

## CHAP 2

# DEVELOPING YOUR GIFT AND UNCOVERING YOUR PASSION

“Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful.” – Albert Schweitzer

### Develop Your Gift

Congratulations on taking the first step towards discovering your life's purpose by uncovering your gift. Now, let's move to the next phase, it's time to nurture and develop that gift to its fullest potential. In this step, we will explore the importance of accepting your talents and abilities to illustrate the power of developing your gift.

## The Story of J.K. Rowling

Remember the movie, "Little Giants"? The next story is similar and inspiring! Check out the life of J.K. Rowling, the author of the Harry Potter series. Before achieving great success, Rowling faced numerous setbacks and challenges. She was a struggling single mother living on welfare, battling depression, and facing rejection after rejection from publishers. She had every reason to throw in the towel.

Despite these obstacles, Rowling refused to give up on her dream of becoming a writer. She continued to develop her gift for storytelling, pouring her heart and soul into crafting the magical world of Harry Potter. After countless rejections, her perseverance paid off when Bloomsbury finally took a chance on her manuscript.

Today, J.K. Rowling is one of the most successful authors of all time, with millions of books sold worldwide and a beloved franchise that has captivated readers of all ages. Her story serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of developing your gift, even in the face of adversity.

## The Journey of Michael Jordan

Another iconic underdog story is that of Michael Jordan, widely regarded as the greatest basketball player of all time. Jordan faced numerous setbacks and failures on his path to greatness. As a young athlete, he was cut from his high school basketball team, a devastating blow that could have derailed his dreams.

However, instead of giving up, Jordan used the setback as motivation to work harder and develop his skills. He dedicated himself to his craft, spending countless hours practicing and nurturing his abilities on the court. His relentless determination paid off, and he went on to achieve unparalleled success in the world of basketball, winning six NBA championships and earning numerous accolades along the way.

Jordan's story is a testament to the power of perseverance and dedication in developing your gift. Despite facing setbacks and doubters, he never wavered in his belief in his abilities. His journey serves as a powerful reminder that with hard work and determination, anything is possible.

### Statistics:

According to a survey conducted by Gallup, only 20% of employees worldwide believe that they can use their strengths and talents at work every day. This highlights the widespread problem of untapped potential in the workforce and underscores the importance of developing your gift to unleash your full potential.

In conclusion, developing your gift is essential to unlocking your true potential and living a purposeful life. Drawing inspiration from the stories of J.K. Rowling and Michael Jordan, we can see the transformative power of honing our talents and abilities. So, embrace your gift, nurture it with dedication and perseverance, and watch as it blossoms into something extraordinary.

Now, let's dive into passion, the ride-or-die cousin of developing your gift. The friend that sticks closer than a brother. The life of the party that brings energy and fire to everything!

Passion: It's the intense emotion or enthusiasm we feel when we are deeply engaged in an activity, subject, or cause!

In Chapter 2 of *Purpose Unleashed*, we dive deeper into the exploration of your passions and talents that reside within you. This chapter is an invitation to peel back the layers and unveil the treasures that have been waiting to be discovered.

Passion is the fuel that propels us forward on our journey towards purpose. It is the fire that ignites our souls and infuses our actions with meaning and enthusiasm.

Passion is the driving force that energizes and propels us towards our goals and aspirations! It's the intense emotion or enthusiasm we feel when we are deeply engaged in an activity, subject, or cause! Passion resonates with our core values and interests.

Passion can show up in various forms, whether it is a love for art, music, science, sports, helping others, or any other pursuits.

Through a series of reflective exercises and soul-searching inquiries, you will uncover the activities, subjects, or causes that truly ignite your spirit. Pay attention to the moments when time seems to stand still when you feel fully engaged and alive. These are the clues that lead you toward your deepest passions.

Consider the true story of J. Richard, owner of a real estate company in Louisiana. While he enjoyed weightlifting and other hobbies, it was the time he spent helping others that truly lit up his

spirit. Seeing the smiles on people's faces and knowing he was making a difference gave him a profound sense of fulfillment. J. Richard realized that his passion was helping the community become first-time homeowners. By integrating this passion into his life, he was able to bring more meaning to his everyday routine and inspire those around him. Now his company purchases large acres of land and builds homes for 1st time home buyers. His passion is currently helping others fulfill their dream of becoming homeowners.

## Reflective Exercise: Discovering Your Passion

To help you uncover your passions, try the following exercise:

- 1. Recall Moments of Joy:** Think back to times in your life when you felt exceptionally joyful and fulfilled. What were you doing? Who were you with? Write down these moments.
- 2. Identify Patterns:** Look for patterns in the activities or situations that brought you joy. Are there common themes or interests that emerge?
- 3. List Your Passions:** Based on your reflections, list three things that fuel your passion. These could be activities, subjects, or causes.
- 4. Evaluate Their Significance:** For each passion you've listed, consider why it is important to you. How does it align with your values and goals?

- 5. Incorporate into Your Purpose:** Take your findings and integrate them into your purpose. How can these passions contribute to your overall sense of purpose and fulfillment?

## Call to Action

Now it's your turn. What are your passions? Write down three things that fuel your passion. Whatever they are, add those findings to your purpose statement. Embrace your passions, and let them guide you toward a life of fulfillment and impact.

By discovering and nurturing your passions, you can transform your life and, in turn, the world around you. Passion is the spark that ignites change. Use it wisely, and let it lead you to your greatness!

Remember, passions can take various forms. They may be creative pursuits, humanitarian endeavors, intellectual volunteering, or acts of service. Allow yourself to explore the vast landscape of possibilities, embracing the diversity of passions that exist within you.

Through self-reflection and self-assessment, you will gain a clearer understanding of your strengths and talents. Celebrate your unique abilities, recognizing the value they bring to both your personal growth and the impact you can make in the world.

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