

The Practical Way to a Purpose

<http://www.marieforleo.com/2016/04/chris-guillebeau/>

Surrounding yourself with uplifting people could be one of the most important keys to success, and Marie Forelo doesn't fall short of that description. As an entrepreneur, writer, and philanthropist, Marie strives to help not only other entrepreneurs, but any adult, fulfill their potential and find their true purpose in life. Through her online training, her television show, Marie TV, and her book, *Make Every Man Want You*, the businesswoman lives by the slogan, "The world needs that special gift that only you have."

We recently discovered her inspirational blog and dove into "How to Find the Work You Were Meant to Do," a vlog post collaboration with entrepreneur Chris Guillibeau. Simply from the title, it sounds like an impractical attempt at lending loose advice, but Marie and Chris give constructive and effective steps to start shaping your life into your dream.

We've all heard someone say "I would do my job for free" or "I've found my dream job," and we often view them as winning the career lottery, finding luck in a far too complicated career world. However, there is a way to duplicate those decisions and stumble upon the path of loving every part of your day, even the 9-5.

Marie urges the viewers to "think like an entrepreneur, even if you're not one." By this, Chris expands and states that "you're self-employed even if you're employed," meaning a businessman should always be looking out for himself and act responsible for his own security, making the best of his career. You may not own and operate your own business, but everyone owns and operates his own life. Essentially, Marie and Chris suggest that you take advantage of the time you have and live your life in the way you'll most enjoy and in the way you can best give back.

Here's a step-by-step to implementing that purpose: the Job, Money, Flow Concept. Chris especially suggests using this model if you have multiple job opportunities to consider. The three characteristics of people who are successful and fulfilled by what they do are exactly what you would expect by the title: joy (not having a soul-sucking job that drains their passions, but rather fuels them), money (if you don't get paid for doing what you love, it is just a hobby, not a career), and flow (when you do your job, you should be immersed in it and, of course, good at it). In order to live a practical, financially secure, and more comforting life, consider the financial viability, how worth your time it is, and if it aligns with your strengths. It sounds harsh, but there is truth behind the fact that your purpose won't be something you're bad at. By no means do you have to be the best (that's pretty much impossible), but in order to contribute a service to the world, you should be gifted in that area.

Next, Marie and Chris focus on "the multi-passionate entrepreneur." If you have a handful of topics, causes, and activities you enjoy, this one's for you. Above all, know that you don't need to just pick one! When you're just beginning your career path, expand your options and take advantage of the experiences you are offered. With more experiences, you can then start limiting your choices; this way, you'll have more time to test the waters and find that one thing that gets you through the day. Throughout this process, first and foremost, eliminate the ideas that don't you bring you joy when you think about them. If you don't enjoy thinking

about them, then you definitely won't enjoy working on them every single day. Once you have your intended career path, keep in mind that it should be self-fulfilling and have the greatest impact on the world in comparison to your other choices. By feeling rewarded yourself, you will be more likely to spread that reward to everyone you come in contact with. Also, know that if your life events don't follow your intended timeline, it won't be the end of the world. Your path doesn't have to be linear—it's okay to change your mind or take a detour; almost all success stories start that way.

In closing, Marie and Chris debate with the topic of giving up. The two point out that far too many times, giving up is viewed negatively and as a downfall of character. Chris reminds the viewers that "Winners give up all the time; perseverance is good for some goals but not all." There are only limited opportunities to fail at the same thing—either people will start losing faith in you or you will start losing faith in yourself. When you become weary of your track record, debate if your pursuits are working effectively and if you're happy pursuing them. Yes to both questions? Keep at it. No to both? Maybe try a new plan. Did you get mixed answers? Then alter your efforts and tweak your plan in some way. Especially for someone hard-working and resilient, try to not view quitting in such a negative light. Find the freedom in dropping a weight that isn't working, even if you thought it was a good idea in the first place. If you give yourself permission to stop constantly beating yourself up about plans that have gone astray, you give yourself room to discover your true purpose.

At Deep South Social, we remind you that you only have one life—use it to the best of your abilities. If you pour your passions into your career as well as your personal life, you have the power to change the world.