



Olumuyiwa Akinrole Oludayo

How I Became Friends with Wealthy People

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Be intentional about the things you want in life. Many people aren't deliberate in their pursuits. Their desires end up as wishful thinking because they are not tenacious in their quest for greatness.

One hallmark and distinguishing factor of the wealthy is that they are certain about the investment of their time and energy. They don't guess their next adventure. They are calculated risk takers and would go to any length to see their desires manifest.

These people have a lot to share with others. Their personality is attractive, their results are worthy of emulation, their mindset is a reservoir of wisdom, and their actions reveal responsibility. They represent desired future experiences. Being friends with the wealthy doesn't happen by chance. I have had the privilege of nurturing friendships with a number of wealthy people. Demographic differences have not deterred me from keeping them in my circle. I took time to review the reasons we are still bonded and I think I found a few.

I knew a number of these wealthy friends of mine before they became rich in the accumulation of material resources. I met a few others in their state of affluence. I like the company I keep with them; it has sharpened and shaped my philosophy about life.



1. Add Value to Them: Identify what they consider important and see how you can help improve, protect, or multiply it. Identify projects they are seeking to pursue and see how you can connect them to people, information, or resources that will facilitate the realization of those projects.

2. Acknowledge their Need for Privacy: Get close to their family but as far as they permit you. Don't try to make uncanny jokes about their loved ones. Know their business in ways they will be comfortable with. Never share what they reveal to you. Be trusted for confidentiality.



3. Be Gracious towards them: Compliment their good work. Appreciate their gestures. Give gifts to them by getting them the things they need and value. It is not about the cost of the item as much as it is about the thoughtfulness of the act.

4. Keep in Touch: Send them messages once in a while to let them know you are thinking of them. Be open to their invitations. Socialise with them. Attend their speaking or performance events.



5. Be Aligned with their Philosophy: The wealthy will keep you around if you share similar mindsets with them. They always think big about their quests. They value and prioritise others. They have strong work ethics and are always original.

6. Show Personal Progress: Project definiteness of purpose in your actions. They keep progressive minded people. Make them accountability partners to support your transitions. Let them know how they positively influenced your growth.



Building Wealthy Friendships



You don't know what you have until you ask those you know. You suffer because you don't know what your relationships can offer. I treasure the relationship I have with my wealthy friends because it has brought growth to me and I have realized that my perspective is a huge influencer of my experience.



3 VITAL LESSONS FROM MY WEALTHY FRIENDS

I have consciously kept relationships that add value to me. I have made a lot of errors in engaging with a few but I have learnt a lot from more. One major approach to drawing value from my friends is by making inquiries based on observation. The things my wealthy friends have taught me can be summarised thus:

1. Income is the foundation to accumulation of wealth

All my wealthy friends are income producers. Their wealth is traceable to the income they have produced. I observed that they:

a. Identify a service to render. My rich friends possess a strong sense of contextual intelligence. They know services that should be created, innovated and terminated. They initiate services based on societal needs. They improve on existing services by understanding the changing expectations of consumers. They explore the value chain of industries and determine what kind of services to render. They don't just bring up ideas, they render services that shape industries from a simple and relatable approach. My wealthy friends don't assume they will get instant success as they render their services. They have identified the cost of achieving their goals and are prepared to go the long haul by paying the required price.

b. Develop capacity to render the chosen service. My rich friends have developed a habit of personal and continuous development. They are committed to building capacity that gives them an edge in their pursuit of excellent service delivery. My wealthy friends pay attention to books and mentally stimulating events that widen their perspective and deepens their competence. They know that they can't deliver value if they don't possess value. They invest greatly in themselves and in their team. Their desire to lead their market makes personal and professional development a non-negotiable virtue.

c. Increase the number of services rendered. My rich pals know that opportunities abound in everything they do. They have keen eyes that spot gold. They take advantage of their abilities to identify opportunities by creating multiple income sources. They build more than one business. They render more than one service. They focus on doing many things that can solve problems and add commercial value to their commitment. They maximise their potential because it has the capacity to produce results in more than one service area.

2. Resource Management is key to accumulation of wealth.

My wealthy friends are resource management savvy. They don't assume knowledge of managing their income when they can leverage on insights that can maximise its powers to produce more. They manage their resources thus:

a. Set a wealth index goal: My wealthy friends know what they want. They are clear as to what they want to achieve. They are not ambiguous in setting their targets. They are intentional, specific and deliberate. My rich friends set financial goals they can assess periodically. They are very sincere about these goals. They stretch the possibilities of their financial targets. They are not daydreamers because their goals have paths to accomplishment. My rich friends are very conscious of time. They put time frames on their goals no matter how large it seems.

b. Cultivate a habit of saving from your earnings: I have seen my rich friends set aside a portion of their income as a provision for their future desires. When they earn from their services, they adopt strategies that puts aside part of that income. I have seen my friends save a portion of their income for emergencies, vacations, fees and gratifications. My friends have mastered gratification by setting a timeline for attending to it. I have seen my rich friends give rewards to themselves for achieving their savings targets.

c. Multiply the power of your earnings by investments: I have heard my rich friends say that saving their resources do not have as much power to enable the future as investments. I have seen my rich friends put their resources to work. They have embraced money market investments, real estate investments, investment in business concerns and many more. They know that the ability to increase their resources is in committing the resource to another service that can produce more income.

d. Control your gratifications: My friends live good lives: They do not deprive themselves of the best that life can offer which money can afford. They know that with more resources comes more options and with more options come greater temptations for increased consumption. My rich friends don't deny themselves rather they schedule the time they should indulge. Their indulgences and leisures come as rewards for producing results and necessities to stimulate creativity and foster stronger bonds and ties with others.



e. Adopt a philosophy for wealth management: My friends behave in a manner that is comely to wealthy individuals. They use language appropriately and communicate graciously. My rich friends are not given to moral relativism and situational ethics. They act based on prioritised values. Their behaviour is guided principles that guarantee sustainable results.



3. Leave a legacy through worthy causes

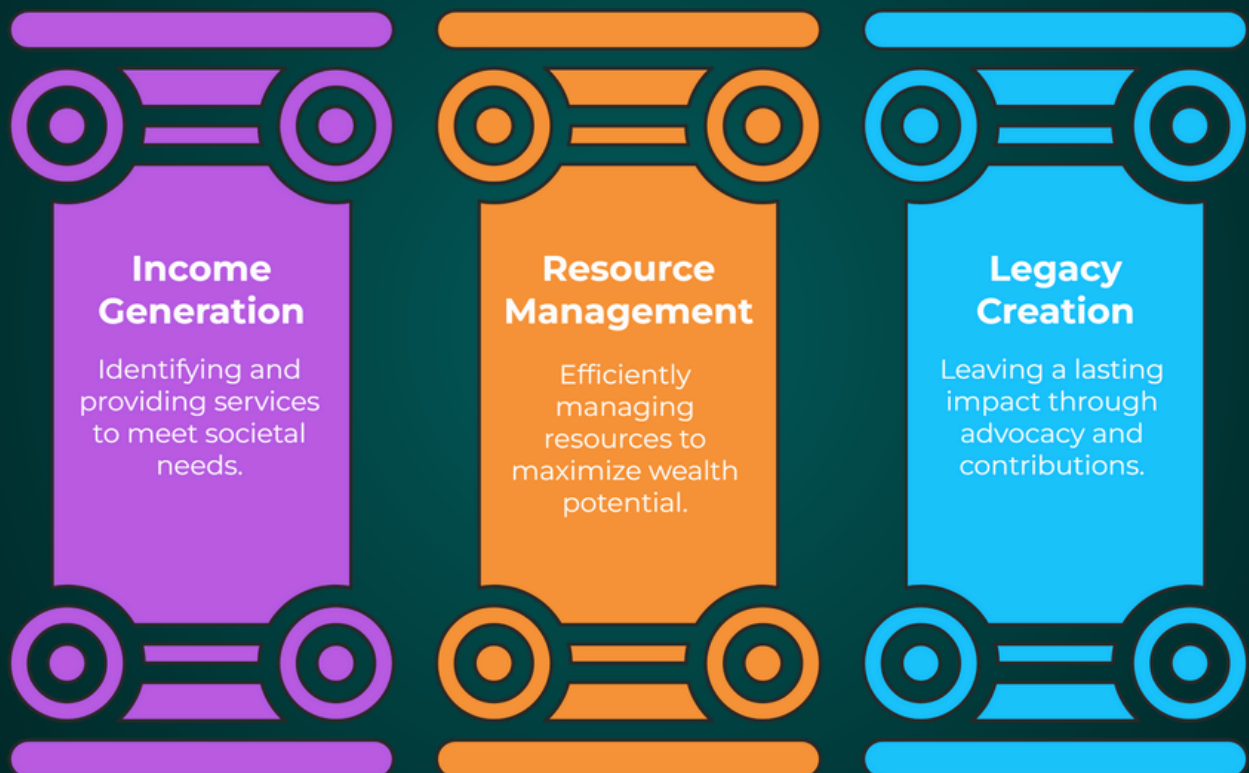
The demography of my rich friends span across the young and old. One striking thing about them is that they are conscious of their limited availability on the terrestrial terrain. They seek opportunities to perpetuate their passion through trusts and foundations. They become active in community affairs so that other people can benefit from their wisdom to produce desirable results in life. In leaving legacies, my rich friends:

a. Become advocates of worthy causes: They identify causes they want to promote in life and they use their resources to draw attention to it and give it its pride of place in the affairs of humanity.

b. Contributors to areas of deficiencies: My rich friends know how to spot deficiencies just as they spot opportunities. However, they may not be skilled in all the areas of deficiencies they have spotted and may not be keen in developing competence to addressing these gaps. They use their resources to promote the work of those who are passionate about resolving these gaps.



3 VITAL LESSONS FROM MY WEALTHY FRIENDS



Final Word

My wealthy friends are very open to teaching me how to become a better person and I am always willing to learn from them. I know I have become a better person because of their investments in my life. I have become more resourceful because my wealthy friends show me the pattern to make the most of my competence. My friends do not see me as a burden but as extensions of their graces just as they are reflections of mine too.





Profile for Dr. Olumuyiwa Akinrole Oludayo

Dr. Olumuyiwa Akinrole Oludayo is a transformative leader and consultant with a distinguished career across higher education, human resource management, and organisational development. His professional journey reflects an enduring commitment to influencing impactful change and advancing practices that drive growth and excellence at both individual and organisational levels.

With a strong foundation in academia, Dr. Oludayo has contributed extensively to higher education as a Member of Faculty for Human Resource Management, guiding the next generation of professionals and leaders. His roles as Dean of Students, Registrar, and Director of the African Leadership Development Centre have enabled him to influence institutional leadership and capacity-building across Africa, crafting learning environments that are centred on holistic development and resilience.

As a Research Fellow with the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management of Nigeria, Dr. Oludayo has made notable contributions to HR practice in Nigeria. His publications and development of frameworks have significantly shaped best practices within the industry, equipping HR professionals with contextually relevant strategies that address both contemporary and emerging challenges.

Organisations that engage Dr. Oludayo's consulting expertise benefit from a wealth of experience and a bespoke approach to people management. Through his work, he has supported a diverse range of organisations in optimising their talent strategies, enhancing leadership capacity, and creating resilient teams. His consulting work is marked by a commitment to solutions that are analytically robust and deeply aligned with an organisation's unique culture and objectives.

By partnering with Dr. Oludayo, organisations gain access to innovative approaches to talent development and organisational effectiveness. His strategic guidance encourages a culture of resilience, adaptability, and continuous improvement. His proven ability to integrate strategic insight with a people-centred approach makes him an invaluable asset for organisations striving for sustainable growth and a competitive edge.

In bridging the realms of academia, research, and practical consulting, Dr. Oludayo offers a holistic perspective that is both visionary and results-driven. His contributions go beyond enhancing performance; they cultivate lasting organisational value, enabling businesses to thrive through a stronger, more cohesive approach to human capital management.

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