

KEYNOTE / PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

10 lessons from 10 years in Big Tech

Career advice I'd give my younger self - and practical ideas your audience can use immediately.



Why this talk

Career advice is often polished in hindsight. This keynote is different. Mick Brands turns more than a decade at Oracle and Google into ten honest lessons about visibility, uncertainty, strengths, relationships, impact and change.

Personal stories are paired with accessible research and practical ideas designed to change what people do next.

What audiences leave with

- Make good work visible - without becoming the loudest person in the room.
- Treat plans as hypotheses and uncertainty as a normal part of progress.
- Stretch beyond comfort without tipping into overload.
- Protect priorities, use your strengths and become easier to work with.
- Lead with measurable impact and adapt before change forces you to.

THE TEN LESSONS

An honest career conversation, built for action.

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|--|------------------------------------|
| 01 Talk about yourself | 06 Play to your strengths |
| 02 Your current plan likely won't work out | 07 Nobody knows what they're doing |
| 03 Get out of your comfort zone | 08 Be nice to work with |
| 04 Being smart isn't the same as being effective | 09 Lead with impact |
| 05 Learn to say no | 10 Embrace change |

A strong fit for

Conferences and summits / leadership offsites and company kick-offs / early-career, new-manager and learning programmes / teams navigating growth or change.

Format: tailored keynote with optional Q&A, adapted to your audience and event objective.

Grounded in experience

Experience across varied roles in tech - from bringing new products to market to building long-term partnerships.

Bring a useful, honest career conversation to your audience.

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