

Which Road?

I would like to offer something for you to consider.

I am sure you remember the quote: "If you fail to plan, then you are planning to fail!" A second quote, or is it a fact? "Most people spend more time planning their vacation than they do their life!" Everyone knows that the most productive day of the year is the day before you leave on vacation. You seem to get more done in that day than on any other single day of the year!

If you were planning a trip from San Francisco to New York City, would you just get in the car and start driving? "I know where New York City is, it is EAST" you say, and off you drive? Sure enough it is east and with enough experimentation, and trail and error you would make it to New York. After all, when you get close enough there are road signs!

Is this the way you are running your life and career? "I'll drive to the first intersection and then decide which way to turn." I would venture to say that many of you do not even have as definitive a destination, and no map either.

The days of having a single career are pretty much over. Most people will have three-five careers in their lifetimes.

As with the finding New York City analogy, do you want to wait until you are at a crossroads, (because of a layoff, bad job, boredom or other crisis), and be forced to choose which way to go in haste? Or, would rather have a plan? How long do you wish to wander and how much time and energy do you wish to expend trying to find the right road? Especially when feeling pressured due to a lack of income and your financial obligations? Do you even know what destination you are seeking?

When explorers are preparing to enter new territory, they always seek a native guide if they can find one. This makes the journey so much easier, even when they know the destination. When they are unsure of where they want to go, the Guide can help them make that decision as well by giving them options and describing them. Then they are 'guided' through the new area and sometimes are lead astray because they let the wrong person be the guide.

Who have been your guides so far on life's journey? Your mother, father, boss, school counselor, a Mentor perhaps? Have they guided you to wonderful destinations? Places where you truly wanted to be? Or, were those destinations they would have chosen for themselves and not really what you would have chosen on your own? Were they emotional and or career dead ends?

So, where do you find a guide you can trust? One who can help you find within yourself the destination that is truly yours? Someone who has the tools to continue to help and guide you as you move into what is for you, uncharted territory?

Might I suggest a Coach? They have no hidden agenda where you are concerned, only your best interests at heart. They have access to tools to help you, like assessments. Even Myers Briggs if you need to find where your real interests lie. There are many Coaches available; you only need to find one that you are compatible with. I will help you with that if you like. I have one and use him often as well.

My thanks to Mohan Iyer of Wellington, New Zealand for suggesting that I write on this topic. If you have a topic you would like to see addressed, please send me an email.

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