

Making Life Meaningful claims that when you experience stress, sensations from traumatic events, chronic pain, constant frustration, limited resources, and someone attempts to take your uniqueness away by stereotyping you, your brain goes into the survival mode. Our goal is to make life

meaningful is spite of the suffering and pain you experience.

I: In the survival mode, you may have some of the following feelings and thoughts. You are...

- 1. {} Feeing unsafe and unsure of yourself,
- 2. {} Having numerous negative thoughts in which you think about one adverse event after another,
- 3. {} Feeling sure about decisions with no evidence or reasoning to back up that decision.
- 4. {} Agreeing with others too quickly,
- 5. {} Endorsing a high number of irrational beliefs,
- 6. {} Not recognizing that you are being irrational,
- 7. {} Not wanting to talk about your problems and conflicts,
- 8. {} Not disclosing personal information because you feel ashamed or feel guilty about your actions,
- 9. {} Using rationalizations to justify your negative and self-defeating behaviors,
- 10. {} Disregarding the costs and consequences of your behavior,
- 11. {} Believing you can reach your goals easily,
- 12. {} Making decisions too quickly,
- 13. {} Being controlled by the situation, i.e., "You piss me off."
- 14. {} Thinking and feeling helplessness because no one is addressing your concerns,
- 15. {} Finding fault in others, and you blame them for your negative feelings.
- 16. {} Feeling hopeless,
- 17. {} Believing you *can't* get what you truly want.

II: When you feel calm, and your **prefrontal lobe is active**, you know that you are...

- 1. () Learning and being aware of remote but realistic rewards,
- 2. () Overcoming perceptual distractions, (mindfulness: being in the presence),
- 3. () Extracting and comprehending the relevant stimulus and utilizing competitive inhibition,
- 4. () Realizing interests that have an orientation to reality,
- 5. () Consciously and deliberately developing interests and the means to achieve your chosen goals,
- 6. () Restraining and inhibiting following social expectations,
- 7. () Being persistent and giving your best effort (100%) in completing your responsibilities,
- 8. () Willing to prepare and repeat a process (that works), so others reward you,
- 9. () Anticipating and restraining your willfulness,
- 10. () Using your personality resources to reach short-term,
- 11. () Implementing your cognitive ability to reach short-term.
- 12. () Implementing your cognitive ability to reach long-term goals,
- 13. () Ready making decisions in a systematic and orderly fashion,
- 14. () Solves problems with others in a systematic and orderly fashion,
- 15. () Using relatively firm and logical thinking to integrate your resources and address your concerns,
- 16. () Applying reality-orientated thinking and investing your sense of self in integrated your interests.
- 17. () Applying pragmatic and functional thinking to control and develop your concerns and interests,
 - (These two lists were adapted from the research and work of Raymond Cattell, Personality and Learning Theory, Volume 1, The Structure of Personality in Its Environment, 1979)



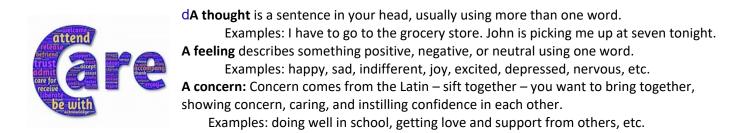
Figure 1: Emotional Brain



Figure 2: Prefrontal - Thinking Brain

you are...

Before we get started, let's review some definitions and principles first. You want to remember that instilling confidence in yourself and others does not take place in a vacuum. So, you want to differentiate between a thought, feeling, and a concern.



These worksheets dealing with Making Life Meaningful by showing concern. In this section, your goal is to increase being receptive to new ideas, having a sense of self-control that is realistic, showing resolve and giving your best effort, and working tough and following through on your responsibilities.

Care vs. Indifference	Concern vs. Anxiety	Confidence vs. Self-Downing
You want to be seen as a responsible person	You interested in dealing with	You have a healthy sense of
when you are dealing with uncertainty. You	uncertainty and coping with	certainty, trust and faith in
know you can cope with apprehension (fear,	apprehension (threat, fear,	yourself, others, and your higher
anxieties). You want to address your	anxieties). You want to focus on	values. As you become more
responsibilities first, so you can better deal	what you are interested in. You	responsible, independent and
with uncertainty and anxiety. You want to	have a high degree of motivation	confident, you take on new
address what you truly care about before you	that will help you to endure	responsibilities and you are
do things you really like to do. (Structure)	frustrations.	account and answerable to others.



Figure 3: The Psychology of Being Unique

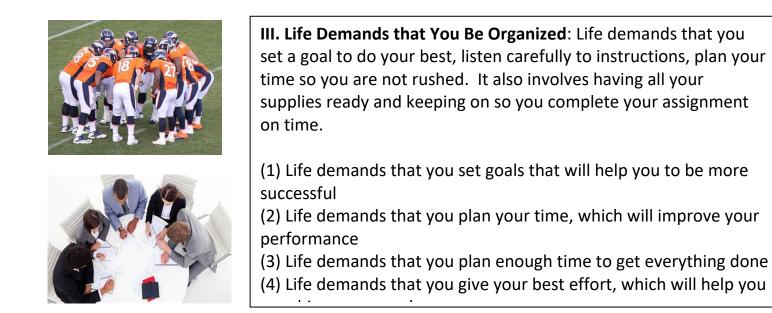
Principles of Expanding Your Uniqueness:

Principle 1: Expressing Your Uniqueness to Others - You want to express your thoughts, feelings, wants, and concerns to important people in your life. If you don't tell them, then they will have to guess, and they usually guess wrong. When they guess incorrectly, you get mad, hurt, anxious, etc.

Principle 2: Seeing Uniqueness in Others - You want to know what another person's concerns, thoughts, feelings, and wants. If you don't, then you will have to guess, and you will most likely guess incorrectly. When you guess incorrectly, they will get mad at you or feel hurt, anxious, etc.

Principle 3: Practicing Your Higher Values Increases Your Ability to be Resilient - You see that caring is a higher value than being indifferent; you know that addressing your concerns is better than being anxious, and you acknowledge that being confident is better than putting yourself down.

Principle 4: Every action you take has negative and positive consequences.



Contents

Not concerned about your responsibilities – (Index #5) Cheat Sheet	5
I don't Feel Like It, so I won't take care of my responsibilities –(Index #5) Worksheet	6
I Don't Have to do My Best Attitude: It is Pointless to Set Goals – (Index #6) Cheat Sheet:	7
I Don't Have to do My Best Attitude: It is Pointless to Set Goals – (Index #6) Worksheet	8
It is Okay to Give Up Index #7	9
It is Okay to Give Up Index #7 Worksheet	. 10
I Can't Be Bothered Attitude - Pointless to be Concerned (Index #8) Cheat Sheet	. 11
I Can't Be Bothered Attitude - Pointless to be Concerned (Index #8) Worksheet	. 12

Goal: You can apply the ABC Model to any situation so you can discover meaningfulness in your life.



A: Adversity - In this serious of worksheets, you will...

- Verbalize your adversities:
- State the conditions, or instances of continued difficulty or adverse fortune;
- Discuss misfortune, difficulty in the past, difficulty occurring now, or
 - Anticipated struggle in the future without re-traumatizing yourself.



B: Basic Attitudes - In this serious of worksheets, you will...

• Identify your basic attitudes: a mental position with regard to a fact and a feeling or emotion toward that fact.

- Allocate the appropriate degree of responsible for your current situation, your feelings and behavior;
- Differentiate your beliefs, desires, personal demands and extreme evaluation.
- Identify possible flip of values, such as responsiveness to self-centeredness, etc.



C: Consequences of Basic Attitudes - In this serious of worksheets, you will...

- Determine the consequences of the adversity accurately.
- Report tension, feelings depressed and anxiety with short episodes of excessive anger, hurt, depressed, (unhealthy-rigid feelings), etc.
- Recognize your self-defeating behaviors, non-productive ways and see how survival mode of thinking impacts your thinking.
- Verbalize any distorted thinking and misperceptions you may have about the adversity.



D: Discover New Ways of Thinking, Feeling, and Behaving - In this serious of worksheets, you will...
Find new way disputing irrational and rigid thinking and find a better way of thinking and solving problems;

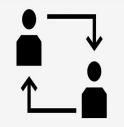
• Increase feelings of resiliency involving concern, sadness, disappointment, sorrow, grief, flexible anger, etc. that are more helpful and which will provide you with the means strengthen wanted emotions and your sense of resiliency.



E: Exercise & Practice New Attitudes - In this serious of worksheets, you will...

- Exercise and practice new attitudes and effective means of addressing adversity;
- Address the adversity and stresses in your life (A),
- Talk about related emotional, behavioral, and cognitive consequences (C);
- Practice desiring without demanding;
 - Learn and practice in using non-extreme evaluations;

Match the five demands of life and how your Higher Values impact on your new vision that will
increases your sense of genuine trust and sincere show of respect.



F: Follow Up: In this serious of worksheets, you will...

- Talk about how your practice (E) went in the past week.
- Complete self-help assignments.
- Discuss if the assigned self-help assignment improved your social situation and emotional life.
- Practice calming yourself down in stressful situation and
- Call upon your higher values of responsible, self-reassurance, taking sensible risks,
- reasonableness, etc. and

• Discover these higher values have a greater influence over your life than self-centeredness, self-doubt, self-perfection, and intolerance to stress.



G: Goal Directed Behavior: In this serious of worksheets, you will...

• Increase goal directed behavior by practicing new ways of thinking, believing, feeling, and behaving that will help your reach your goals;

- Set realistic short-term goals with a flexible plan that will help you to reach your long-term goals.
- Set realistic long-term goals so that that you experience your higher values and
- Discover meaningfulness of the moment.

	responsibilities – (Index #5) Cheat S ess to plan because I'm not open to		deas: vs. Being Recentive	
	 (A) Adversity: Stresses: 			
(C) Consequences of Adversity WARNING: UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES AHEAD	4 Feelings: {} I feel lazy too much, {} I only do things when you feel like it. {} I feel it is okay to have a "I don't Feel Like It" Attitude.	{} Dif {} Go {} po {} Laz work diffic	havior: fficulty paying attention from one issue to another or planning ziness is the unwillingness to c or to take trouble to do a cult task nly do what is fun.	6 Thinking: {} If it is not fun or existing, then I don't want to do it. {} It is pointless to plan my time. {} You don't have to be open to new ideas {} I don't want to be open to suggestions
Addressing You Concerns	or to plan my time. I don't have to do tasks that I don fun. ointless to plan and manage my time ex #5)	ans 't	 (D) Discover New Self-Distancing Techniq 10.(D) Dia 10.(D) Dia Receptive Y ideas, im (N) time to g You can make sure wants before you s You don't like maki making plans, and i goals and make pla You know it is good time, money and re You are capable of boring or full with or 	y Ways of Thinking Using yues: Thinking in the 2 nd Person scover a New Way Thinking e Attitude ou want open and responsive to pressions, or suggestions. Your Name) you can plan enough et things done. you know what that other person tart working on the assignment. ing plans, but you can tolerate it is not horrible to take time to set ins, etc. d to set goal and to manage your esources. making your life so that it is not despair. (Index #)
 8 (D) Discovering Meaningfulness in Certain moments in your life can appear Boredom is the incapacity to take interest, Apathy is the inability to take initiative, and Despair is the incapacity to find meaning in suffering. These signs are a wakeup call that you want to address. Be willing to change things on the fly. 9 (C) Restriction of Uniqueness: When I am bored, apathetic, or I am experiencing despair, 		 {} Frankl b something one day – knocking c {} To disco be open to new ide {} To disco be open to new ide {} You want to be r wants, feelings, an o You are open to re demands. 	scovering Meaningfulness: elieves that meaningfulness is g that does not just bump into you Meaningfulness will not come on your day. wer meaningfulness, you want to eas, new perspectives, and receptive to another person's id thoughts. eceiving and giving in meeting life's cover Constructive Ways to our Uniqueness: acknowledge your uniqueness	
RIGHT o ne	I know my sense of uniqueness ha en restricted because I am not learni w things, and I am unwilling to try no tivities.	ng	without ha {} You are someone e better than yours,	aving to be right all the time. unique and irreplaceable even if else new idea or suggestion that and ent is unrepeatable even if you

	I won't take care of my re	esponsibiliti	es –(Inde	x #5) Worksheet			
Worksheet #1: I de							
R	 (A) Adversity: Stresses: 						
(B) Basic Attitude abou	ut Stress/Trauma/Pain/ that	interferes w	ith	(D) Discove	er New Ways of Thinki	ng Using	
					echniques: Thinking in		
	. 3 (B): Basic Attitude –			.6 (D) Discover a New Way	Thinking	
I Canican	"I Don't Feel Like It" At	titude" – It	is	Change			
I Can I Can I Can I Can I Crairi Can	Pointless to Plan:			Chin Bo			
i Can	 Most activities I do a 	-					
	 I believe it is pointle 						
	plans or to plan my tim						
weis shuttentock.com - 6883800	 I don't have to do ta 	asks that I d	on't				
find exciting	g or fun.						
	s pointless to plan and ma	nage my tin	ne				
	ces. (Index #5)						
Citic Maria	4 (D) Discovering Meaningfo	ulness in		.7 (D) Discovering Meaning	ıfulness:	
WRONG	(C) Restriction of Uniquene	ss:			Discover Constructive eness:	Ways to Expand Your	
(D) Discover New	9 Feelings: How would y	you		ving. What would you		How would you	
	rather feel?		rather d		rather think?		
Change	Why is a willing to receiv			eing receptive and op		to get my way, but	
	than feeling lazy or feeling	ng		deas better than bein		to get my way all	
	stubborn?			tive, closed minded, a	and the time be	ime because	
			not mak	ing plans?			
	12 (F) Follow Up: What wa	as the purpos	e of this e	vercise?			
•							
	13 (F) Follow UP: Talk abo	ut or write al	bout how t	his exercise was meanir	ngful and relevant to yo	pu?	
K	14 (E) Exercise: List three way						
	15 (G) Goal: What goal did y	ou expect to	reach by d	oing this exercise?			
0	Rate from 1 to 4 indicating	if this exerci	ise was hel	pful in reaching your go			
(REVIEW)	0	1		2	3	4	
	Not Helpful	A Little	Helpful	Somewhat Helpful	Helpful	Very Helpful	
			-				

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I Don't Have to do My Best Attitude: It is Pointless to Set Goals – (Index #6) Cheat Sheet:

	y Best Attitude: It is Pointless to Set C Have to do My Best Attitude: It is Pointless		
	 (A) Adversity: Stresses: 		5
3 (C) Consequences of Adversity WARNING: UNINTENDED	 4 Feelings: {} I believe it is pointless to set goals because {} I have no control over my emotions and behavior. 	5 Behavior: {} I can't handle distractions. {} I can't concentrate when people are	6 Thinking: {} I don't think it is important to manage my time and resources. {} I believe that I have no control over my life because life is
(B) Basic Attitude about	{} I feel it is okay to have <i>"I</i> don't <i>have to give my</i> Best Attitude.	making noise	over my life because life is meaningless. w Ways of Thinking Using
Being Organized			ques: Thinking in the 2 nd Person
 When faced with (procrastinating) I have no control I can't handle dis situations, so I de 	 (B): Basic Attitude – : I Don't Have to do My Best Attitude: It is ointless to Set Goals: I think it is pointless to set goals. I don't see the value and meaning in things eople make me do. It is pointless to set goals because I tell hyself, "this activity is stupid, a boring task, I tell myself, "I'll do this later" over my life, so it is pointless to set goals; tractions, frustration or uncomfortable ecide not to do the task. o give up in the face of any degree of frustration. 	10.(D) Realis highe about things You can do your b succeeding in the Setting a goal help Doing your best g	Discover a New Way Thinking stic Self-Regulation Attitude is a r value: (Your Name) you can be concerned the facts and reality and focus on that will help you and not harm you. You can set realistic goals that are vable and worthwhile. best so you have a better chance of
 I believe it is okar complete a speci my time. I have no control 	y to do it later, when others expect me to fic task in an agreed time frame. I can't manage	You can keep youYou can manage y	ssful when you set short-term goals. r commitments and promises. your time. istractions, and you can set your own
8 (D whe or ti abili	<i>Discovering Meaningfulness:</i> Sometimes it is a good idea to put things off n we don't have the necessary skills, resources, me to complete a task to the fullest of our ties.	. 11 • valu will	(D) Discovering Meaningfulness: You are exercising your creative es and your experiential values, which help you do discover the ningfulness of the moment.
WRONG un RIGHT ex	(C) Restriction of Uniqueness: This form of thinking restricts your iqueness. If you don't do your best, then you cannot pand your uniqueness because you'll be doing sks in a half-ass manner.	reality doesn't go • You can recognize	e that each moment is unrepeatable ng that other people always act in the

I Don't Have to do My Best Attitude: It is Pointless to Set Goals – (Index #6) Worksheet

	ave to do My Best Attitud				ttitude	
	1. (A) Adversity: 2. Stresses:					
(B) Basic Attitude about St	ress/Trauma/Pain/ that inter	feres with		[.] New Ways of Thinkir chniques: Thinking in		
myself, " • I have no set goals	3 (B): Basic Attitude – I think it is pointless to se I don't see the value and hings people make me do. It is pointless to set goals hyself, "this activity is stupie When faced with a borin I'll do this later" (procrastir control over my life, so it i undle distractions, frustratic	meaning in because I tell d, g task, I tell hating). s pointless to	H C E M B R N G M B R N G E	D) Discover a New Wo	ay Thinking	
uncomfo the task.	rtable situations, so I decid	e not to do				
4 (D) Dis	covering Meaningfulness in triction of Uniqueness:		1:	scovering Meaningful iscover Constructive V ness:		
Î						
(D) Discover New	9 Feelings: How would you rather feel? {} Confident {} Self-assured I can handle stress.10 Behaving: What would you rather do? {} You value being in control of yourself. {} You want to careful and socially precise. {} You know to avoid actions that will harm your social reputation.11 Thinking: How would you rather think? {} You want to be concern about the facts and reality {} You know that you can on things that will help you				b be concerned ts and reality. hat you can focus	
 12 (F) Follow Up: What was the purpose of this exercise? 13 (F) Follow UP: Talk about or write about how this exercise was meaningful and relevant to you? 						
14 (E) Exercise: List three ways you can be more X?						
15 (G) Goal: What goal did you expect to reach by doing this exercise?						
	Rate from 1 to 4 indi	cating if this ex	ercise was helpful	in reaching your	goals.	
(REVIEW)	0	1	2	3	4	
	Not Helpful	A Little Helpful	Somewhat Helpful	Helpful	Very Helpful	

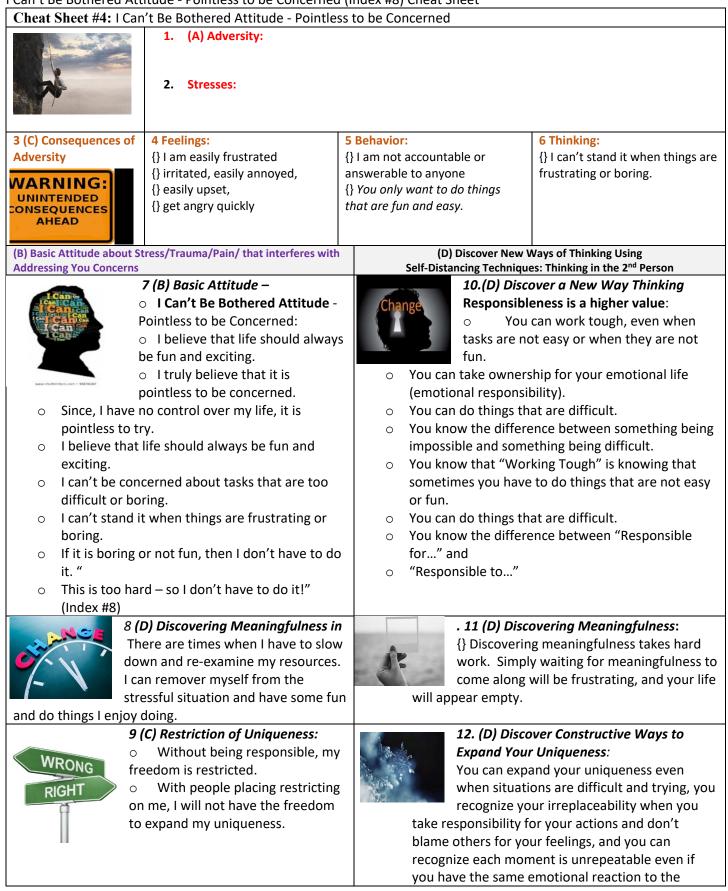
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It is Okay to Give Up Index #7

It is Okay to Give Up Cheat Sheet #3.1 don't	Have to do My Best Attitude: It is Po	intless to Set Goals: vs. having	Self-Regulation Attitude
	 (A) Adversity: Stresses: 		
3 (C) Consequences of Adversity WARNING: UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES AHEAD	<pre>4 Feelings: {} frustrated {} easily bored {} You believe in the "I Feel Like Giving Up Attitude." {} When things don't go your way, you believe it is pointless to try.</pre>	5 Behavior: {} You believe you can blame your addictions, or your ADHD controls your behavior. When things don't go your way, you give up	6 Thinking: {} You devalue trying. {} You want to give up when tasks become too frustrating or boring. {} You believe in luck, or how past has control over your present life
	ress/Trauma/Pain/ that interferes with		Ways of Thinking Using
Controls my cur o It is pointless to what happens to	o try because I have no control over to me. (Index #7)	Self-Distancing Techniques: Thinking in the 2 nd Person 10.(D) Discover a New Way Thinking	
Cert {} So cato	Discovering Meaningfulness in tain moments ometimes we all need to retreat, and th our breath.	<pre>{} Happiness short-lived. {} Giving you things right a see the mean</pre>	overing Meaningfulness: and success are wonderful but r best effort will lead to doing and carefully. This allows you to ningfulness of the moment.
WRONG my RIGHT o	<i>ueness:</i> I give up easily, so I don't expand y uniqueness because developing w skills takes time and effort. I'm too busy blaming other for my elings and actions.	Your Unique {} You can be and develop person does {} You know fail along the way, an You know each mom	e unique by giving you best effort ing your talents even if another not appreciate your talents. you are irreplaceable even if you

It is Okay to Give Up Index #7 Worksheet

Worksheet#3: I don't F	Index #7 Workshee Iave to do My Best Atti 1. (A) Adversity: 2. Stresses:		to Set Goals: vs. havir	ng Self-Regulation	Attitude
	<i>3 (B): Basic Attitude</i> – "I I Attitude" – It is Okay to Pointless to Try: When things don't go believe it is pointless to f I believe that luck, fa additions, or my ADD-H, pr.	Give Up Attitude o my way, I cry. te, my past, my	MBIR ACE MBIR ACE	Discover a New Way	Thinking
happens to me	o try because I have no o . (Index #7)) <i>Discovering Meaningfuln</i>		. 7 (D) Discovering Meanin	gfulness:
5 (C) Res	triction of Uniqueness:		8 (D) D Unique		Nays to Expand Your
(D) Consequences of Adversity	9 Feelings: How would you rather feel? {} you show regret {} you feel remorse	 {} You know that p dependable. {} Yo {} You know peopl {} You keep your p your broken prom agreements and ye {} You tell the tell to consequences of yes 	would you rather do? eople see you as being u know you can be reli e can count on you). romises and You can ru ises. {} You keep your ou can negotiate with the truth and you acce our actions. {} You can xperience remorse.	g you rath iable. {} You va {} You w epair you seri {} You k others. see you pt the dependa	now that people as being
13 (F) Follow Up: What was t) Follow UP: Talk about :) Exercise: List three wa	or write about how t	his exercise was mean	ingful and relevant	to you?
15 (G) Goal: What goal did yo				
REVIEW	Rate from 1 to 4 i	ndicating if this ex	xercise was helpful 2	in reaching you 3	r goals. 4
	Not Helpful	A Little Helpful	Somewhat Helpful	Helpful	Very Helpful



			stress, trauma, and pain past.	you experienced in the
I Can't Be Bothere	d Attitude - Pointless to be	Concerned (Ind	ex #8) Worksheet	
Worksheet#4:				
	1. (A) Adversity: 2. Stresses:			
	. 3 (B): Basic Attitude – "		6 .(D) Discover a	n New Way Thinking
try. I believe t I can't be boring. I can't sta I f it is bori This is too	 I Can't Be Bothered A Pointless to be Concerned I believe that life sho and exciting. I truly believe that it concerned. I truly believe that it concerned. I truly believe that it concerned about tasks that a I hat life should always be fun concerned about tasks that a Ind it when things are frustrating or not fun, then I don't had hard – so I don't have to do Discovering Meaningfulned 	ed: uld always be fun is pointless to be is pointless to and exciting. re too difficult or ting or boring. ive to do it. " it!" (Index #8)	. 7 (D) Discovering	Meaningfulness:
WRONG RIGHT	C) Restriction of Uniqueness:		8 (D) Discover Cor Uniqueness:	nstructive Ways to Expand Your
(D) Consequences	of 9 Feelings: How would you rather feel? {} you show regret {} you feel remorse	 {} You know that dependable. {} {} You know peotection {} You keep you your broken properties agreements and {} You tell the tection consequences of 	w would you rather do? t people see you as being You know you can be reliable. ople can count on you). r promises and You can repair omises. {} You keep your d you can negotiate with others. ell the truth and you accept the of your actions. {} You can readily d experience remorse.	11 Thinking: How would you rather think? {} You value being reliable {} You want people to take you seriously {} You know that people see you as being dependable.
	12 (F) Follow Up: What was t 13 (F) Follow UP: Talk about	he purpose of this		relevant to you?
X	14 (E) Exercise: List three wa			
	15 (G) Goal: What goal did yc	ou expect to reach	by doing this exercise?	
	Rate from 1 to 4 i	ndicating if this	exercise was helpful in reach	ning your goals.

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	0	1	2	3	4
REVIEW	Not Helpful	A Little Helpful	Somewhat Helpful	Helpful	Very Helpful