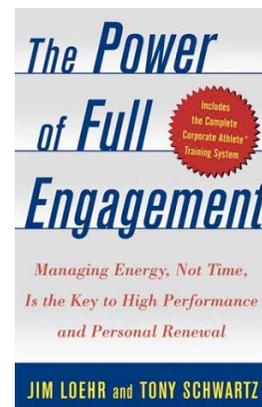


[For Lawyers: Questions to Help You Figure Out Your Purpose](#)

Posted by [Cordell Parvin](#) on June 17, 2011

One of my favorite books on my reading list is [The Power of Full Engagement: Managing Energy, Not Time, Is the Key to High Performance and Personal Renewal](#) by Jim Loehr and Tony Schwartz. I urge every busy lawyer I coach to read the book. I have given copies away to lawyers for years.

In 2007, I wrote about some of the main points in the book [The Power of Full Engagement blog post](#). Take a look at my blog post and this short [book review](#) you might find helpful to get you started.



As you will see in the review, the authors suggest jumping ahead in your life and asking yourself four questions that will help you find your purpose. I especially think it is valuable to ask yourself: "Who are you at your best?"

When I worked with associates in my firm, I suggested they answer these questions:

- Why did you decide you wanted to become a lawyer?
- Why do you want to be a lawyer now?
- Who is the lawyer you admire most and why do you admire that lawyer?
- How would you define your own career success and when will you know you have achieved it?
- What values are most important to you?
- What do you want to be working on and for whom five years from now?

In a presentation I gave to the Texas Young Lawyers Association (TYLA) members, I talked about finding your purpose. Here is that part of the [presentation](#).

Cordell Parvin Blog

DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LAW FIRM RAINMAKERS

Cordell M. Parvin built a national construction practice during his 35 years practicing law. At Jenkins & Gilchrist, Mr. Parvin was the Construction Law Practice Group Leader and was also responsible for the firm's attorney development practice. While there he taught client development and created a coaching program for junior partners. In 2005, Mr. Parvin left the firm and started Cordell Parvin LLC. He now works with lawyers and law firms on career development and planning and client development. He is the co-author of ***Say Ciao to Chow Mein: Conquering Career Burnout*** and other books for lawyers. To learn more visit his Web site, www.cordellparvin.com or contact him at cparvin@cordellparvin.com.