



LIVING WITH UNCERTAINTY

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Life is full of uncertainties. We might get up each and every day with concrete plans and strategies on how our entire day will go, but somehow, somewhere, there's always a Murphy's law that could easily place us in moments of doubt, moments of asking. We employ mobile devices to keep track of certain milestones or events in our lives, yet who is to say that we will ever reach those milestones or get to those events? Planners and organizers don't work when everything else has gone wrong. In such cases, all we end up is a reminder of what could have been. Pen on paper, graphics on LCD. What's the certainty in that?

We might have the best careers at present. We share laughs with colleagues we have come to love and share our busiest moments with the people we serve or the masters we work for. But who is to say that our jobs will continue to be stalwart incarnations of our dreams and ambitions? Who is to say that the industries we work in will not fold up five, ten or twenty years from now? With the way one successful business enterprise can spawn a wealth of copycats and wannabe's, the next year might very well be the last.

This is precisely why strategists and planners make a lot of money. They take the speculative aspects of anything and readily turn them to easily workable, seemingly concrete solutions that can work in the future. They have a host of tools and devices to do such: financial planners have financial modeling software; wedding planners have a network of contacts that assist them in all eventualities; advisors employ a battery of technological procedures to examine and scrutinize in the best ways possible whether something will work and where it is bound to fail.

Wow, how I personally wish I had a crystal ball so I would know how much longer I can be of service to my children, or how much longer I can enjoy doing what I've been doing. But on second thought, what if I had the certainty of knowing what lies next at the other end of the road? Wouldn't that debase the genuine pleasure that I have felt for each significant milestone, or take away the fun out of not knowing well ahead in advance?

The only weapon we have in an uncertain world is faith. We may not have the technology to see the future and become certain of our actions. But it is precisely our strong belief and faith in ourselves that we can rely on to see us through even the most uncertain of times. Be certain of your faith, even if your fate faces much uncertainty.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. What are your greatest sources of uncertainty in life? Why do you consider them so?
2. How certain are you of your future success?
3. How do you deal with an uncertain future? Your uncertainties in life?
4. How do you feel when something you are certain of fails to materialize? How do you deal with such a situation?
5. Define faith. What makes it special?