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Context to the nugget conversation

Chris speaks about how Roger thought about success at various points in time but at the same time was sowing the seeds for his next innings of his life (e.g. the connect with Bill Gates in the context of his Foundation).

Transcription

Deepak Jayaraman (DJ): And we talk about success, maybe if I could persist for another minute or two, how does a person like him set goal posts? When you are at the cutting edge of redefining a lot of playbooks, what is your take on how people like Roger think about success?

Christopher Clarey (CC): Well, again, he is somebody who is spontaneous inside the lines and more considered outside the lines and he tends to think medium to long term. You talk to him about his schedule sometimes in the prime of his career and he knew where he was going to be like a year and a half out, he knew his schedule. A lot of guys might be six months, nine months, Roger like knew what meeting he was going to be in on a day in July, a year before, what part of the world, what court he would be on and it was very very planned out. So that Swiss side, that regimented organized side, and there is probably more the South African, even a Latin side doing where it was letting it flow, letting it go. And in terms of his goal setting, he seemed to be to me pretty methodical, pretty systematic about that. And he and Tony Godsick, his long-term agent now, interrupted his period of independence, has been his main guy for a long time. They do a lot of planning meetings, a lot of strategic thinking, and this pivot to On running, pivot to Roger investing in sports companies, we have not talked about his foundation at all today but that is a huge part of his future plans as well. Roger Federer Foundation, many athletes and stars have foundations, he started his when he was quite young, his family is quite involved, he wants to really make an impact with education around the world for youth, primary school in particular, he has made a lot of connections with Bill Gates through tennis exhibitions and just general picking his brain, that is not by coincidence. Roger likes to find a mentor for the next chapter in his life, get to know them, enjoy that connection but also learn from that and that is something he has done throughout his career, it is been a pattern.

Reflections from Deepak Jayaraman

DJ: What I find fascinating about some of the people who have been thoughtful about their journeys is that they have been sowing seeds well before the turn. In that context, I remember speaking to Ashish Dhawan (AD) who transitioned from ChrysCapital to start his journey in Philanthropy and Social Impact. He speaks about how he is sowing the seeds for his future.

AD: *"I am 51 now till at least 55, but do I have a sort of slightly wider portfolio of initiatives where I am going beyond education, so that's for me is maybe the next move. I have already started seeding that in some ways. I set up a foundation to focus on air quality, I have got a couple of initiatives been seeded, that are around talent development in this sector, I have set up the China India Foundation that looks at learning from China not looking at geopolitical issues which obviously are very controversial. So, I have floated a few of these new things really because I have multiple interests and what I have learnt from how I can drive impact in education, can I do it in a more leveraged way in a few other sectors is something that's of interest to me. And beyond that I don't know, I mean, could I write a book someday or do some of that possibly? I am also very focused on having fun in life, I mean, you only have one life so it's, I mean, it's not that I don't have fun right now, I do, I have a great time but maybe at some point in life just saying that I just want to just chill a little bit and not always feeling like I need to be a producer but also just enjoying being a pure consumer. So, I joke with my wife that I am going to buy a bar on the beach and that would be next life, serving drinks to people who are working really hard and need a break but yeah something different. And so, I don't know exactly what that is but yeah, and I do have many other interests in life that is unfulfilled around languages, around living in certain places so who knows."*

DJ: Coming back to Roger, it would be fascinating to see how he crafts his next innings. Can't wait to see how that evolves.

Thank you for listening

End of nugget transcription

Nugget from Ashish Dhawan that is referenced: [Planting seeds for the future](#).

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About Deepak Jayaraman

Deepak seeks to unlock the human potential of senior executive's / leadership teams by working with them as an Executive Coach / Sounding Board / Transition Advisor. You can know more about his work [here](#).

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