

Lesson 1 – The GENIUS of Suffering

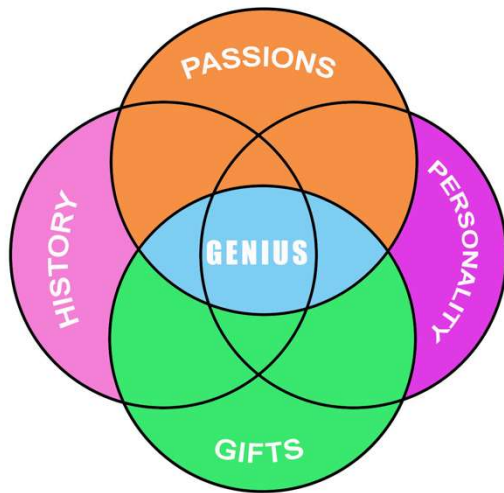
Alfred Adler – “Theory of Compensation”

What we perceive to be disadvantages often prove to be advantages.

As we compensate for these perceived disadvantages, we learn compensatory skills that often become our greatest gift to the world.

The goal of this series is to help you discover, develop, and deploy your unique genius....and do it for the common good.

Genius is who you are when you're the best version of yourself.



Genius is your unique contribution to the common good. Genius is your “X” factor and it has 4 dimensions:

Gifts are manifestations of the spirit.

Motivational gifts: hospitality and generosity; leadership and mercy;

Miraculous gifts: healing and prophecy; words of wisdom and knowledge;

Passions are the 2nd dimension; sadness, anger, happiness. Emotions are cues and clues that reveal God’s purposes.

History is the defining moments that make you who you are.

Personality is how you’re wired. It’s all your curves and all your edges and all your perfect imperfections.

Robert Bly said “Where a man’s wound is.....that is where his genius will be.” If you succeed without suffering.....someone else did. If you suffer without succeeding....someone else will.

Genius is not born of comfort. Genius is born from and born for adversity. Suffering is the seed bed of genius and Joseph is Exhibit A.

Genesis 37 The story of Joseph

Trauma can cause Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Research suggest that about 80% of trauma actually results in post traumatic **growth**.

Favor is the “it” factor. Emotional Intelligence is the “x” factor. Favor is the difference between the best you can do and the best God can do.

According to Daniel Goldman, only about 20% of factors that lead to success have to do with intelligence quotients (IQs). The other 80% is defined by emotional intelligence. Emotional Intelligence is the ability to identify, assess, and control one’s own emotions, the emotions of others, and that of groups.

Genesis 40:1-3 And it came to pass, the cupbearer and baker offended their master, the king of Egypt. Pharaoh became angry with these two officials and he put them in the prison where Joseph was.

God’s in the business of strategically positioning us in the right place at the right time with the right people.

A little suffering will produce a LOT of empathy.

It's been 13 years since Joseph dreamed a dream. Over the course of 13 years, God was cultivating a compensatory skill that would save 2 nations from famine.

Favor is the “it” factor. Emotional intelligence is the “x” factor and it’s a compensatory skill that God cultivates. He cultivates it through pain and suffering.

Philippians 3:10 I want to know Christ in the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his suffering.

This is where you learn the lesson | cultivate the character | curate the change.

Genesis 50:20 You intended to harm me BUT GOD....intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done....the saving of many lives!

Explanatory style - the manner in which you habitually explain to yourself why events happen. Your explanations are more important than your experiences.

If you want to change your life, you have to change your story.

This is where you discover your genius. In your weaknesses, your pain and suffering, your headaches, your heartbreaks, your disadvantages. Suffering is the seedbed of GENIUS.