

'Risk & Reward'

Larger Risks & Larger Pay-off

Your life has a story, so let's begin to tell it

Risk & Reward Exercise

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- WHY?:**
- To gain confidence from prior trials & to step beyond your prior expectations.
 - To better understand your assumptions & what actually became true.
 - To decide to become more through experimentation & observation.
 - To become 'unreasonable in something' to focus & grow rapidly.
 - To find key areas that you have already proven that you will RISK for.
 - To find individual smaller tasks that you remember enjoyable along the way to the larger goal.

FORMAT

EXERCISE:

| Title | Description (Brief) | Risk & Assumptions | Reward or Pay-off |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| Category | | | |
| Thoughts at the time: | | | |
| Later Reflection: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Did the Risk manifest itself?- Did the Reward pay-off & how?- Did you continue on after Risk manifest itself?- Were you prepared for the Risk?- Is there a KEY lesson learned?- Do you still do this? | | |

EXAMPLES:

In my life of greater than a half century, I count approximately two dozen high risk / high reward situations that I pushed myself into, here are a few:

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EXAMPLE 1

| Title | Description (Brief) | Risk, Assumptions & Mitigations | Reward or Pay-off |
|-----------------------|---|--|---|
| Auto Racing | Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) Improved Touring A (ITA) door to door racing at road courses all over the Southeast US | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health - potential sickness from doing too much, Family of 5, Leader at work & now racing - Injury - Full NASCAR roll cage & safety equipment in car at @ 2/3 the speed - Family - Will this tear my family apart? - Lack of Confidence - Can I really learn all of these skills quickly to: build/repair/drive/set-up & optimize? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Massive growth potential by speeding learning - Learn Focus in chaos & being to love the uncertainty - Learn Time & Energy Management - Work so much easier on Monday, conquering imminent fear |
| Category | My Chosen Vocation (MCV) | | |
| Thoughts at the time: | I need a way to use my Engineering skills to build, to test, to break that was faster than the Product Design Cycle at work | | |
| Later Reflection: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Did the Risk manifest itself? - Did the Reward pay-off & how? - Did you continue on after Risk manifest itself? - Were you prepared for the Risk? - Is there a KEY lesson learned? - Do you still do this? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health (Yes) many sicknesses - Injury (Yes) & decent Concussion - rolled car end over end 3 & 1/2 times - Family (Yes some) large strain on my family (I am sorry to my children and thank you again to my wife) - Lack of Confidence (Yes) - I questioned my abilities, yet I took action anyway. Confidence is a word littered with distractions, simple: just take actions on what needs to happen NEXT. Yes Yes, by a massive amount of thinking & lists. A statement from an old racer friend, "You need to be able to throw your car in that lake and come back to race again the very next weekend." A very selfish need turned into a focused pursuit can help us in many other areas of life. No, I chose other paths: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Using the dollars to do bigger vacations with my Family - The desire for this challenge moved to other areas of my life - Using the time to get on a bicycle for fitness & charity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yes, in every way - From confidence to practical experience on physics in real life - I learned to fix 'broke' in every way, engineering my way to success - Can you get back on track in the time you have? Yes |



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| Title | Description (Brief) | Risk, Assumptions & Mitigations | Reward or Pay-off |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Changing Jobs to a New Company | Told by Company (UTC) that our jobs are moving from FL to CT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spirit - Uprooting entire family of five - Health - Very sick as a child growing up in New England - Work - Job responsibility going up with only bonus & no salary increase | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Challenge of a new job - Remain with some of old workmates |
| Category | My Chosen Profession (MCP) | | |
| Thoughts at the time: | I need to find a better way. My job is moving, yet I can choose differently. It is time to see my value on the open market. | | |
| Later Reflection: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Did you continue on after Risk manifest itself? - Did the Reward pay-off & how? - Did you continue on? - Were you prepared for the Risk? - Is there a KEY lesson learned? - Do you still do this? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uprooting Family (Yes) - but moved where we chose - switching companies - Health (No) - moved to Southeast & not Northeast - Work (No) - Initially pay higher & responsibility lower, then both increased together Yes - worked at new company until Financial Independence Yes - moving is hard, but very fast process that my wife and I used works. Also by asking hard questions in a format prior helps - see upcoming Career Decision Matrix (CDM) Limiting your options to what something or some one is telling you may lead you away from your path. Yes - Stayed in Southeast | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I chose a different path than that the Company laid out for me by changing paths - In the uprooting my family became stronger with the Spiritual values of the area - The new path paid off both financially & skill growth - I learned and grew with very smart people |



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EXAMPLE 3

| Title | Description (Brief) | Risk, Assumptions & Mitigations | Reward or Pay-off |
|--|--|--|---|
| Changing Jobs within an Existing Company | Asked by Leadership to move from Systems Role back to Functional Manager | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spirit - Will be forever known as a 'Rotor Guy' - A specialist in rotating hardware design - Health - Increase stress of Leading & Managing people | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chance to Lead people and create the first new Rotating Structure in decades - Increased compensation to get one step closer to Financial Independence - Increased freedom to do what I thought best with my more & more valuable time. |
| Category Thoughts at the time: Later Reflection: | <p>My Chosen Profession (MCP)</p> <p>I need to take a larger Leadership position. Advice from a friend, "It is always easier to take your next larger Leadership role in an area that you technically understand. This leaves you to learn the people & not the people AND the discipline."</p> <p>- Did you continue on after Risk manifest itself? - Did the Reward pay-off & how?</p> <p>- Did you continue on after Risk manifest itself? - Were you prepared for the Risk?</p> <p>- Is there a KEY lesson learned?</p> <p>- Do you still do this?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uprooting Family (Yes) - but moved where we chose switching companies - Health (No) - moved to Southeast & not Northeast - Work (No) - Initially pay higher & responsibility lower, then both increased together <p>No, I moved on to another challenge back to Systems increasing my Leadership & Technical skills & compensation.</p> <p>Yes - By asking hard questions in a format prior helps - see upcoming Career Decision Matrix (CDM)</p> <p>Creating your 'own job descripton' within a company maybe the best career path for everyone, fill the stated need and then go do what you want within these larger constraints. Changing your perception allows greater freedom.</p> <p>No, I am FI and have switch from work professions to work vocations</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My Leadership ability increased as my responsibility became them - My Technical depth increased as I learned from what they learned - My compensation increased by my value - My time became my own as we created something new |



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| Title | Description (Brief) | Risk, Assumptions & Mitigations | Reward or Pay-off |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|
| To Climb Mountains | I asked myself, "What are your physical limits?" Are you limitless physically? Can you push your body beyond with your mind? Climbing on a bicycle to oblivion. Mount Mitchell (~100 miles/~10,000 ft climb in 1 day) eight times, Road Titan 300 (~300 miles/~30,000 ft climb in 3 days) twice and many, many more. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spirit - Strain on family due to near exhaustion of endurance athlete training - Health - Finding and potential overstepping the breaking point of my body - Work - Can I get up and go to work the next day? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chance to discover what I am made out of - To understand my limits and break them - To find the beauty beyond |
| Category | PHYSICAL | | |
| Thoughts at the time: | I need to take a larger Leadership position. Advice from a friend, "It is always easier to take your next larger Leadership role in an area that you technically understand. This leaves you to learn the people & not the people AND the discipline." | | |
| Later Reflection: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Did you continue on after Risk manifest itself? - Did the Reward pay-off & how? - Did you continue on after Risk manifest itself? - Were you prepared for the Risk? - Is there a KEY lesson learned? - Do you still do this? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spirit Family (Yes) - I was very short and very grumpy at times (Family, I am sorry) - Health (Yes) - I broke in many ways cramping, asthma attacks, food allergies, eczema, adrenal failure, singles, hyper-thyroidism, etc. - Work (No) - I awoke, many times very still and went to work moving thru on the job recovery Yes - I still climb in the Mountains for 3/4 of the year, but more for the pleasure of Nature and to be in the joy of the Spirit Yes, by training throughout the year to prepare You will discover yourself at and beyond your limits. There is beauty on the over side of Risk. Yes - I now ride across states - SC four times and NC twice to understand what it is like to get up & ride the next day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finding my Spirit in the Mountains - Finding my strength is deep, yet limited - Finding my way to Him - Finding what 'bliss' really feels like - Finding deeper insights that I knew were possible - To understand food as fuel for growth and strength - To see what aging really means |

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EXAMPLE 5

| Title | Description (Brief) | Risk, Assumptions & Mitigations | Reward or Pay-off |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| To Trade in the Stock Market | To start small say \$100 trade and to work towards larger \$X0,000 commonly trades | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health - Can I sleep at night? - Financial - Will I learn from my mistakes? Will this risk my future? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chance to feel comfortable understanding the statistics of the Stock Market - How to learn from investment mistakes - Financial Independence at an early age |
| Category | Financial Independence (FI) | | |
| Thoughts at the time: | <p>I need take a consistent look at working and learning in the market. Can I meet or even beat the market? What is the payment in time & energy? What is the best pay-off for moderate effort system? Is it easier to meet or beat the market?</p> | | |
| Later Reflection: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Did the Risk manifest itself? - Did the Reward pay-off & how? - Did you continue on after Risk manifest itself? - Were you prepared for the Risk? - Is there a KEY lesson learned? - Do you still do this? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sleep at Night (Yes) - I was able to learn to protect and understand the fluxations of the market to sleep - Financial (Yes) - Unlike many who pay a 'financial professional' to learn with their money, I learn with my money every time. Yes - I invest weekly Yes, by reading, researching and trying investment ideas You always start by doing small, you do big by continuing to push through where most have stopped. Yes - I continue invest and meet with people teaching basic concepts of 'money as a tool' | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I became so passionate about this I have created the 'Financial Independence Letter', meeting with dozens of people to help them do what they were meant to do here on earth earlier (see second post "Financial Independence". |

For my 'leaky self confidence', I have many more to help me understand what I can do and might do when I choose 'to be unreasonable', again!

