Personal Core Values & Life Purpose Exercise

Personal Development





"This is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one; the being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy.

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community, and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can.

I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work the more I live. I rejoice in life for its' own sake. Life is no "brief candle" to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for the moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations."

George Bernard Shaw From Man and Superman, Dedicatory letter



PERSONAL CORE VALUES EXERCISE:

Step 1: From the list of core values on the next page, place a check mark next to approximately 20 values most important to you.

Step 2: From the list of core values checked, circle the 10 most important values.

Step 3: Complete the following sentence:

The three personal core values most important to me are...



CORE VALUES

(Please feel free to add any additional values)

Accountability	Involvement	
Achievement	Job tranquility	
Action	Knowledge	
Advancement and promotion	Leadership	
Adventure	Location	
Affection	Love	
Arts	Loyalty	
Caring	Market position	
Challenging problems	Meaningful work	
Change and variety	Merit	
Charity	Money	
Close relationships	Nature	
Community	Order	
Compassion	Personal development	
Competence	Physical challenge	
Competition	Pleasure	
Conformity	Power and authority	
Cooperation	Privacy	
Country	Public service	
Creativity	Purity	
Decisiveness	Quality of what I take part in	
Democracy	Quality relationships	
Ecological awareness	Recognition	
Economic security	Religion	
Efficiency	Reputation	
Ethical practice	Responsibility	
Excellence	Security	
Excitement	Self-respect	
Expertise	Serenity	
Faith	Service to others	
Fame	Sophistication	
Fast living	Spirituality	
Fast-paced work	Stability	
Fidelity	Status	
Financial gain	Supervising others	
Freedom	Time freedom	
Friendships	Trust	
Growth	Truth	
Having a family	Wealth	
Health	Wisdom	
Helping other people	Work under pressure	
Helping society	Work with others	
Honesty	Working alone	
Independence		
Influencing others		
Inner harmony		
Integrity		
Intellectual status	{Add your own}	



LIFE PURPOSE DEVELOPMENT EXERCISE:

"Suppose what you are doing is writing a book as you live your life - a book of your life. It is a book that is finished and made complete only at the moment of your death. Now reflect upon this book and consider the possibility of studying and rereading this book in the afterlife. Is it an interesting book? Do you like the central character and what he or she is accomplishing? Is the book uplifting? What sort of book is it? What sort of book is being authored with your life and the way you live it? It is good to inquire what you would change of this book and to set about making that change, for when you die nothing can be changed. All is said and done and that is it."

The Gnostic Gospel of St. Thomas by Tau Malachi ©2004

RELAX! Clear away the concerns and thoughts from the day. Find an area that is comfortable and secure. This exercise is designed to stimulate your thoughts and feelings regarding personal hopes, dreams and commitments for the FUTURE... not an assessment of your past. There are no right or wrong answers. We will discuss your general thoughts, feelings and conclusions about this exercise, but you will not be required to share your direct responses with anyone.

Let your thoughts freely consider each question and write whatever you think represents your opinions. Use additional paper if necessary. Enjoy...

1. What do I consider to be my true accomplishments in life; the things that make me proud, make me smile?



LIFE PURPOSE DEVELOPMENT EXERCISE:

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3. If I knew I had only 5 years left to live, what would I want to accomplish?

4. After having lived a full life, how do I want my eulogy to read?