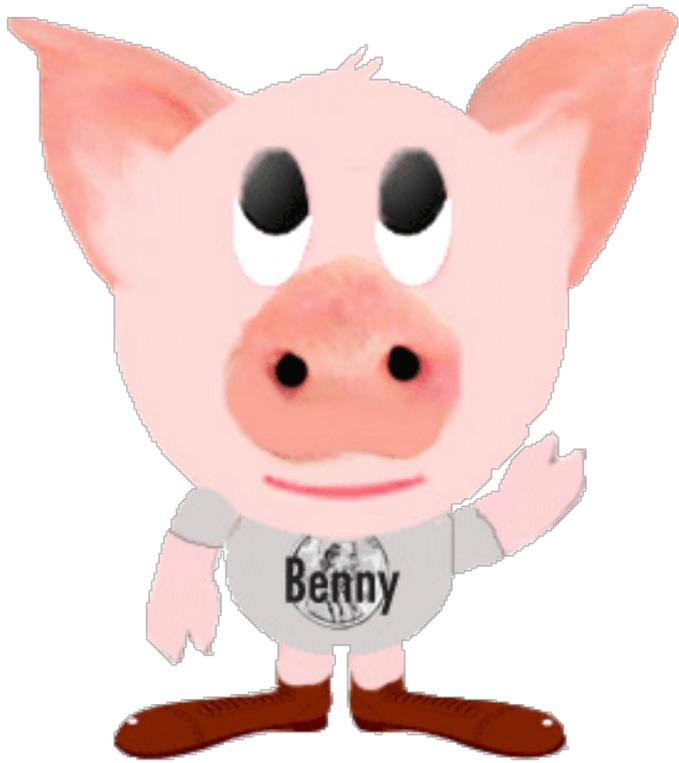


# Handle Your Business

## Eight Steps to Align Your Gifts with the Real World

Co-Created by Living MiDream and Youthful Savings





Being young isn't easy. Sure, you have the energy of the youth on your side but you also have a system of life that was built before you. This system is called the "World Economic System." The minute you are born, you enter into the big, bad world of life business.

This includes, but is not limited, to getting a job, making money, paying taxes, investing in assets and generally being financially secure so you can be an upstanding citizen of the world.

As a young person, it's easy to ignore all this because you think you'll never grow up and your parents will pay for everything. Unfortunately, we all grow up and it's a lot easier to survive in the real world if you understand it.

My company Youthful Savings is all about that. Our intention is to equip the next generation with all the tools and knowledge to be successful in our changing economy. It starts with you though. We care about your success.

That means that the more effort you put into getting to know who you are and coupling that with knowledge of the real world, you can truly prosper and live the life you've always wanted.

So let us help you be the best version of you!

We have teamed up with the extraordinary organization Living MiDream to create this 8-step guide to aligning your gift with the real world. Living MiDream is an Illinois-based company dedicated to helping youth reach their full potential.

There are four essential overarching questions that govern this curriculum:

1. Who am I?

Discovering your natural talent is the first step in charting your life's journey. Understanding your personality, how you perceive the world around you, and how to evaluate your talents and experiences are skills that can be developed and applied. The strategy of reflective thinking is a powerful process linking self-awareness with personal growth. The more self-aware you become, the better equipped you will be to know what you want to do in school and in life.

2. Where do I want to go?

Developing your abilities requires learning new skills and sharpening your current skills. You may have a natural talent but you will need PRACTICE to become an expert at it. Deciding which talents you want to develop is an important step in determining your career path and in formulating your personal vision. Capitalizing upon opportunities and creating your own opportunities will empower you to set your own direction. Considering a larger purpose for your life will lead to having a significant impact for yourself and others.

3. How might I get there?

Having a vision of what you want in your life is important, having a plan of action to reach that vision is even more important! "If you fail to plan, you plan to fail!" You must explore a wide-range of opportunities that exist in a global context and develop an entrepreneurial spirit that recognizes that without risk there is no reward. The core skill of innovators is error recovery, not failure avoidance. They fall and they get back up. Flexibility, adaptability, and responsiveness to a changing world will be your biggest strength. The ability to improvise as your plan of action encounters new environments or challenges is an important skill – a skill that can be practiced and learned.

4. What difference will I make?

Your life is a gift and it's important to share your gifts with the world. Our world needs more change agents and as a young adult you have the ability to truly make an impact in this world. By thinking critically about who you are, where you want to go and how you'll get there, you have the ability to not only make a difference in your life but also in your community and the world at large. That power is yours - now that's exciting!

These self-reflection questions will help you understand who you really are and what gift you can truly share with the world. I'm all about monetizing your gifts so you live a baller life. So let us take you on a journey of self-reflection, financial education and life skills incorporation. With a little bit of deep thinking, hard work and an open mind, you can truly live the life of your dreams!