mallory maintains an eye on current events to make sure that her information is relevant and meaningful to her listeners. She can spark interesting debates and offer insightful opinion on a variety of topics by being knowledgeable and current.

I think I have really grown and developed personally during my internship. Working closely with Ms. Mallory, a mentor who is highly smart and experienced, I have developed a variety of abilities, from networking and communication to video production and design, and received insightful knowledge about the radio industry. My internship has also taught me the value of tenacity, commitment, and flexibility. I've been able to advance both professionally and personally by accepting

difficult responsibilities and moving outside of my comfort zone. I've discovered how to approach new situations with an open mind and a desire to learn, understanding the importance of stretching my boundaries and accepting new challenges. My time spent working with Ms. Mallory has also highlighted the value of effective mentoring in terms of both professional and personal development. My development as an intern as a person has benefited much from Ms. Mallory's advice, assistance, and knowledge. Her unwavering commitment to quality and her capacity to push me to do my best have had a lasting influence on how I approach my profession and life in general.

I am looking forward to the opportunities that lay ahead for my professional and personal life as I move on from this internship experience. I have had a decent start in the radio industry, therefore I'm keen to take on new challenges and explore new prospects in the media and communications industry. While I certainly do not see myself working anything in radio or television or any of those mediums, it is useful in many other areas. Together with continuing to deepen my understanding of historical background and religious narratives, my areas of interest include strengthening my abilities in video production, design, and animation. I intend to work on initiatives in the future that advance respect for different cultures and ideas as well as understanding, empathy, and those. I actually want to get a little bit into activism. I am dedicated to using my abilities and enthusiasm to affect the world. I think that media and narrative have the potential to close gaps, create connections, and motivate positive change. In addition, I hope to mentor others in the same way that Ms. Mallory has done for me. It is impossible to overestimate the positive effects of her advice and encouragement on my own development, and I hope to have the chance to repay her kindness by helping others on their own personal and professional journeys.

As I conclude this self-assessment and experiential reflection, I am filled with gratitude for the opportunity to have interned at the Afro-centric Christian radio station under the mentorship of Ms. Mallory. This experience has been transformative, challenging, and deeply rewarding, providing me with invaluable insights, skills, and personal growth that I will carry with me throughout my life and

career. I am especially grateful for the relationship I have formed during my time at the radio station, particularly my connection with Ms. Mallory. Her guidance, wisdom, and unwavering commitment to excellence have left an indelible mark on my life, and I am honored to have had the chance to learn from such an extraordinary individual. I am reminded of the value of accepting challenges, pushing limits, and being open to new experiences when I reflect back on my time at the radio station. I'm sure that the knowledge and development I got from my internship will continue to influence my future activities, and I'm looking forward to where God will lead me.

It has been an educational experience for me to intern at the Christian radio station with an Afro-centric audience. As you remember, I had this class swapped in place of a much easier level 100 class, but it required me to go on campus. When the class started, I actually emailed the professor of that class and he told me that I could take the entire class online. I debated asking you to swap the classes again so I would have a much easier experience. However, the Lord knows what He was doing in this, and I think that I am going to stay in contact with Ms. Mallory for a while to come. I actually am a bit sad the internship is ending. We learned so much about each other working so closely 8 hours a week. At this point, I know I sound repetitive, but she has encouraged me so much. We had a conversation recently where she asked me what I still want to do with my future. I told her I have no idea still and no direction and she asked me what is something that my spirit must do. I pondered for a moment and told her that my soul must fellowship with others in Christ. No matter how much I try, I end up in a situation where I am talking to people about God, engaging in fellowship while talking about theology or answering the questions that people may have. She told me to not waste my time focusing so much on figuring out if I want to go to Med school or not, but to continue doing my "first fruits" in honoring and glorifying the Lord and that all the blessings I need will come with that. It was honestly what I really needed to hear, and if God brought us together only for her to share that one line with me, then it was worth it since that has literally begun to change my life. Moving on, I have

developed a wide range of talents, acquired invaluable insight into the radio industry, and gone through significant personal growth under the direction of my internship director, Ms. Mallory. This internship has solidified the value of tenacity, flexibility, and mentoring while influencing how I view the function of radio in the modern media landscape. In closing, I am deeply grateful for this internship experience and the opportunity it has provided me to grow, learn, and develop as a professional and as an individual. I am eager to continue building upon the foundation that has been laid during my time at the radio station, and I look forward to the adventures and challenges that await me in the ever-evolving world of media and communications.