**My Recommendations for Exploring Your Gallup Strengthsfinder Portal**

**Cynthia Pladziewicz, J.D., Ph. D.**

**214-769-9241**

**cpladz@gmail.com**

**Explore the Portal**

Go to gallupstrengthscenter.com

Sign in using the email used and password created when you took the assessment

You have arrived at your Dashboard. Notice that your top 5 talent themes are listed with a link to a video and a PDF describing that theme. Watch the videos and read/download the PDFs.

If you have trouble accessing the video or theme PDF or if you want to see all 34 PDFs and Videos, follow these links:

All 34 PDFs: Go to Stagen Strengthsfinder Training Program Dropbox

All 34 Videos: Go to Link below

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LERZ2sqOIHs&list=PLnXHfRGsp-ZGX3YQorhKc6YGqDYs3LiZx

Download the Reports available for download on your Gallup Dashboard:

* Signature Themes Report-gives a generic description of you top 5 talent themes. My preferred report as a starting point for exploring strengths because it describes each talent theme in its pure form. As you read the report you will notice that each talent theme is comprised of multiple descriptors (each of these is a talent). Because the theme is in your top 5, many of the talents described will resonate for you, but not necessarily all. Highlight those that resonate for you.
* Strengths Insight Guide and Action Planning Guide provides:
  + Strengths Insights (not that helpful, in my opinion) a customized description of you top 5 talent themes, emphasizing those talents that apply to you and suggesting ways that your themes impact each other. For this reason, each theme description may be embellished with descriptors from other talent themes (within and beyond your top 5). So for example, my number 1 Strategic talent theme description in the Strengths Insight Guide includes many references to creative and futuristic thinking, which come from my Ideation and Futuristic talent themes. Others with Strategic but not Futuristic and Ideation would not see these references in their Strategic Theme Descirption on their Strengths Insight Guide. I don’t find this helpful and think it makes the description sound like a bad horoscope
  + Action Planning Guide (very helpful)-Questions, Ideas for Action and Signs of Achievement (quotes from others who share this theme on how they see this theme creating success in their lives).

**Try Using Your Action Planning Guide On a Project or Initative you Care Deeply About**

* Review the Ideas for Action
* After each Idea insert the phrase “to advance on this project” (sort of like the old game of inserting the phrase “in bed” at the end of your fortune cookie fortune
* Choose 5-6 ideas that you will implement to advance the project or initiative

**Using the Strengthsfinder 2.0 Book (free download)**

* Download the StrengthsFinder 2.0 Ebook: the link appears on your Dashboard just below the list of available reports. The book is most helpful for Chapter 1 which explains the assessment and for use as a reference book to look up detailed information on each talent theme as you go deeper into your 34 and as you explore the talent themes of others.

**Resources Beyond the Dashboard**

* Download the Clifton Strengths App on iTunes or android
* Gallup YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/user/GallupStrengths>

* Gallup Resource Page (contains links to all podcasts, webcasts, books and events sponsored by Gallup

<https://www.gallupstrengthscenter.com/Home/en-US/CliftonStrengths-Resources-Learning>

* Integrate Strenthsfinder with Information from Other Assessments (an Advanced Move)
  + Strengthsfinder compared to Enneagram (with comments also incorporating spiral dynamics)
    - <http://coaching.gallup.com/2018/02/a-comparison-of-cliftonstrengths-and.html?utm_source=coaches-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CoachesNewsletter_USA-040418&utm_content> =comparingCSassessment-TextLink-7
* Learn more about using Strengthsfinder in organizations and with teams
  + <https://www.gallupstrengthscenter.com/home/en-us/cliftonstrengths-for-organizations>
  + Be sure to scroll down on the page