

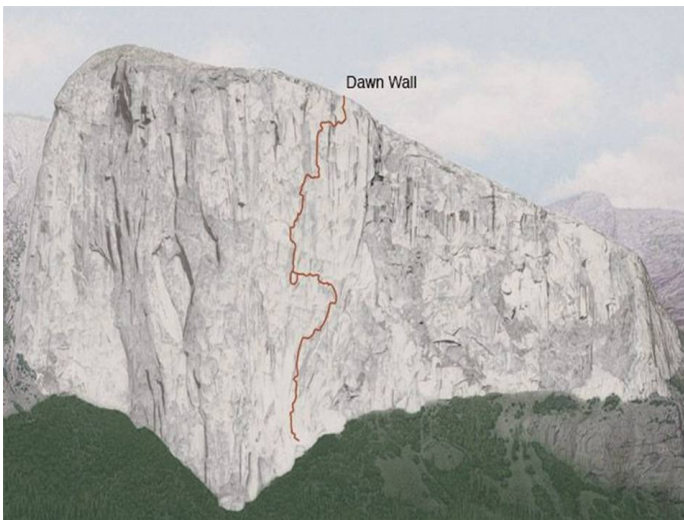


CAREERCOMPASS LLC
Navigate Your Way to Freedom and Fulfillment
Bernie Frazier, SPHR
Speaker and Career Strategist

Rethinking Possible....

Are you cheating yourself?

Two weeks ago, we got to witness history. Two ordinary men, Tommy Caldwell and Kevin Jorgeson, accomplished an extraordinary feat – they reached the summit of the 3,000-foot rock known as El Capitan in Yosemite National Park, marking the first free ascent of a notoriously difficult section called the Dawn Wall.





For Caldwell, this climb represented the realization of a dream. After seven years of dreaming, planning, and nineteen days of climbing, the two men achieved their goal just after 6:00 p.m. EST on January 14, 2015 – dream realized.

"This is not an effort to 'conquer,'" Jorgeson said Tuesday on Twitter, from 2,000 feet (610 meters) up the side of El Capitan. **"It's about realizing a dream."**

After finding out the two men achieved their goal and reading more about their story, I thought, "Wow! I'm impressed on so many levels!"

These two men:

1. Dreamed, planned and executed against this challenge for SEVEN YEARS.
2. They threw out conventional wisdom, which said they shouldn't do this, and attempted it anyway.
3. They worked against many of the traditional methods expert climbers use.
4. Oh, and did I mention that Tommy Caldwell is missing the top knuckle of his left index finger, which he lost to a table saw accident in 2001?
5. They accomplished what no one else has done!





There were plenty of reasons why they shouldn't have attempted this climb, and I'm sure plenty of people reminded them of the reasons! However, their desire to achieve their dream was stronger than the doubts, excuses and fear I'm sure they encountered. They put aside every reason why they could NOT achieve their goal, and focused on why they COULD achieve it.

Even though they made five attempts to climb the Dawn Wall from bottom to top over the last six years without success, they were determined to reach the top.

When asked about their climb after it was over, Caldwell wrote the following on Instagram: *"For me the Dawn Wall is the perfect venue for some of the most important values I want to show [my son] Fitz, Optimism, perseverance, dedication and the importance of dreaming big."*

So, why am I recounting yesterday's news about rock climbing for you?

Because many of you have dreams – dreams for your career that you may not be pursuing because you can't see how to make them happen. You might not be able to see what's really possible for you. You may even say things like:

“I don't have time.”

“I don't have enough money.”

“No one will give ME a chance.”

“Where would I start?”

However, if you take the approach that Tommy Caldwell and Kevin Jorgeson took, I'd bet your career dreams can indeed become your reality. Let's further explore the comments/question above:

I don't have time. There are certain things in this world that help to level the playing field for EVERYONE on the planet – time is one of them. It doesn't matter how smart, rich, good looking, fast or slick you are, you will NEVER, EVER, EVER get more than 24 hours in a day. Yet, many ordinary people with numerous responsibilities manage to accomplish extraordinary things. How? **They maximize every minute of their day** to ensure they have enough time to take even the smallest steps towards their dreams. I encourage you to carefully examine your daily schedule. How many five and 10-minute moments can you find where you could make a phone call, jot down a note or any other quick task you could do to move you closer to realizing your dream.

Terri McMillan, the famous author of the book turned movie, *Waiting to Exhale*, wrote her first book, *Disappearing Acts*, on her lunch breaks at her job. She was a single parent with numerous responsibilities and didn't have much time in the evenings to do this, but she found a way because she had a dream!

I don't have enough money. Nowadays, who does? Most people who have a dream don't have the money but they still have a

people who have a dream don't have the money, but they can have a dream. If they allowed the lack of money to stop them, we would never know of many of the successful people we know of today because they would've allowed a lack of funds to stop them from their pursuit.

When you have a dream for your career (or anything else!), **sometimes you have to look at the acquisition of what you need to achieve that dream as an *investment* and not an *expense*.**

When I walked away from my “good-paying” corporate job to pursue my business full-time, I had saved money for the pursuit, but didn't know how long it would last. I certainly didn't anticipate spending 15% of the money I saved on training and coaching within the first six months! But, I had a dream and knew it was the investment I needed to make in me to help me achieve success.

Tell me, **aren't you worth the investment?**

No one will give ME a chance. On this point, I must agree with you. In most instances, no one will GIVE you a chance – you must earn it. In today's labor market, competition is fierce! There are many qualified and talented people out there searching for the right opportunity. The problem is, many of these same qualified and talented people are competing against each other for the same opportunities!

What are you doing to distinguish yourself from your competition? Have you invested (there's that word again!) in yourself and your career enough to give you a “leg up” with the competition and cause a hiring manager to say, “You're Hired!”?

If not, you are not only short changing yourself and your career dreams, you're also short changing the employer who could truly benefit from what you have to offer.....they just can't see you.

I bet many people dismissed Tommy Caldwell over the years because he was missing a key part of a key finger for climbing. However, he didn't let this stop him. He dug his heels in and found a way to make

it happen. I wonder what the naysayers are saying today?

One of the greatest basketball players in history, Michael Jordan, didn't make his high school basketball team his junior year. But, he didn't let that stop him. He dug his heels in deeper and created a new resolve that he would play basketball....the rest is history. I wonder what the high school coach who cut him would say today? "Oops!"

Where would I start? Start at the beginning. Too often, people consider the size of their dream and it overwhelms them which causes them to run back into their shell and hide. But, I'm going to let you in on a little secret.....**you don't have to start at the culmination of your dream; you start at the beginning!** If you ask most extremely successful people, they will tell you the most difficult step toward achieving a dream is the first step. Once you realize the first step is not quite as scary as it seems, the next steps get easier to take.

If you don't know where to start because you aren't a good planner – find someone to help you. As the saying goes, “A doctor can't perform surgery on him/herself.” The closer you are to something, the harder it is remain objective, and it's next to impossible to see your blind spots. Find someone, even a coach, who can help you see what you can't see and hear what you can't hear. The other person will often be able to share insights and ideas with you that can make planning and starting much easier.

Regardless of your journey, what career dreams do you have yet to fulfill? What limitation(s) do you need to halt and how do you need to rethink what's really possible for you? I know what I've had to do for myself and I know what I still have to do. I'm not quitting and neither should you.

For the climber, Tommy Caldwell, at the end of the Dawn Wall climb he said, “This achievement has come to represent the culmination of all of my years of climbing, and all that climbing has taught me about achieving big goals in life.”



My question for you is what are your big goals? What are you going to do to rethink what's possible for you and go after it?

Let's make what seems impossible possible....together!

I look forward to serving you!

Bernie

To stay up-to-date with the latest, be sure to "Like" me on Facebook and follow me on Twitter.



© CAREERCompass, LLC
www.CareerCompassLLC.com

CAREERCOMPASS, LLC
Navigate Your Way to Freedom and Fulfillment™

Have you downloaded my **FREE** report, ***"7 Powerful Strategies to Navigate Your Next, Best Career Opportunity"*** yet? If not, what are you waiting for?

All you have to do is visit my website, www.CAREERCompassLLC.com, and enter your name and email address on the home page. The report will be

sent directly to you. That's it! You can begin enjoying this 19-page report which is full of great information that can help you propel your career forward.

My mission is to empower people to find FREEDOM and FULFILLMENT in their career. I know this report will help you do just that.

Don't delay!