“Living With Purpose: Walking in Your God-Given Gift”

April 26, 2025

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

WELCOME

My Pledge to Mentees

Why We're Here Today

Over the years, as I've mentored and observed you, I've noticed some common patterns that I want to challenge today:

- **Coasting instead of soaring** – Settling for mediocrity rather than striving for excellence.
- **Lack of intentionality in learning and growth** – Waiting for opportunities instead of actively seeking knowledge and development.
- **Failing to take charge of your future** – Letting life happen instead of shaping it with clear goals and actions.
- **Not voting in critical elections** – Ignoring the power of your voice and influence in shaping your communities.
- **Struggling to define your purpose** – Moving through life without clarity or direction.
- **Overlooking professional certifications and continuous learning** – Missing out on career growth and advancement opportunities.

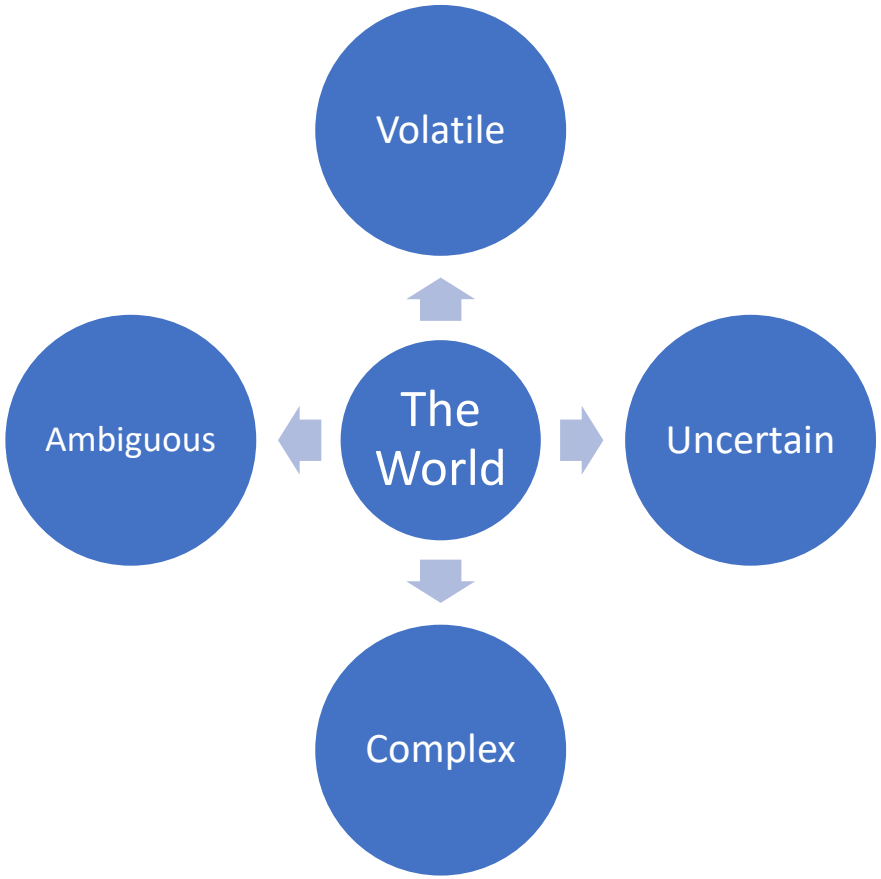
We're here today because *Living with Purpose* is about moving from *passivity to action, from drifting to direction, from coasting to soaring.*

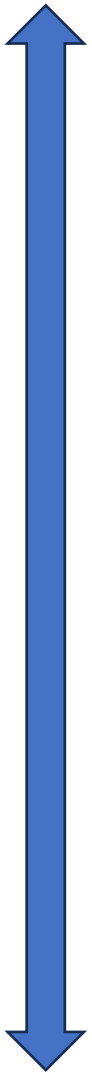
By the end of this session, my goal is for each of you to walk away with:

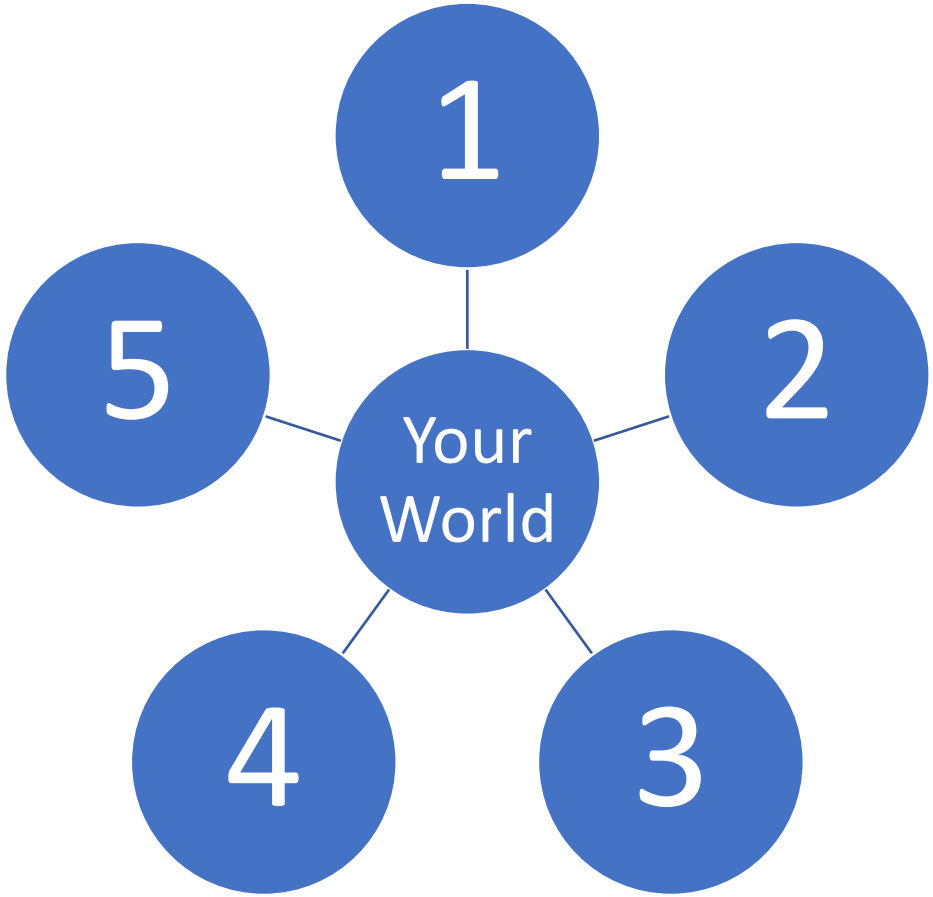
✅ A renewed mindset about *why* you're here and where you're headed.
✅ A personal commitment to stop waiting and start acting.
✅ A strategy for becoming intentional in your learning, growth, and decisions.

Let's lean in, engage fully, and take the next step toward a purposeful life!

Your Reality







How to Make Sense of Your World & Life's Situations

“The delicate balance of mentoring someone is not creating them in your own image, but giving them the opportunity to create themselves.”

Session Outline (Flight Plan)

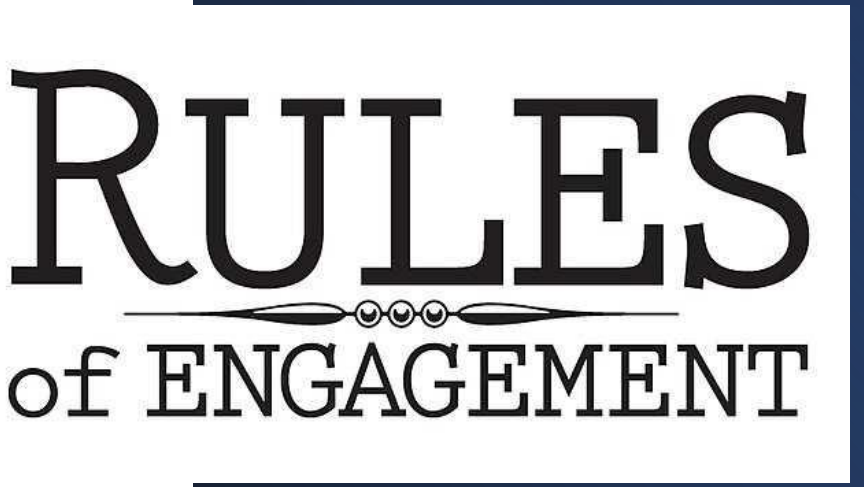
Welcome; Foundational Scriptures	Introductions; Icebreaker	Purpose & Gifts	Spiritual Gift Assessment Discussion	Bridging the Spiritual and Secular	Take Aways; Closing Remarks
9:00 am – 9:10 am	9:10 am – 9:40 am	9:40 am – 10:00 am	10:00 am – 11:00 am	11:00 am – 11:30 am	11:30 am – 12:00 pm

Workshop Objectives

- **Help you discover your spiritual gifts and how they relate to your purpose.**
- **Explore and understand your purpose using North Star, guiding principles, and personal mantra statements.**
- **Align your personal and professional aspirations with your values and beliefs.**
- **Encourage practical applications in daily life, relationships, and careers.**

Rules of Engagement

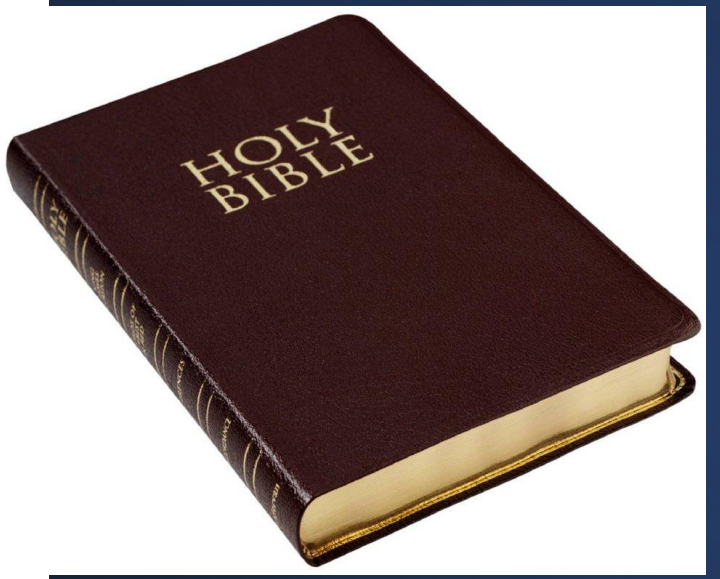
- **Create an environment for openness and self-reflection.**
- **Reflect on why understanding purpose is essential at this stage in your life.**
- **Share your own thoughts and experiences honestly, but avoid speaking for others.**
- **Stay present. Limit distractions. Phones should be on silent or put away unless used for an activity.**
- **This is a space for growth, learning, and connection. Enjoy the process!**



Foundational Scriptures

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."



Romans 12:6-8

"We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us."

1 Peter 4:10

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."

Common Distractions from Self-Reflections & Growth

- **Embarrassed (I should know this already)**
- **Age**
- **Health (mobility)**
- **Time**
- **Lazy**
- **Apathy**
- **Don’t Know What I Don’t Know**

Introduce yourself.

Also, tell what funny story that your parents or friends will always bring up when they talk about your childhood.

Purpose and Gifts

What Do You Want?

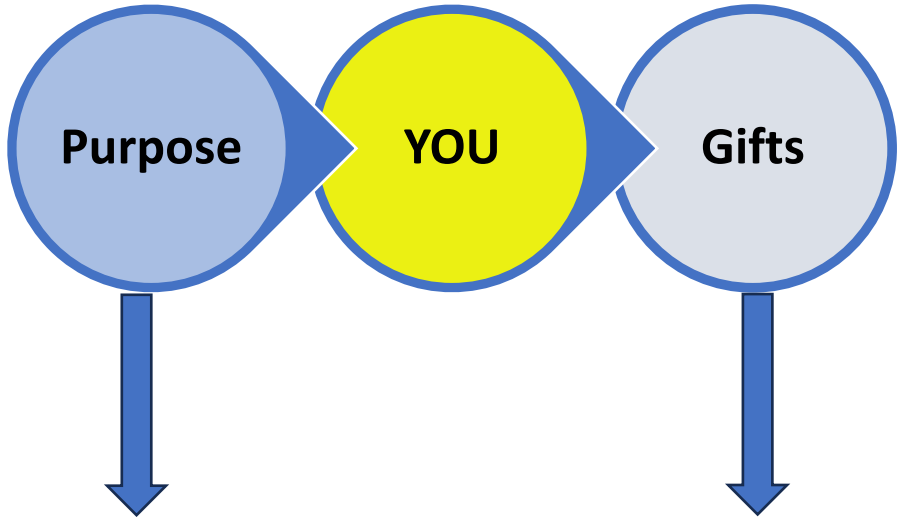
Who Inspires You?

- **Think of a person who inspires you (whether from the Bible, history, business, or personal life).**
- **Share the name of the person and explain how or why that person inspires you.**

Points to Remember

- **Purpose or Mission:** **Your “Why”**
- **Passion:** **Your “What”**
- **Gifts/Talents:** **Your “How”**

Purpose and Gifts



Your Mission ('Why' God gave the gift to You):

- Your 'Why'
- Your Calling
- Your Reason
- Who You Are
- How You Impact Others
- What Gives You Wings

Your Tools ('What' God equipped you to do):

- Your 'What'; Your 'How'
- Spiritual Gifts (given by the Holy Spirit)
- Talents
- Gifts
- Learned Skills
- Passions
- Hobbies
- Interests

Discovering Your Life Purpose

Here's a formula that works:

- Who you are
- What you do
- Who you do it for
- What they want or need
- How they change as a result of what you give them

Spiritual Gifts

Here are two (2) possible Spiritual Gift Assessments:

- **Spiritual Gifts | FREE Spiritual Gifts Survey | Assessment, Analysis, Test**

- **Spiritual Gifts Test - Discover your spiritual gifts!**

Spiritual Gifts

No.	Spiritual Gifts	Special Abilities; Some Scripture References
1	**Gifts of Leadership & Administration**	• Apostleship (Ephesians 4:11) • Leadership (Romans 12:8) • Administration (1 Corinthians 12:8)
2	**Gifts of Teaching and Wisdom**	• Teaching (Romans 12:7) • Wisdom (1 Corinthians 12:8) • Knowledge (1 Corinthians 12:8)
3	**Gifts of Encouragement and Service**	• Encouragement (Exhortation), (Romans 12:8) • Serving (Helps), (1 Corinthians 12:28) • Giving (Romans 12:8) • Mercy (Romans 12:8)
4	**Gifts of Faith and Miracles**	• Faith (1 Corinthians 12:9) • Healing (1 Corinthians 12:9) • Miracles (1 Corinthians 12:10)
5	**Gifts of Prophecy and Discernment**	• Prophecy (Romans 12:6, 1 Corinthians 12:10) • Discernment (Distinguishing Spirits), (1 Corinthians 12:10)
6	**Gifts of Communication**	• Tongues (1 Corinthians 12:10) • Interpretation of Tongues (1 Corinthians 12:10)
7	**Gifts of Shepherding and Evangelism**	• Pastoring (Shepherding), (Ephesians 4:11) • Evangelism (Ephesians 4;11)

Spiritual Gifts Discussion

Top three (3) spiritual gifts identified:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Spiritual Gifts Discussion

- **Which spiritual gifts resonated with you?**
- **How have you seen these gifts at work in your life?**
- **How might these gifts guide your purpose?**

Bridging the Spiritual and Secular

Guiding Principles

(Core Values that influence decisions and actions)

A long-term vision or aspirational statement to live by

A short, empowering statement to live by

North Star and Mantra

Note: A "North Star and a "Mantra" are related, but are distinct concepts. One should choose a concept that best aligns with his/her current stage in life or aspiration.

Concept	North Star	Mantra
Purpose	Acts as a guiding principle or overarching goal that provides direction and clarity in life or work.	A short, memorable phrase that serves as a motivational or grounding reminder.
Characteristics	Aspirational, long-term, and serves as a compass for decisions and actions.	Concise, easy to repeat, often focused on mindset or attitude.
Things to Do to Create	Think about your ultimate life purpose or vision. • Ask: "What impact do you want to have on the world or those around you?" • What do you want people to say about you at the end of your life or career? • Focus on big-picture aspirations and values.	Choose something brief and empowering. • Ask: "What phrase inspires or refocuses you during tough times?" • "What words remind you of your best self?" • Use affirmations or short, memorable phrases that you can repeat.

Interactive Exercises
(See following slides for steps to take)

- **Write down 3 – 5 core values that shape your decisions.**
- **Draft a North Star statement based on your aspirations.**
- **Craft a simple personal mantra that reflects your mindset and motivation.**

Guiding Principles Exercise, Slide 1 of 2

Select at least three (3) values that resonate with you.

- **Accountability**
- **Community**
- **Compassion**
- **Creativity**
- **Discipline**
- **Excellence**
- **Faith**
- **Family**
- **Growth**
- **Humility**
- **Integrity**
- **Leadership**
- **Service**
- **Wisdom**

Guiding Principles Exercise, Slide 2 of 2

Discuss:

- **Why are these values important to you?**
- **How do they influence your decisions in challenging situations?**
- **Which value do you need to strengthen to better live your purpose?**

North Star Development

- **Imagine your life 10 years from now. What legacy do you want to leave behind?**
- **How would you like others to describe your impact?**
- **What brings you the greatest sense of fulfillment and purpose?**
- **If all obstacles were removed, what would you pursue with passion?**

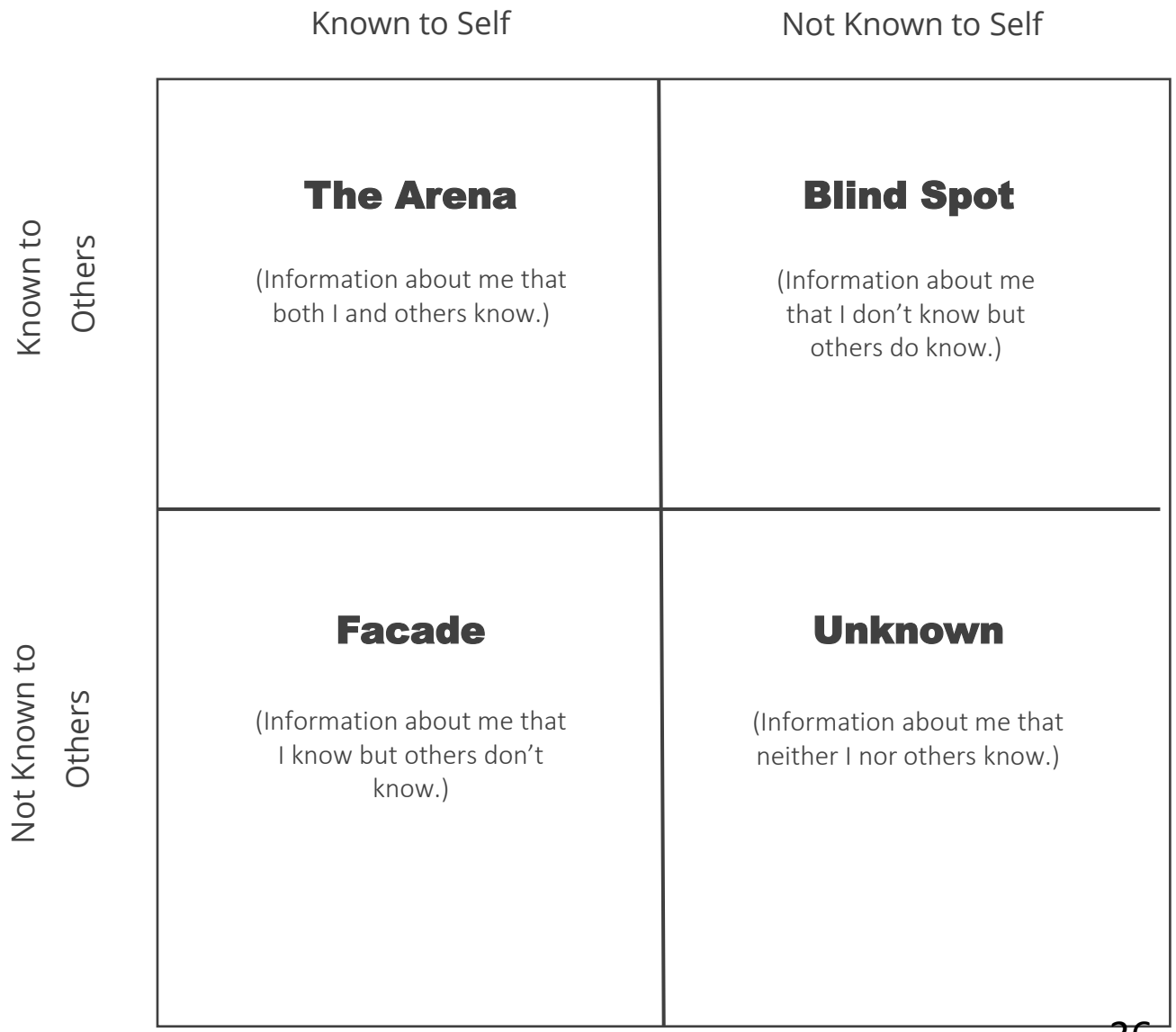
Personal Mantra Creation

- **What words motivate you when facing challenges?**
- **How would you remind yourself of your purpose each day?**
- **What belief keeps you moving forward?**

Closing Comments/ Video

Some Templates

Johari Window



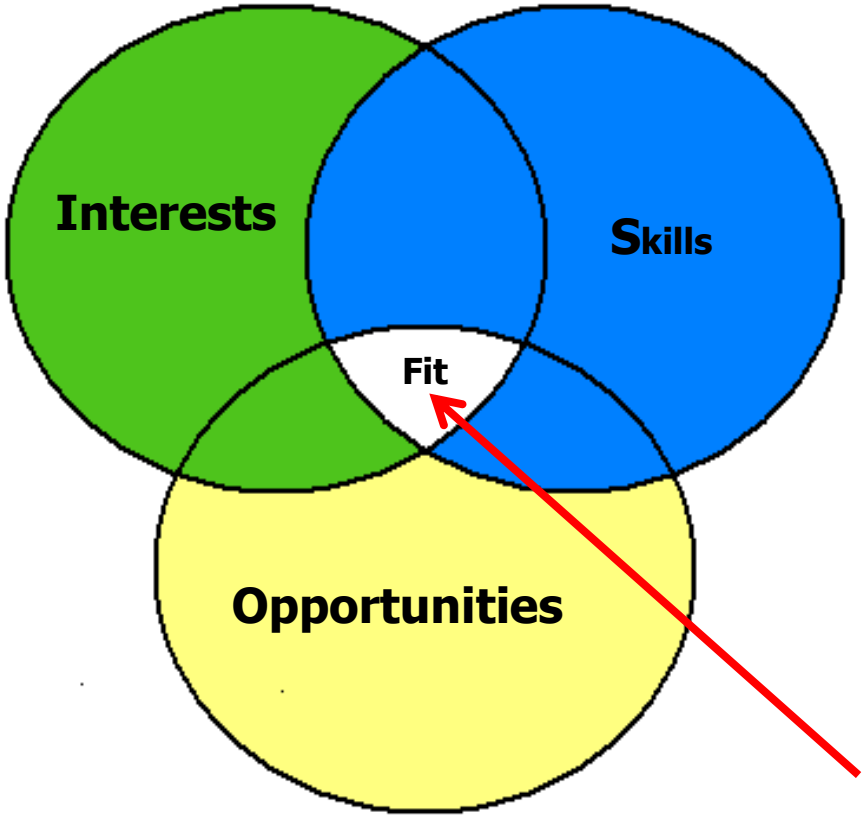
What Each Generation Wants

What I Value Most About Work

Value	Ideal Rating	My Rating	Comments
Nature of Work	**10**		What will I be doing? Do I like what I will be doing?
Work Environment	**10**		Have I visited the office? Have I interned there? What impressions did I get? Did I enjoy the work? Was I challenged? What do employees say about the work environment?
Company Culture	**10**		What is it like working there? What's being said about the company culture? How reputable is the company? What about its leadership? What is the work ethic?
Training and Development	**10**		How are employees being trained? Is there an emphasis on training and development?
Compensation	**10**		What is the starting pay? Is there overtime? What benefits are there? Are employees generally happy with the company benefits?
Growth Opportunities	**10**		Are there opportunities for advancement? Are there career paths? Are people moving along? Is the company successful? Have there been layoffs, etc.?
Travel	**10**		Is there travel? How often? Where? What flexibility is there?
Total	**70**		

Finding the Right Job

Job Fit



48 QUESTIONS FOR CRITICAL THINKING

Infographic by © Justin Wright

Critical thinking helps you take a deeper look at everything around you. It's crucial for making informed decisions and understanding different viewpoints. Use these 48 questions to challenge assumptions, explore ideas, and uncover the real story behind what you see and hear.

who

1. Who is affected by this issue?
2. Who faces the biggest consequences?
3. Who holds the power in this situation?
4. Who might see this differently?
5. Who are the key stakeholders involved?
6. Who benefits from this outcome?
7. Who else should be consulted?
8. Who can provide more information?

what

1. What is the issue at hand?
2. What are the main arguments?
3. What is the evidence?
4. What assumptions are being made?
5. What are the potential consequences?
6. What alternatives exist?
7. What are the risks of each alternative?
8. What steps can be taken next?

where

1. Where did this first become an issue?
2. Where is the problem most evident?
3. Where can we find supporting data?
4. Where have solutions worked before?
5. Where are resources most needed?
6. Where are potential obstacles located?
7. Where can we implement solutions first?
8. Where should we monitor the outcomes?

when

1. When did this issue first emerge?
2. When do the effects typically appear?
3. When was the data last collected?
4. When is the best time to act?
5. When have solutions been attempted?
6. When is the deadline for action?
7. When should we expect to see results?
8. When will we review progress?

why

1. Why is this issue significant?
2. Why did it arise in the first place?
3. Why are certain solutions preferred?
4. Why might opinions differ?
5. Why has this not been addressed sooner?
6. Why are some more affected than others?
7. Why is immediate action necessary?
8. Why should we revisit it in the future?

how

1. How did this issue start?
2. How does this impact different groups?
3. How can we gather more data?
4. How have others tackled similar issues?
5. How will we implement the solution?
6. How will we measure success?
7. How should we communicate changes?
8. How often should we reassess?

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