Introduction

Transformations: Mindset & Behavior Masterclass



About me...

- PhD in Counseling Psychology, after teaching middle school English for 6 yrs
- Diagnosed with type II diabetes in 2001;
 Changed my personal health journey in 2014
- Worked as a therapist in private practice for over 12 years
- Joined TFM team in 2019



Disclaimers...

- Nothing we discuss in the Masterclass is provided as medical advice
- Though I have been trained as a psychologist, I am not your psychologist

How to make the most of this Masterclass...

- Listen, reflect, explore, dig, share, refrain from judging
- Take notes, journal, complete exercises and handouts in syllabus, participate in the forum thread
- Try on new thoughts, behaviors, and habits
- Be kind to yourself!



Creating Rock Solid Motivation

Terri Lance, PhD



Why finding your WHY matters...

- Working on something without a strong WHY or multiple strong WHYs is too hard for your brain
- Your brain doesn't want to use unnecessary effort, and doing hard things gets assessed as unnecessary
- Can you think of difficult things you have done to accomplish important goals—why did you push yourself despite the challenge?
- This journey is simple on paper, but the reality is that you are having to do difficult things, daily

Working hard for something we don't care about is called stress: Working hard for something we love is called passion.

Simon Sinek



If you have glossed over this step in the past, it likely backfired because...

- In order for your brain to be willing to push through resistance and the survival mentality of conserving resources (brain energy), it needs to know you are 150% serious about your goal(s)
- Therefore, the bigger goals you are working to reach have got to be truly based on what matters to you; if it's not important enough, it's not worth it and you will not do it

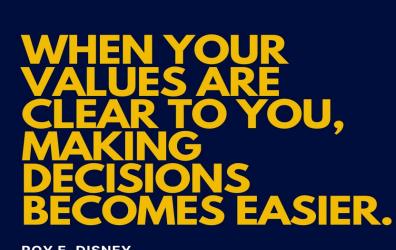
What you are willing to do for your WHY...

- Would you climb this pyramid if your desired outcome were waiting for you at the top?
- Will you work to develop new habits?
- Will you turn down tempting foods?
- Will you eat healthily/fast even though your family or friends don't understand or eat unhealthy things in front of you?
- Will you ride out hunger waves?
- Will you commit to getting the support you need to change your life?



To really figure out your WHY, just look at your values...

- What is it that you value in life?
- What drives you?
- What experiences mean the most to you?
- Is there anything you want to do but are currently unable to because of your health or your weight?



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Uncovering what you value...

- As you dig deep into the core reasons you are engaging in this journey, the key to rock solid motivation is identifying a clear sense of what you will experience when you make progress
 - Do you want to travel and have mobility and energy to explore?
 - Do you want to feel comfortable in clothes that you love or that suit your purposes?
 - Is it important to you to set a good example for others in your life (spouse/partner, kids, siblings, parents, friends)?
 - How do you want to feel...physically, emotionally, mentally?
 - Do you want freedom from the constant wrestling match you have been navigating in your relationship with food?
- The sky is the limit here

Things you value avoiding...

• For some of us, things we want to avoid can be powerful motivators

 Is there anything related to obesity or metabolic syndrome you want to





Now you have identified your WHYs, but there's more...



- Having a good sense of what you truly want is not enough to translate your desires into success
- Now it is time to define your targeted GOALS
 - SMART goals and how they have backfired for many of us
 - Specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, time-bound
 - When you set goals like "I will lose 10 lbs by Sept 1", you are focusing only on the outcome and not the process
 - Instead, set a SMART goal that actually defines what you will DO to reach the desired outcome (e.g., Between now and Sept 1, I will do three 24-42 hr fasts per week, and when I eat only at scheduled meal times, I will consume only foods that I know work well for my body)
 - Using a tool to help track your action steps can be helpful

Last but not least, daily commitment will spell success...

- There is a big difference between having intentions vs having commitment
- If you are not 100% sure you can adhere to your planned action steps laid out in your goals, revise the goal
- You will likely experience resistance and ambivalence in this change process—these are not signs of weakness or reasons you cannot succeed

