

# Project Management on Two Wheels

## Passion and Profession

I was once told that I should never convert my passions into my work, and I agree. But I cannot work without passion, therefore I try hard to ensure I have harmony in life and enough adventure to be creative. Motorcycling provides an opportunity to not only have adventure but also riding becomes a mindful practice for meditation, and a mechanism to learn. I have learned so much about my profession through riding; I have learned about teamwork, finances, planning, risk management, and more than anything I have learned about authentic leadership.

## Lessons Learned

What kind of things did I learn when on my two wheels in 26 months? The main five:

- 1) **Life is a project itself; it has a beginning and it has an end.** If we plan for this important project, things (experiences, results, etc.) will likely be more *in tune* with what we expect out of life. Like in any project, the plan is only a road map; the reality is sometimes, that the piece of road you saw in the map when planning a route the night before, may not exist the next morning.
- 2) **Select the right team whether it is a friendship, a marriage, or a company.** You simply have to get the right people on board. I can tell when I am with the right people because I can only desire to have more of their time, and after having spent 24/7 over 26 months with Brian I simply confirmed I could go to the moon with this guy and be there forever, or live through the zombie apocalypse, or though COVID-19. That is how I want to feel with other people/teams, that we could go to the moon, be stuck there, and figure out what to do or how to do it without feeling stuck. I want to feel as though I have a place in this world.
- 3) **Find the real “why” when making decisions in life.** We had a very small budget for traveling with two motorcycles and to give you an idea about that budget, we had \$5/day for food; no wonder why we were fit. We had to make decisions about buying peanut butter or buying avocados but could not have both and that came down to the why. Whether it is peanut butter or the next job, find the real why.
- 4) **Don’t wait.** I love this one because I am good at waiting but internally, I am creating the plan to execute when the time is right and at that, point I wait no more. This does not mean you cannot think and follow your instincts; this means look/think/act. We had to constantly follow our guts to make decisions on the road and even though I speak Spanish and most of the times I understood what was going on in Spanish speaking countries, I had to learn to make decisions by confronting realities, asking questions, and not waiting. Waiting only places us in the dark and when the dark comes, zombies come!
- 5) **Enjoy, savour life.** What is the point on any decision made if the enjoyment will not be there? Be present! When we had to put our lives on top of two wheels, we had no choice but to be present. that helped me a lot to understand that what I start does not matter, but what I finish counts and the only way I can finish something is by actually being present; otherwise, many things get started but not many things get actually finished.

