

THE

FORWARD

FOUR

The Framework to Unlock Your Greatness



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INTRO

One of the great artists of all time, Michaelangelo, believed his role as a sculptor was not to create, but to release from the stone what was already inside of it. He believed every piece of stone had a statue inside of it, and it was his job to chip away at it until he discovered it.

Similarly to us, we are the master sculptors of our own lives. Our best self is already laid out in the marble. Only we can chip away at the areas that do not represent our authentic selves.

As we chip away one piece at a time, targeting gradual daily improvement, we start to uncover more of our true selves. As we begin to unlock our talents, we can focus on bringing out the best in others, which leads us to our true greatness.

To start, I would like to share with you, The Forward Four... The framework designed to help you unlock your greatness.

COMMIT



Start with the decision to learn, grow, and maximize yourself.

DEDICATE



Lock into the daily practices that help you develop.

EXECUTE



Go Perform + Focus thru a positive lens on progression.

ENERGIZE



Use your talents to bring out the best in others.

PART 1: COMMIT



The first step towards unlocking your greatness is to make the commitment within yourself to become the very best you can be.

You make the decision to learn, grow, and maximize yourself.

Everything first starts with your decision to move forward. As famed motivational speaker, Zig Ziglar, said, “You don’t have to be great to get started, but you gotta get started to be great.”

Commitment is always the first step. As John Maxwell says, “Commitment precedes achievement.” Our commitment gives us

purpose, which in turn gives us strength for the difficult times.

Once you decide to begin your race, commitment has only one request. You must show up... Everyday. We are held accountable.

There is no expiration date on commitment. As Pat Riley says, “You’re either in or you’re out. There is no such thing as life in between.” Commit today to becoming the best you can be.

PART 2: DEDICATE



Once we make our commitment, we then dedicate our lives with daily practices that help move us forward.

Here, we lock into the process of becoming great. We become learners. We self educate through books, audio books, podcasts, seminars, and clinics.

We develop our strengths and build our will power. We work to improve our focus and concentration. We seek out a mentor and we surround ourselves with people who make us better.

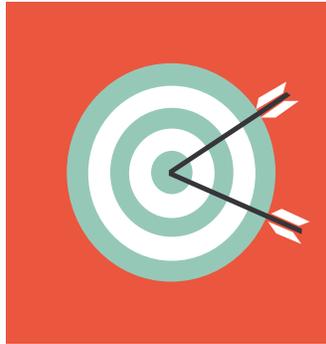
We organize our lives with routines and habits that allow us to take small steps forward each day.

When I think of dedication, the first person that comes to mind is one of our former players, the ultimate competitor, Kevin Garnett.

KG is fanatical about his daily routines. The pre-practice work was where he gained his confidence. The repetition would become ingrained within him, allowing him to stay focused on the task at hand during the chaos of a game.

Similarly to us, if we fully dedicate ourselves to our craft, we will give ourselves a great opportunity to fulfill our own potential.

PART 3: EXECUTE



Step 3 is all about ACTION! We take the accumulation of all our learning and we go into our field and perform.

We zero in on progression. We make mistakes. We push forward. We stay positive. We hone in on our mistakes. We learn from them.

We understand that failure is a necessity in order for us to grow. We don't let it hold us back. We continue to zoom focus in on our goals through a positive lens.

We build on our expertise through our effort. We begin to gain confidence which helps us execute at even higher levels.

For 17 years, Joel Osteen was behind the scenes of Lakewood Church, working to make his father Jon, the pastor, look good.

Joel was content and happy. His father always tried to convince him to deliver the

message one Sunday, but Joel always politely declined.

Finally one day, Joel agreed to his father's request.

The following Sunday, Joel delivered his first sermon as his father listened in from his hospital room after being admitted with a stomach complication.

The next day, Joel's father passed away, but not before getting the chance to hear his son's first sermon.

Joel has gone on to lead Lakewood church the last 17 years. Joel is now seen on television in over 100 countries and he has written 7 NY Times best selling books.

Joel is living his best life all because he decided to push past fear and give this new opportunity a try. He began to chip away and has now unlocked his greatest talents.

PART 4: ENERGIZE



The last and final step is all about energizing the people around us. By using our talents to lift up others, we in turn, re-energize ourselves, allowing us to continually stay fueled on our journeys.

By leading others through positive change, we also preserve our own progress. In the great book, *Connected*, author James Fowler says, “We sustain transformation by associating with others making the same changes.”

When we add value to another person’s life, we not only help them in their lives, but we also supercharge ourselves. As John Maxwell says, “Significance comes from adding value to people.”

As the saying goes, “If you help someone up the hill, you get closer yourself.” Research backs up the give/get effect. When you help others, you’ll feel happier, according to research from Michael Steger, Ph.D., associate professor at Colorado State.

HOW WE CAN BECOME AN ENERGIZER:

- Focus in on bringing out the best in others.
- Elevate the performance of those around us.
- Focus on opportunities rather than constraints.
- Be a connector and encourager.
- Become a multiplier who accelerates development.
- Win over the hearts of others.

By putting the needs of others first, we give ourselves the greatest opportunity to find our true greatness. As Zig Ziglar said, “You can have everything in life you want, if you will just help other people get what they want.”

CONCLUSION

We truly are at our best when we are able to use our strengths for a purpose beyond ourselves. As we begin to unlock our talents, we are not only able to live our best lives, but we are also able to bring out the greatness in those around us.

As it says in Peter 4:10-11, *“Each of you has received a gift to use to serve others.”* When we use our talents to lift up those around us, we find our true greatness.

Make the commitment to start your journey. Begin to learn, grow, and maximize yourself so that you can become your best and help those around you shine.

Keep chipping away at the greatness inside of you!

