

Chapter 7

WHY YOU CANNOT WAIT TO RETIRE?

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In the previous chapters, we have gone through the exact visual picture that differentiates between a craftsman and a worker.

Difference between Craftsmen & Worker

The difference between craftsmen & worker



Vocation/Craft




Occupation/Job

A craftsman has the expertise that defines his identity. If someone is a carpenter, he's an expert in carpentry work. In the modern-day, if someone is an electrician now he's an expert when it comes to repairs of electrical appliances or even in your house wiring and so on. So it defines his identity. And if you are an expert in that, people don't look forward to repairing because the longer you are in your practice your crafts are the longer you are in your vocation of choice. The more expert you become and the more business you have, the more well-known you become. People will come to you. So this is the difference between craftsmen and workers because a craftsman has crafts and vocation whereby an industrial worker or office worker in the modern sense is just an occupation or a job. An occupation or job means that what you do it forms part of the organization's function and not the entire function. Therefore it's not surprising that most people derive limited emotional satisfaction with it. And also when people retire they have a sense of identity loss because they were in an occupation or a job as compared to a vocation of crafts. The vocation or the craft defines a person. So there is no such thing as an identity loss after retirement.

Comparison between Vocation/Craft and Job/Occupation



Let's compare between a vocation and a craft and why it is so important. Even if you are in a job that pays well or occupation, you should take that aspect of it and restructure it and re-modify it, so it becomes something of a vocation or a craft that defines you until the day you die and not all. So even after you retire you have a skill set that can become your vocation or the craft. A lot of people can't seem to wait for that day when the one to retire is because of this. If you're practicing a vocation or crafts, you control your product or the process of the service, you control it entirely. In a job or occupation, a worker only controls or only involved in a small part of the entire system. In a vocation or crafts, your knowledge or expertise is with you. Nobody can take it away from you. It means that you are not dispensable because you work for yourself, even you have a team. There is a skill set that you take it wherever you go. But for a job or occupation, you are essentially dispensable because the company can hire someone at a cheaper cost to replace you, give him training and in no time get him on the ground running.

If you are in a vocation or practicing a vocation or a craft, you derive personal satisfaction from doing what you do. Now compare it with the job or occupation. Yes, very limited job satisfaction because you're only part of the system and not the entire system itself. Now as I mentioned craftsman, whatever he does is integral to his identity and defines him. But in a job or occupation, there's a very limited sense of identity which is understandable because you're only part of the big system. In a vocation or craft, you're a craftsman who derives a lot of emotional rewards. People respect your work, respect your profession, people admire it and people ask for all your expert advice. For example, look at a cook or chef, I'm not talking about a chef that works in a big hotel. We are talking about chefs that probably open his coffee shop or restaurant and they say that they do not derive satisfaction, the emotional reward when a customer praises the dishes, they may compare that to a job or occupation. It offers a little emotional reward. So if you compare the left side with the right side it's pretty obvious why people that are in a job or occupation has limited job satisfaction in the sense of identity, limited emotional reward, there are people who are looking forward to retiring is because of this push factor.

The Consequences of doing work we don't enjoy

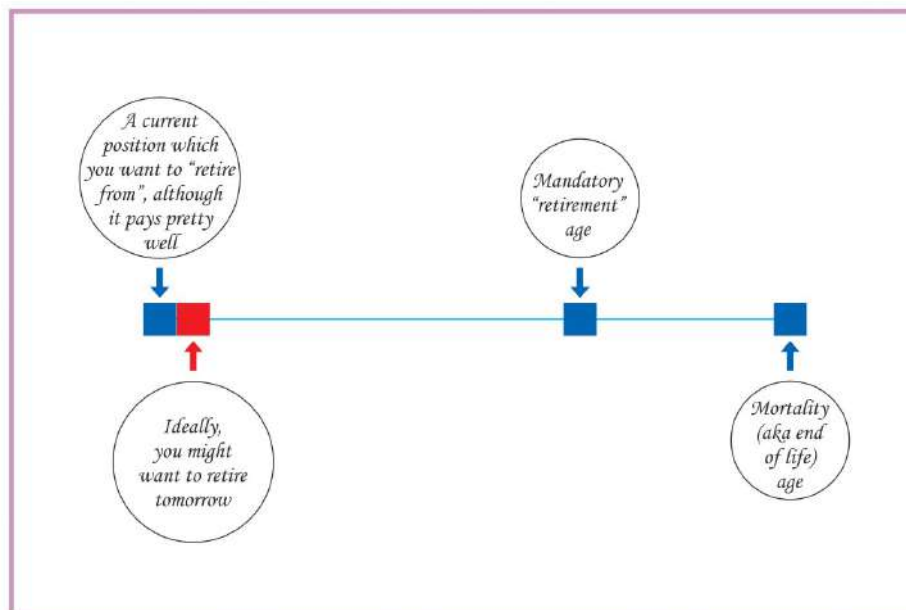


*Depletes our spirit and willpower
Do what we don't enjoy to accumulate
...the money we need someday to do
...what we REALLY want and enjoy
of doing?*

In a job or occupation, there are a lot of consequences of doing the work that you don't enjoy.

It depletes your spirit and willpower. You get very mentally tired by the work that we don't enjoy and this depletes our spirit. We become very lethargic. We call it a blue Monday but for craftsmen, they will not be anything like a blue Monday. In a job or the occupation, it's inevitable in modern society because you study and you get your degree and you go into the corporate world. You define success by the material possessions that you have. You fall into this kind of thinking. You've accepted that thing. The fact that you must do what you don't enjoy for the next 20, 30, or 40 years so that you can accumulate the money you will need someday, hopefully, enough to do what you want and enjoy doing. Now that is the thing why people cannot wait for retirement because they don't have to job. But we have to be realistic and work to fund our family. But just knowing that this affected, the impact of doing the work that you dislike, it depletes your spirit and thinks about whether it's worth it to do and tore up for the next 30-40 years to do the job in an environment that's very toxic.

Retirement Visualization Road map




A retirement visualization road map you've seen before, ideally for people who don't love or like or dislike their job. Ideally, you want to retire tomorrow. Clients need to do retirement planning. Few clients want to retire maybe five years from now, 10 years from now or so. But some would say that ideally tomorrow, it is an issue. They have to be realistic maybe not tomorrow, maybe somewhere down the road, maybe earlier or later than retirement age but it is a race. Only you can determine a race that you walk or run in your tracks. There's nothing to compare to other people.

There's a flawed measure of failure here is that people say if you are not able to retire before mandatory retirement age, you retire instead beyond the mandatory retirement age. You're essentially a failure because you're retired later than this. Now there is a very flawed concept of looking at things. Imagine if you are a craftsman, it makes no sense to retire from something that you like doing and to retire for something that defines your identity. It just makes no sense. But if you're in a job or occupation yes it makes sense but does not pressurize yourself to say that if I retire beyond mandatory age retirement age then I'm a failure. So again also do not be flawed with, have the same concept saying that if you retire away before your mandatory retirement age then you're a success.

So in subsequent chapters, we'll see the other problem, if you retire too early if you don't prepare for, that kind of life after retirement, which we have covered how to prepare to retire. Set of tires. But you come with a lot of non-financial consequences if you don't define your post-retirement life.

Do you really want to quit working/exercising your expertise?



You would not be obsessed with the ...conscious thoughts of quitting if you were ...doing what you wanted to do ...in the first place

If you enjoy what you're doing now, even though you are in a job. But most people think that they are in a vocation which makes them enjoy what they are doing now. Do you want to quit working or exercising or practicing your expertise? Imagine if you are a craftsman today you would not be so obsessed with the conscious thoughts lasting in your mind of always thinking or want to quit your job if you were doing what you wanted to do in the first place.