

Building Relational Wealth

Arriving to a KORE Venture (KV) experience, Abbie sported red nails and Dior business wear. Her natural habitats were airplanes and boardrooms. Along with her Chanel perfume, Abbie wore what she thought others expected of her: strength, sophistication, and intelligence. But who was Abbie really? Where did she belong? Even she couldn't answer that. "I thought I could navigate life by just getting enough education and knowledge, but I always felt a sense of identity missing. I would wonder: who am I?" she remembers.

Work trumped time with family and friends. She almost didn't attend the KV experience because of how it would disrupt her work schedule.

Alongside a cohort of peers, who also came from families of significant wealth and spent time in high influence environments, Abbie experienced for the first time a close, trusting, supportive community. Through the various exercises and challenging discussions, she found that the camaraderie helped her not only learn more about who she was, but how to overcome obstacles that stood in her way. "It's really the people who make me feel at home and in a safe place to share my journey and grow together," said Abbie. "We are a team and we work together. We were strangers not long ago, but now we're like brothers and sisters."



Abbie's conception of what was important in life began to change. In her fast-paced, professional, jet-setting career, she realized she was missing out on the relationships that made life worth living.

Over the course of the experience, things became clearer for Abbie. She found a stronger sense of her identity and values through the workshops, activities, and discussions. Supported by her coach, Abbie explored and began pursuing a character-focused life.

Towards the end of the KV experience, Abbie wrote down the happiest moments in her life. She noticed that every memory involved people.

"We think about wealth in a materialistic way: how many zeros?" Abbie said while reflecting on what she learned over the KV journey. "But how many people care about relational wealth? Even myself, in relational wealth, I'm very poor. But if I'm intentional about building that wealth, that's the wealth that's going to make me really happy in my 90's."

Two years after completing the KV experience, Abbie was continuing to grow. She had stepped back from working such long hours for the investment firm, now only accepting projects she was genuinely interested in. She was in a committed relationship, thinking about having children, and had refocused her life around caring for her parents and friends.

"I learned a lot about love, gratitude, humility," Abbie said. "I know they [her cohort] are going to be life-long friends... The bonds are so strong. In business, the relationships were more transactional than relational. [After the KV Experience] I had a real confidence that I never had about myself and started to understand the influence of love."