Moving Past the Struggle

I have written many blogs, and for the most part, I talk about the opportunities in the marketplace, the people, the freedom, the places, and the experiences of being an entrepreneur. Rarely have I discussed the struggle and how being an entrepreneur can be downright difficult at times. This is part of the environment that you take up when you choose or, for some, are forced into this path. The allure of the business owner draws you in, but are you prepared for the reality that will inevitably follow?

<u>Ben Horowitz</u>, with the venture capital firm Andreessen Horowitz, reminded me of this in his recent blog entitled "<u>The Struggle</u>."

The Effectual Entrepreneur

If you're an entrepreneur, have you ever looked at how you went about starting your business? Does it seem a bit unorthodox when compared to how people told you it should be done? This stimulating topic is backed with years of research, shedding light into the mind of an entrepreneur.

When I first started reading on this topic, I found it fascinating because it made me feel less like a renegade for my unconventional method of starting a business. I hope this knowledge can perhaps help someone out there who is exploring the concept of being an entrepreneur, or possibly help someone like me who simply needs to feel good about the way entrepreneurs go about making things happen.

Leadership exposes issues...what are yours?

A few weeks ago I had the pleasure of hearing notable business coach <u>Marshall Goldsmith</u> speak at the <u>Fortune Growth Summit</u>. Marshall's work helps to make people better and is both educational and enlightening. He has successfully coached several of the <u>Fortune 500</u> leaders, and has done so by helping them in areas that required improvement. As we've all heard time and time again, the first step to recovery is admitting you have a problem.

Are Your Living Your Passion?



As an entrepreneur, you are never very far from your business. No matter where you are or what you're doing, it's always with you, slipping into your consciousness. You might be in the shower, lounging on the deck, on an airplane with everyone around you snoozing or out on the

lake....your mind will still be spinning on the latest issue or the next big opportunity. When you're passionate about what you do, you have an advantage because you're energized and motivated to give it the extra thought that helps keep you ahead of the game.

Changing the World

I am currently at the <u>EO Amsterdam University</u>, which is a 5 day conference packed with amazing speakers (even 2 Nobel Prize Winners), incredible, fun loving, successful entrepreneurs and exciting activities and venues. One of the most interesting things we've done is take a canal ride through the city, making our way through the canal system and on to dinner, where we wore Dutch Clogs. The really cool thing about this conference, though, is that it's centered on changing the world and how each of us can do our part to make a difference. The only thing stopping us is our own self imposed limitations.

What is Your Reality?

Are you creating the world that you want to live in, or is the world you live in creating you? Is your life what you want it to be, or one you plan to change...someday? If there were a proven method to create the life you want to live, would you use it? What if I said that there is one, and I've used it, and it's changed my life?

Back in the early 90's I read the book <u>Think and Grow Rich</u> by <u>Napoleon Hill</u>. I know it has one of those names that sounds too cliché to believe there is actually a powerful message

4 Steps to Creating Your Reality

Did you know that if you have 2 piano's in the same room, and you play a note on one piano, it will cause that same note to vibrate on the other piano without ever touching it?

You can create that same kind of vibration in your life, where you radiate a belief that attracts like-minded people. These people can help you manifest the kind of life that you want to live. This is a follow up to my last blog on reality statements, so if you didn't read it, check it out here.

 $oldsymbol{1}$ Brainstorm all the positive things you want in your life.

The Power of Forum

I just got back from a conference for EO Injected Forums in Sonoma, CA where I had a great time with my Forum mates sharing and learning together. It struck me that I talk about Forum lot in my blog, but not everyone has had the opportunity to be in a forum or even understand what a Forum is, so let me tell you about the Forum experience.

I am in two Forums. One is a local $\underline{E0}$ Forum that I have been in since 99, which meets monthly. The other is a regional Forum made up of $\underline{E0}$ members from the South East who have been in $\underline{E0}$ for more than 7 years, and meets quarterly.

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Three Things Scrooge Would Say About Our Business

As we approach Christmas and get to spend more time with our family and friends in a spirited, colorful environment full of lights, we open our hearts and our pocket books to give and share what we have with others. While I cannot speak for you, it makes me feel good to give to others. When it is done with sincerity, I feel it has that effect similar to when the Grinch's heart grows three sizes. It changed him. I look to the holidays to have that growing heart experience and hope the holidays have the same effect on you.