Multiple Intelligences /Learning Styles Reflection

These inventories confirmed what I have already learned about myself. My results for the learning styles inventory showed me to be 40% Auditory, 40% Visual, 20% Tactile. In the past when I took this I was 60 Auditory, 20 Visual, 20 Tactile. I think that perhaps my experience in Korea where I couldn’t understand much of what was said and relied heavily on visual cues might have raise my Visual percent. The Multiple Intelligence inventory showed my strengths to be Verbal, Intrapersonal, and Interpersonal (with Spatial as a weaker fourth – I really love maps, graphs, diagrams, and charts). Again, there is nothing surprising to me about these results.

Words have always been my strength. It seems obvious to me that I am Auditory/Verbal. I am a good communicator. I can easily understand spoken and written information. I remember when I was a kid doing homework sometimes I would get stuck on a math problem or confused about the directions. I would ask my parents for help, but all I really needed them to do was read the problem/directions out loud and I could figure it out. Even in college, I read aloud sometimes if the passage is difficult. I am a slow reader because of that, but I have very high comprehension. I love lecture classes. I don’t usually take extensive notes, but I am able to remember almost everything from class. When I am processing information, it helps me to brainstorm with others and say what I’m thinking – it sounds weird, but hearing my thoughts helps me understand what I think better.

I think I am naturally Intrapersonal. I am self-aware and self-reflective. Being homeschooled, working independently at my own pace, always felt comfortable to me. I think some of the Interpersonal skills I have are learned overtime. I am a moderate introvert, according to the Myers-Briggs personality inventory. Most of my friends can’t see it, but I have learned how to be a “people person” because I see the value of networking and social connections. Natural in my personality is care for others and empathy. But I think both my Interpersonal and Intrapersonal Intelligences have been strengthened by my study and practice of ministry.

Some of the advantages as a teacher being a verbal intelligence/auditory learner are that I value the power of words and clear communication. I am able to explain material and strategies. Think Aloud kinds of teaching techniques come naturally to me. The liabilities are that for many students who are not auditory learners, verbal explanation will not always help them. And without careful planning I can easily neglect to adequately show and do in my classes. If I’m not intentional, then the kinesthetic, tactile, musical student may find little to relate to in my class. My interpersonal intelligence is a great asset for a teacher because so much of the job is about dealing with people – students, parents, other teachers. Intrapersonal intelligence is also great because it will help me to constantly be evaluating and assessing myself as a teacher and my teaching methods in order to improve.