

# Personal Values

Freeman Jiang

## Responsibility

Not a lot of people share this thought, but I believe that I am 100% responsible for everything in my life. Although things may happen and there will be circumstances I can't control, I can *a/ways* control how I react and how I interpret them. By holding myself accountable for both my successes and failures in life, instead of making excuses, I focus on what I can do to improve myself.

## Grit

Grit is a combination of passion, resilience, and focus that allows for the success of long-term and meaningful goals, even in the face of adversity. It is the driver that transforms mere potential and hopes into reality because to accomplish any meaningful goal, we have to learn to deal with frustration, confusion, and failure. Success isn't about greatness, but about consistency, commitment, and hard work.

## Adventure

We are innate adventurers and explorers. We have a burning curiosity to explore the universe and understand how it works—but more than curiosity, adventure is the audacity to take risks and engage in discovery. I believe that only by venturing out into the unknown and pushing our limits can we find out how far we can truly go.

## Seeking Discomfort

Every person has a circle of comfort where they do things they are good at and are used to doing. For most people, they are content with living a comfortable life, but I've made it an object of mine to continually expand this circle and seek discomfort. That's because we only grow when we are doing things we aren't comfortable with. When we stay comfortable, we stay mediocre—and mediocrity is where dreams go to die. In a world where we only have one life, that isn't a path I'm willing to accept.

## Friendship

Ultimately there is no point in succeeding in life if you can't share that success with someone else. Meaningful, fulfilling relationships are necessary for the well-being and happiness of anyone. Only by working together can we create truly amazing things.