MaxAMAZING[™] Your Retirement

Does Your Advisor Get You?

In a professional Client/Financial Advisor relationship, the only TRULY important measure for you—the client—is the effectiveness of the planning and the performance of the financial strategies and instruments put in place to meet your needs.

You need a relationship that increases the likelihood you will maximize your financial success with confidence.

There are 3 Facets of a Client/Financial Advisor Relationship that support that understanding:

- Robust Financial Planning: thorough plans that account for each area of concern
- Fiduciary Commitment: delivering the best product without regard how the advisor may benefit
- o Individually Tailored: aligning finances to meet your specific Life Goals, Hopes and Dreams

Your Financial Advisor....

5 Levels of Client/Financial Advisor Connectedness

1) Is intimately familiar with your personal goals for your finances, knowing what you want your money to do to make your life amazing, ...totally 2) Has reviewed all the aspects of your financial plan and provided an assessment and advice on most or all the following: investments, income gets you! 3) Your contacts are frequent, connecting about money and life issues.

...mostly gets you.

- 1) Has a lot interest in your life goals, hopes and dreams, and really is concerned about your well-being,
 - 2) Is quite familiar with the details of your finances and may well have most of your financial planning needs covered, 3) Your contacts are quite frequent and are a balance between your personal and financial matters.

...kind of gets you.

- 1) Knows something about your life (your hopes, goals and personal aspirations for your money)
 - 2) Is pretty familiar with the details of your finances; may well have several of your planning needs covered,

 3) Your contacts are somewhat frequent and include your personal matters to some extent.

...barely gets you.

- 1) Doesn't really know much about my personal goals and life aspirations,
 - 2) Is somewhat familiar with your financial details with some of your planning needs covered,
 - *3) Your contacts are infrequent and only about finances.*

...doesn't get you at all!

- 1) Has no interest in your personal goals or dreams for your finances
- 2) Is casually familiar with your finances and might only have a very small portion of your financial planning needs covered,
- 3) Dealings are strictly business, and your contacts are infrequent.

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Not all Financial Advisors cover the 5 disciplines of Financial Planning. Make sure yours does!

Create Wealth

Generate Income

Neutralize Risk

Minimize Taxes

Transfer Wealth

Not all financial advisors are equally skilled and experienced in the many disciplines of financial planning to be able to deliver equal results. It's advisable to choose an advisor who, 1) has a *FIDUCIARY* obligation like the qualification of Certified Financial Planner™ practitioner. A Fiduciary commitment means, the advisor has to act in your best interest.

2) is licensed to offer a wide variety of financial instruments.

For example, if they have several products to offer you, you want an advisor who will choose the BEST one for you, not just any good one (because they're only licensed to offer that one, or because it gives them a better commission).

Financial effectiveness should be the singular objective for a client when working with a financial advisor.

It may be challenging for a client to know if the advisor is actually doing a good job. Here are a few goals to have for your Financial Advisor. They should:

- Know your Life Goals, Hopes and Dreams
- Know your financial resources
- Know your financial understanding and limitations, and preferences
- Structure your finances to meet your objectives efficiently & effectively
- Communicate and review the plan regularly, modifying as needed

Tips for Analyzing Your Score

AFTER YOU TAKE THE SURVEY: Read the blue description on the other side of this resource that corresponds to your survey score. If the description over-states or understates your actual experience, it may indicate an imbalance in your relationship with your Advisor (i.e., there may be one facet they do very well in, and another they do very poorly in).

Consider two possibilities:

- Might you be over-prioritizing the personal relationship aspect of your dealings to the detriment of your finances. In this case, your advisor might be a long-time contact you feel connected to as a friend, but their financial abilities may be limited.
- Might your actual experience reveal that you do not have a financial professional who is sufficiently knowledgeable to meet your financial needs. Be sure to express any concerns or dissatisfaction you may have about your financial performance and any other aspects of your dealings that are not satisfactory with your service professional.

In both cases, it's advisable that you seek another financial advisor to get a second opinion.



Although a personal relationship is great, it does have a possible drawback—it could come to overshadow the goal of the relationship: *financial results*. As important as it is that your advisor "gets you," it is even more important that your financial advisor has the capabilities and skills to optimize your financial outcome.

Keep in mind, your financial advisor is engaged to provide a service and work on your behalf. Remember, your advisor is not your buddy. Your advisor has a job: to work for you.