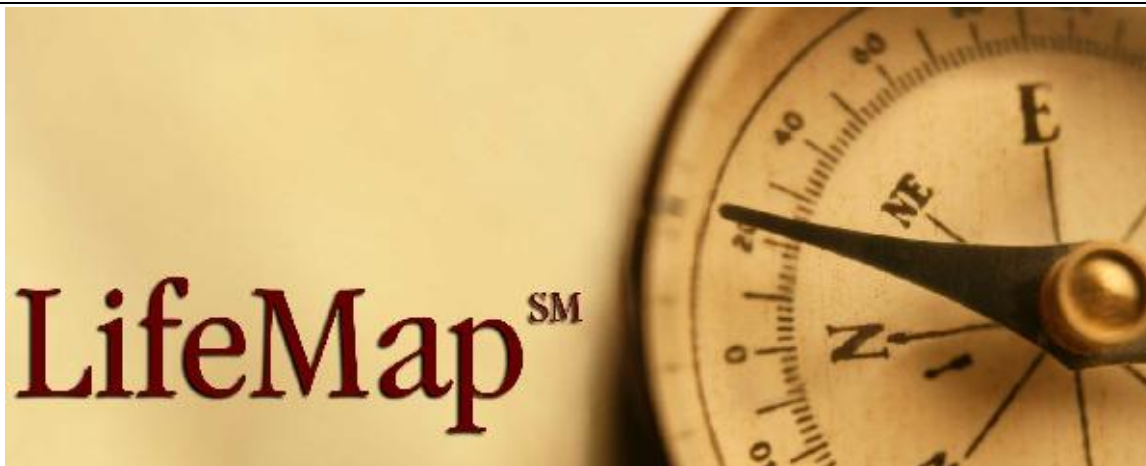


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LifeMap is a navigational tool to help you on your path towards personal and professional success.

Our belief is that you can achieve a more rewarding career, a more productive organization and a more satisfying life.

October 2016

This Month's Message:

More Money Smarts.

Paths Forward:

CAREER BEST SELLER

Tired of boring meetings??

Need Career Coaching?

To subscribe a friend, colleague or family member to this free newsletter - email their address to drpaul@drpaulpowers.com with the subject line "send LifeMap"

More Money Smarts.

As long-time LifeMap subscribers know I usually devote at least one issue per year to addressing the realities and needs of one's financial life. Since this is a topic I am often called to speak on I try to keep up not only with what is currently being published but also, from time to time, revisiting some of the classics in the field to see if they still fit.

Money is a powerful tool; it can do great good and it can do great damage. No one is born knowing what to do with money. Even people who are born with a lot of it aren't born knowing what to do with it, how best to manage it or how to make it work for them in pursuit of their life goals. That's why there are as many riches to rags stories as there are rags to riches stories.

Living an intelligent and successful financial life is not dependant on having a large income. The basics are easy to

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dependent on having a large income. The basics are easy to understand but they won't creep into your head while sleeping. You've got to go get them.

If you got to my web site (drpaulpowers.com) you will find a button leading to the [LifeMap Archive](#). There you will find a PDF (*Financial Resources*) with a list of books I recommend because they are informative, easy to understand, and useful to folks at different stages of their financial life. During the last two years I have read almost two dozen books on the topic of money, investing and financial life in general. This week I am adding five of them to my recommended reading list. Here is a bit of a teaser about each. Make a commitment to yourself and your family to increase your base of knowledge about this essential element of modern life.

Paths Forward:

[The Index Card: Why Personal Finance Doesn't Have to Be Complicated](#)

by Helaine Olen and Harold Pollack
Publisher: Portfolio.

If you read what comes out of most financial firms you might think they were talking about rocket science. I enjoyed this book because it collapses what you NEED to know into nine basic financial rules that can fit on an index card. Yes, each rule requires some explanation but this book does so quickly, simply and understandably. Think you know it all? I bet there's at least one rule you've goofed up on. (Gulp- me too!)

[The Only Investment Guide You'll Ever Need](#)

by Andrew Tobias

Publisher: Mariner Books; 2nd Updated ed. edition

This book has been around for a while and for a long while it wasn't among my favorites. The grandiose and inaccurate title (surely the work of the publisher) didn't help. The recent edition is much improved with info on taking charge of your money, keeping your expenses low (recognizing the difference between need and want), keeping projections /expectations of returns low and improving your credit score. Oh - A.T. has finally come around to the wisdom of John Bogle. Better late than never.

[There Is Life After College: What Parents and Students Should Know About Navigating School to Prepare for the Jobs of Tomorrow](#)

by Jeffrey J. Selingo

Publisher: William Morrow; 1 edition

The traditional paradigm of get into a good school, get a good education and get a good job is dead. DEAD! Why else would your barista be so articulate and well read? Before you or your kid fork over tens of thousands of dollars, go into generational debt or delay retirement to pay for the inflated salaries of college bureaucrats and celebrity professors they'll never meet - - - read this book. It is NOT anti-college. But sorting out the right direction, the right school, a potential work plan, courses, internships & work experiences that employers actually value is a godsend for a career coach (i.e. me) who values financial sanity. Or - let your kid drown in debt, depression and Doritos on your family room hide-a-

in debt, depression and DORTOS on your family room hide a bed while you work into your 80's to help pay off their college loans

[How to Make Your Money Last: The Indispensable Retirement Guide](#)

by Jane Bryant Quinn

Simon & Schuster; 1st Edition

Jane Bryant Quinn must be a fan of Henry David Thoreau who suggests a more enjoyable life if only we "simplify, simplify". And if there's anything that needs simplifying it's Social Security. I don't suggest you do it but if you printed out the 2,700 Social Security regulations you'd discover they are longer than the federal tax code. Ms. Quinn writes concisely and clearly how to get the most out of Social Security. Included is useful (that is: nonpolitical) information about the Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare). All of us are either preparing for, starting, or well into retirement. The information regarding this stage of life can be contradictory and sometimes just plain wrong. Financial decisions regarding this stage of life will affect your outcomes for decades to come. The accessible information in this book will help you to "simplify, simplify" which will reduce some of the complexity around these issues and, thus, lower the predictable stress you'll experience about them.

[No More Champagne: Churchill and His Money](#)

by David Lough

Publisher: Picador

I debated about adding this book to my list but, hey, it's my list. Let me say upfront that as an Irish-American Winston Churchill is no favorite of mine. Of course as a well-educated Irish-American well read in history I'd be no favorite of his; so we're even. I studiously avoid the inane, gossipy, infotainment shows on TV. But, I must confess, I surrender to a bit of voyeuristic thrill when reading the foibles of historical figures held up to us as heroes. I have observed that how many people deal with their finances is a direct reflection of their personality and temperament and how they behave in other areas of life. In regard to his finances Winnie was extravagant (not just in his estimation of himself), an extraordinarily reckless decision maker (often based on a personal bias versus facts) and his risk-taking behavior suggests an addictive personality. These traits were disastrously displayed over the years in such places as Gallipoli (WWI) and North Africa (WWII). In fairness Churchill, despite his flaws, did more than his fair share to save western civilization. For me to recount the sordid money details here would be unseemly (though I thoroughly enjoyed reading them). Why I include this book on a reading list about money and finance is to highlight that success or acclaim in one field does not necessarily transfer to other areas. You can be a great surgeon, a beloved teacher or historical icon and still be an idiot about money.

LifeMap (sm) is about committing to a plan of self-improvement in areas that can affect one's success and enjoyment of life.

CAREER BEST SELLER

For the past 30 years I've surveyed successful job hunters and captured their proven shortcuts, insider knowledge and time-saving / stress-reducing tips.

My new book [Don't Wear Flip-Flops to Your Interview](#) is packed with strategies and techniques that are practical, market-proven, and easy to use. Added to this powerful mix, are the hard-won lessons from the personal experiences of thousands of professionals who have succeeded in the job changing game. It is not necessary for you to struggle to rediscover and reinvent the job hunting process. Here you will find the keys to a more productive, shorter and less stressful job search.



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email drpaul@drpaulpowers.com

LifeMap (sm) is about empowering you to bring the best ideas and practices to your workplace.

Have an issue or question you'd like Dr. Paul to address in a future edition? Send an email to the email address listed below.

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Sincerely,

Dr. Paul

Email: drpaul@drpaulpowers.com

Phone: 941-681-2304

Web: <http://www.drpaulpowers.com>