



Q&A

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Personal reflections and integration

The phrase, 'work-life balance' can feel mythical in transactional finance. How do you personally define and manage the integration of a demanding career with your personal life?

For me, work-life balance comes down to honouring the simple, grounding moments that bring quiet joy. The feeling of a cold ocean breeze on a beach walk, a really great boxing session at 5am, or the quiet stillness of yoga. Deep down, we are all very simple human beings, and understanding what truly feeds your soul is everything.

Finding that harmony hasn't been easy, and I've had to learn – sometimes the hard way – that protecting my personal time is an act of self-preservation, not selfishness.

My career asks me to give so much of my heart, focus and energy every single day, and so I pour deep love and care into my work. But I've realised I owe it to myself to return that same care inward. Being naturally introverted means my energy is precious, so I am very intentional about how I spend my free hours, and who I share them with. Choosing to guard my peace is simply how I nourish my spirit, so I can continue showing up with warmth and presence for everything I do.

How has your definition of success changed from when you were an ambitious graduate to who you are today?

When I was an ambitious graduate, success was naturally found in external validation, titles and traditional milestones. Today, my definition of success has turned inward. It's no longer about chasing outside approval, but about how grounded, intentional and caring my team and I can be in fulfilling the purpose we set out to achieve.

Real success lives in the quiet, everyday moments – the care we pour into our formulations, the alignment of our team, and the tangible difference we make in people's lives. Nothing compares with the feeling of hearing a customer ask, "How did you even think of creating a product like this?" Those moments of genuine connection and gratitude are what fulfil us most. They serve as a gentle reminder, letting us know that we are on the right track, and that creating from the heart truly matters.

I want young people entering this sector to be deeply curious, to lean into that curiosity with bravery, and never allow fear or rigid structures to shrink their vision.

What is a personal passion or hobby you pursue that has absolutely nothing to do with your career, but keeps your perspective sharp?

Photography is something I truly love. It forces me to slow down, observe, and feel.

When you're behind the lens, you quickly realise that if you hesitate, a moment is gone forever – you can't simply come back and capture it later. Photography teaches me to trust my instincts, take bold chances, and frame stories with care. Getting the right shot requires so many elements to align seamlessly, but other times, it's just pure luck. Learning to embrace those unpredictable, beautiful moments of alignment keeps my perspective sharp, grounded, and deeply human.

When your career in this industry is eventually complete, what is the lasting legacy you want to leave behind in the South African beauty care sector?

There is a place reserved for each one of us on this earth. Too often, an African child grows up believing that grand ambitions or global influence are reserved for people somewhere else. I want my journey to show them that nothing is ever beyond our reach. If I could step out into the world, navigate complex international landscapes, build global partnerships, and bring that innovation back home, then there is no barrier to what we can achieve in finance and business.

I want young people entering this sector to be deeply curious, to lean into that curiosity with bravery, and never allow fear or rigid structures to shrink their vision. We are truly the only ones who limit ourselves.

Beyond boardrooms, deals and markets, my deepest dream is to leave behind an open door, a rewritten blueprint, and a generation of young South Africans who know, without a shadow of a doubt, that their voices, heritage and ideas belong at the global table – and can move the world.

If your life story up to this point had a headline in a business newspaper, what would it be?

The African girl who dared to dream: Redefining global boundaries with heart and bold ambition. 🇿🇦

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