

Can money fill the vacuum in life?

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Yesterday a bright management student visited me to discuss his career options. From his discussion, I realized that he wanted to be an entrepreneur. However, his concern was money and wealth. He wanted to pursue job for two years, create some corpus and then start his profession. He wanted security of money.

"There is no amount of money in the world that will make you comfortable if you are not comfortable with yourself." - Stuart Wilde

I hear similar kind of concerns on regular basis. Ramesh Mehta had a nice bungalow, large investment portfolio; his children were well settled in life. Since last five years he has been delaying his retirement because he wanted to build certain corpus of wealth before he can wind up. He always thought money and wealth would give him independence.

"If money is your hope for independence, you will never have it. The only real security that a man will have in this world is a reserve of knowledge, experience, and ability." - [Henry Ford](#)

In the age of capitalism and consumerism, most families feel, once they have certain amount of wealth they will be happy. Rao and his wife were physically fit. Even at age 50 and 48 they could walk for miles. Their family and friends cared for them. They were well respected in society for their knowledge and kind-heartedness yet they always felt sad. They never had kind of wealth their peers had.

One of the founder fathers of USA - Benjamin Franklin, had several decades ago said "Money never made a man happy yet, nor will it. There is nothing in its nature to produce happiness. The more a man has, the more he wants. Instead of filling a vacuum, it makes one."

This is true even today. In our pursuit for security, independence and happiness, we forget our own selves

"It's pretty hard to tell what does bring happiness. Poverty and wealth have both failed." – Anonymous.

There is no way I am suggesting do not earn money and create wealth. We are social animals. We have to fulfill our necessities of food, clothing, shelter and also look after health and education etc. All these require money. These are necessities. If they are not fulfilled then we could be in misery. To fulfill these necessities, we need money. However once they are fulfilled, we move to higher level. Level of pleasure, happiness, independence and bliss - those levels cannot be achieved with the help of money.

Most of us do not move from the level of security and basic necessities to the level of bliss because we get stuck on to money.

Earn well and create wealth but do not think it will ever give you happiness. Your happiness is only dependent on you and your inner self.

- Gaurav Mashruwala

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