Exercise: Understanding My Own Values

Reflecting on my life's critical moments to identify what truly matters to me and underpins who I am.

Part 1 of 4: Identifying My Own Values

- 1. Identify a special, peak moment when my *personal life* was especially <u>happy</u>.
 - \Rightarrow What was happening? Who was there? What was I doing?
 - \Rightarrow What other factors contributed to my happiness?
 - \Rightarrow How, and why, did the experience make me feel happy?
 - \Rightarrow What need or desire was fulfilled?
 - \Rightarrow What values were being honoured in that moment?
 - \Rightarrow Test these words i.e. check they fit well with you
 - ⇒ What do each of these values mean to me?
- For scope and balance, identify a special, peak moment when my *job/role/career* was especially <u>happy</u>.
 ⇒ Answer the same questions listed in 1. Above
- 3. Identify the times, in my personal life, when I was most proud.
 - \Rightarrow Why was I proud?
 - \Rightarrow Did others share my pride? Who?
 - \Rightarrow What other factors contributed to my feelings of pride?
 - \Rightarrow What need or desire was fulfilled?
 - \Rightarrow What values were being honoured in that moment?
 - \Rightarrow Periodically test words
 - \Rightarrow What do each of these values mean to me?
- 4. Identify the times, in your *professional life*, when I was most <u>proud</u>.
 - \Rightarrow Reflect on, and answer, the questions listed in 3. Above
- 5. Identify the times when I was most <u>fulfilled and satisfied</u> (Personal & Professional).
 - \Rightarrow Answer the same questions listed in 1. Above
- 6. Identify a specific moment when I was <u>angry or upset</u> (Personal & Professional).
 - \Rightarrow What was happening? Who was there? What was I doing?
 - \Rightarrow What other factors contributed to my anger/upset?
 - \Rightarrow How, and why, did the experience make me angry/upset?
 - \Rightarrow What need or desire was NOT fulfilled?
 - \Rightarrow What values were NOT being honoured in that moment?
 - \Rightarrow Test these words i.e. check they fit well with you
 - \Rightarrow What do each of these values mean to me?
- 7. What must I have in my life in order to feel fulfilled (or part of me dies)?
- 8. What is it that people say about me?
- 9. What do I say about myself?
- 10. From this list and that attached name the top 10 values which are important to me?

Values list

Accountability	Effectiveness	Mastery		
Accuracy	Efficiency	Openness		
Achievement	Empathy	Originality		
Adventurousness	Enjoyment	Positivity		
Altruism	Enthusiasm	Professionalism		
Ambition	Equality	Quality-orientation		
Assertiveness	Excellence	Reliability		
Balance	Excitement	Resourcefulness		
Being the best	Expertise	Security		
Belonging	Exploration	Self-actualization		
Calmness	Fairness	Self-control		
Carefulness	Faith	Selflessness		
Challenge	Fidelity	Self-reliance		
Cheerfulness	Fitness	Sensitivity		
Commitment	Freedom	Serenity		
Community	Generosity	Simplicity		
Compassion	Goodness	Spontaneity		
Competitiveness	Grace	Stability		
Consistency	Growth	Strategic		
Contentment	Happiness	Strength		
Continuous	Health	Success		
Improvement	Honesty	Thankfulness		
Contribution	Humility	Thoughtfulness		
Control	Independence	Timeliness		
Co-operation	Ingenuity	Tolerance		
Correctness	Inner Harmony	Traditionalism		
Courtesy	Intelligence	Trustworthiness		
Creativity	Intuition	Truth-seeking		
Curiosity	Joy	Understanding		
Decisiveness	Justice	Uniqueness		
Dependability	Leadership	Usefulness		
Determination	Legacy	Vision		
Discipline	Love	Vitality		
Discretion	Loyalty			
Diversity	Making a difference			

Reflecting on how well my values are currently being served in my life

Place your values in the following values worksheet, ranked in priority order (columns 1 & 2).

1.	2.	3.	4.
Rank		Personal Life	Work Life
In Priority		Score Level of Satisfaction	
Order	Value/Description	Scale of 1-10	
		(10 = highest)	

Now score your current level of satisfaction with how well those values are being served in your life at this point in time (columns 3 & 4).

When values are fully defined and elaborated upon they become a powerful tool in pointing us towards fulfilling choices as we approach major crossroads or get off track.