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I. Huddle Up - Anchored By Vision In An Accelerating World



I am fascinated with change and how our culture adapts to it. Just saying the word change makes some people light up with opportunity and others raise a skeptical eye-frown. My mother has never used an ATM card; I haven't changed my PIN since 1987.

You know that the world is changing very quickly these days, and the “adoption rate”—the rate of when innovations are being adopted by the general public—is accelerating as well. (*See note below*). The implication for the leaders of tomorrow is huge. Whether you lead a company, a family or just your own life, the key to succeed is hanging on to a firmly planted vision, no matter the changing environment.

BEST FOOT FORWARD

Think of basketball. When one foot is planted, the other foot is free to move in any direction to execute the best play. The pivoting foot is the vision of the company that includes the purpose for which it exists. The moving foot is the responder to change and all the opportunities it presents.

Conversely, if you do not have a planted vision, then you will react to change and end up like the guy who gets caught “traveling” in basketball. He may seem to have a jump on the opposing side. But in the end the whistle blows, he's penalized, and the team loses the ball.

CHASING WISDOM NOT SHEER PROFIT

Let me shoot straight with you. I am a full-blooded entrepreneur who loves change and believes in profit. But when a company's objective is solely to put profit in the shareholder's pocket, then as change occurs the temptation is to chase every opportunity down the court. You need a strong vision to go beyond yourself to meeting the needs of another and adding value to the world.

True Life Coaching, Inc. vision is “That every leader would wisely impact their growing sphere of influence.” I truly believe it could change the world if every leader would wisely use their influence. My heart hurts when I see leaders blindly impacting their team without the needed wisdom and skill to meet the needs of people. The same leaders end up with crisis after crisis, with the penalty whistles blowing and no coach to call a time out.

I've also experienced first hand what happens when a leader humbles himself to be a learner of wisdom and to use his influence in a purposeful way. The company grows, profits excel, and the people within are changed. Wise leadership changes a company, it changes a town, it changes a life.

PREPARING FOR CHANGE

Like you, the temptation to “travel” from the vision is always in front of me. I say no to hundreds of opportunities and I always have that nagging feeling I may have missed something cool. But I remain true to MY vision and keep scoring great wins as these amazing leaders grow into great influencers, with their own vision and heart for change.

This vision is my pivot foot – my heart for leaders does not change. How I act out that vision changes often—makes my life exciting! Challenge yourself and take the time to create a compelling vision. It needs to be clear, inspiring, and authentic. What is your vision that will anchor you in changing waters? Does your company vision need to be updated? Don't miss this opportunity to prepare for change today!

BEGIN IT NOW!

Shandel

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*A friend sent me a slightly dated but still informative article on the accelerated pace of change. (“Choose to Lead,” March 15, 2004; National Association of Workforce Boards). Check out how many years it took 25 percent of the United States population to adopt the following inventions: Cars: 55 years; electricity: 48 years; telephones: 35 years; televisions: 26 years; computers: 15 years; cell phones: 13 years; broadband: 6 years.

II. Pep Talk - Monthly Quotes

“Say “Yes” to change or be willing to suffer the consequences.” - Joel Osteen

“Chance favors the prepared mind.” - Louis Pasteur

“Resistance and emotional responses to change are not bad. They are a signs to pay attention. They are a sign that forces are gathering to shift relationships and move NEW behaviors into the mainstream.” - Pat McLagan

“The moral obligation of leadership is to think beyond your experience and plan beyond your tenure.” - Edward D. Barlow, Jr., Creating the Future, Inc.

"It's not hard to make decisions when you know what your values are."- Roy Disney

"If the vision isn't clear, the players aren't clear." - Coach Freeb

III. MVP Award - Profiling successful people choosing balanced living - Gary Barss



Gary Barss has it going on in every area of his life and deserves this MVP award for his amazing ability to keep his family first while driving a class act career. You don't always find "financial planner" and "comedian" on the same resume, but he is successful at both—I love that! His public speaking career is taking off as well. If you ask him now he may be able to speak for your organization—while he finishes his book! This man's vision to help families define their values and live with passion inspires me. He has my deepest respect. _____

Here's Gary...

The experience of taking TrueLife Coaching's "Life 301" class was just the start for me in many life changing moments in the last six months. In October 2005 I had the opportunity to speak at Seattle University to a group of students while I was in the middle of the Life 301 class. It was that day that I had an epiphany about my purpose and how to pursue it in my personal and professional life. My world hasn't been the same since.

I've been a Financial Advisor for the last 14 years, and a public speaker. One simple question during my

speaking engagement at Seattle University led to all of this: "Who in this room has a family mission statement typed, framed and hanging on your wall at home?" When the room went silent and no hands went up, a light went on and I haven't been able to turn it off. My path was carved at that moment, and as I write this I am still as excited as I was that day to help others see the connection between their financial decisions and what is truly meaningful to them in life.

I realized my true passion lies in public speaking. and now it is fueled by a greater vision. My next step in working one-on-one with Shandel was to bring about total clarity to my purpose, and my vision to help individuals and families make the connection between their finances, their passion and what truly matters most in life. It has been the most challenging undertaking in my life but I have truly loved every moment of it. Now I am speaking on this topic and holding classes as well. It is through these speaking engagements and classes that I plan to finalize and publish a book on this topic.

Through all of this, one area that has always been crystal clear is my value of family. As a part of this process my wife and I defined our family mission statement and it hangs proudly on our wall at home as a reminder of our beliefs, our governing values and ultimately our dreams and passions. We have a family meeting once a week to talk about our passions, our purpose, and how to overcome hindrances and focus on what charges us up in life. Those meetings have improved our marriage, made us better parents, and, I'd like to think, better versions of ourselves altogether.

Thanks, Lainey [Sinkevich, Life 301 instructor], for your inspiration. Thank you, Shandel, for your boldness and ability to pierce the fog and show me the way through a sea of ideas. You are both beacons in a world that needs you desperately.

Gary
Gary Barss

IV. Game Schedule - Options for Summer



Summer time is around the corner - perfect time to get clear on your vision. If you are not clear on where you are going, what you are here for, or how you are going to handle change in your life - then take time this Summer to invest in you. You can hire a coach and define what's really important to you. Or you can start clearing space to think by making a list of what is standing in your way and join a **FALL Life 301** class. If you join a class now, you can get started on the homework right away. Make room in your life for what the next season holds for you. And as always.. **BE the Best You can BE Today!**

For Your Company: Building The Extraordinary Team Workshop - Are you being the best leader you can be when it comes to your people? Is your team as efficient and functional as you desire? Are you certain your team has clear communication & priorities? Are you maximizing each person's time, talent, and energy? [Brief overview here.](#) Contact Shandel for more information to bring this workshop to your team.

For You: Know Yourself; Understand Others Self Study Course - Want to maximize your understanding of your communication and behavior style as well as what motivates and drives you? This course helps take you to the next level of your self-discovery process. For more information check out our product page at www.truelifecoaching.com

[Testimonials and more details on Life 301](#)

V. On 3 - Ready...1,2,3 - BREAK

Thank you for taking the time to read this month's edition of The Coach's Time Out. I truly appreciate you forwarding this newsletter to those whom may find it beneficial. If you desire to subscribe, please visit the front page of our website or send an email to ss@truelifecoaching.com with the word SUBSCRIBE.

If you would be so kind to forward this to a friend - see below for an easy click to help you pass it on.

Life's a blast - go for the 2 EXTRA points!

Shandel Slaten

Your Life Coach

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Be You. Be Real. Be the Best You can Be...Today!