



Stanford eCorner

Recognizing a Great Job

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The way to find a career that you love is not to think of it as a job, says Chegg CEO Dan Rosensweig. He also offers many relevant insights. Follow your natural passions and inclinations and the work will simply follow. Work with people you trust, and give them everything you have. Don't concern yourself with the road not taken - but when you approach a perceived dead end, step away from the organization professionally. To find true enrichment from your work, start over and try again.



Transcript

So, how do you get a great job? First of all and probably the hardest thing to do is to recognize that you're not really going to know what a great job is. So, the advice that I would give you that I wish somebody had given me is the way you get a great job is you don't think of it as a job. Follow your passions. If you're excited about something, whatever you're doing is going to feel like a great job. So, don't be afraid to follow your passions. Work for people or around people that you believe in and you trust, like what I had with Bill Ziff, who we always thought as the mayor of Ziff Davis. We knew that if there were ever a big problem, he'd figure out how to solve it. So, follow your passion. Work for people you trust. Give everything you have to that.

Define success. Never look back, meaning the road not taken is something you're never going to know. So, make the road you're on successful. And as soon as you realize you can't be happy, go talk to the boss. Make your case in private. And if you can't change their minds, go to something else because you don't want to be a cancer in an organization. It may turn out that you're wrong and they're right. Or it may turn out neither of you is wrong nor right. It just may not be the right environment for you. But you don't hang around in a place you can't find a way to be happy.

But get up every day and recognize that you know what? You're in one of the greatest places on the planet. You're going to have opportunities that almost no one else in the world gets. Embrace it. Enjoy it. Do it with passion. And if it fails, do it again.