



You are Your Greatest Gift

Too many of us wish we were someone else. Someone smarter, better looking or fitter. However, you rarely see the best of the best doing that. You never hear Madonna say, "Gee, I wish that I was a civil engineer." Of course not, Madonna's life journey has been about being more Madonna. More daring. More creative. More obsessed with detail. And her fans and the marketplace rewarded her. She is truly a superstar.

Who are you? What makes you unique? What energizes you? What do you do that amazes your friends? That is your greatest gift. And when you develop that gift you can deliver more and more value to your clients, your employer and your team. So here are some tactics for becoming more you:

1. **Find.** Figure out what you are great at. Review your past successes, especially unexpected ones. Find out what unique talents you used to realize that success.
2. **Develop.** Once you have identified your top two or three talents refine them. Read books (30 minutes a day), take classes or find a mentor. Spend all your personal development energy on these three talents. Don't waste your time on your weaknesses. They are not the path to greatness.
3. **Collaborate.** Now that you know what you are brilliant at find people whose talents support yours. Create a team of geniuses. This may mean hiring different people, switching departments or looking for new work. Yes, the change may be difficult. However, your greatest life is worth it.

Compare the serene and simple splendour of a rose in bloom with the tensions and restlessness in your life. The rose has a gift that you lack; it is perfectly content to be itself. It has not been programmed from birth, as you have been, to be dissatisfied with itself, so it has not the slightest urge to be anything other than it is. That is why it possesses the artless grace and absence of inner conflict that among humans is only found in little children and mystics - Anthony DeMello, The Way to Love.