

The career at the bottom of your toy box.

OR...

Let's give Corinthians 13:11, the day off!



WORKING
CHI

by John Kenific

“When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things.”

— Corinthians 13:11

Who the hell am I to criticize the Bible, right? But, if we really want to change our lives, the **childish things** may be our only true **key to happiness** and growing up.

Ask any child what they want to be when they grow up, and you better clear your schedule for the day, relax and brace yourself for a list of every job you've ever heard—and some you haven't. What is a popcorn shuffleboard operator?

And you know what? You were one of those kids. You had your own version of the grownup world where you were happily living your life as lion tamer to the stars. So what happened? Most likely, your life did. Circumstances, exposure to other interests, as well as the world saying “you can't”, are usually the mix that has us trading dreams in for more “appropriate” careers.

The steps below are designed to rewire your connections to that unfiltered, joyful place where declaring what you wanted to be was as simple as choosing your favorite ice cream flavor.

- 1.) Go back to the first thoughts you can recall...when you played.
What did you play?



2.) What was the first thing you pretended to be? What was the first thing you remember saying you wanted to be?

3.) How long did you hold on to that first, or second, childhood dream career?

4.) If that isn't your current career, what kept you from it?

5.) Does that career still sound appealing to you?

6.) If your childhood dream job isn't what you want now; why not?
Do you know what interests you today?

7.) If you're not sure what your dream job is, consider this: from the time you open your eyes in the morning to the time you close them at night, what brings you the most joy? *And, you can't say "time with family and friends" ... that's a given—unless you see an actual career that is based on being with your family and friends.*



This has to be about you, and only you... we're talking about anything in which you make a personal connection. Remember not to put a predetermined importance on any one thing—that's where we get tripped up. Finding joy in making a sandwich is just as profound as suddenly realizing you'd like to teach children. Now more than ever, anything can be a career. The most important thing is to connect to your 5-year-old self with no filter.

Below, write down anything that you connect with in your day that brings you happiness.

This short quiz is just for you. Not to be scored, nor judged. I bet, for a couple of minutes, you traveled to some place you haven't been to for quite awhile. It's a first step exercise in exploring the 5-year-old you may have left behind too soon. So, refer to these notes if you forget that child, and please continue to find the joy in your everyday as a guide to your dream job.

And seriously, what is a popcorn shuffleboard operator?



*John Kenific is a Certified Professional Coach who works with people in finding their joy. His podcast, **Working Chi with John Kenific**, has been a favorite with those who share John's love of "The Power of the Everyday".*

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