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## Musings by Mitchell - May 2017

With the “lazy hazy days” of summer on the horizon, we will hopefully have time to create memories with our families as we visit lakes, cabins, and take summer vacations. Many of us will have projects around the yard or house to be completed as well.

Summer is also a good time to catch up on reading and watching movies. I recently watched the movie, “Arrival,” directed by Denis Villeneuve. I sat down for two hours straight and watched a movie, which is something that rarely happens at my house. I highly recommend the movie if you are looking for one to add to your list to watch this summer.

I mentioned in an earlier blog post that I had revisited the book by Stephen Covey, “7 Habits of Highly Effective People.” The movie, “Arrival,” and Covey’s book have some great messages. Covey talks about paradigms. He says, a paradigm is like a pair of glasses. It affects the way you see everything in your life. The movie also conveys how we interpret things and how caution should be applied based on who and what we are interpreting. Sounds deep, huh? I bring this up as I caution us all to take a step back to view the way others could interpret or pass judgement on certain situations or people in our lives. This is also true when thinking about current events that unfold minute by minute in the mainstream media.

As many of you know, my personal paradigm has shifted over the past couple of years. Last fall, I married a wonderful woman, Amanda, who I now get to call my wife. Along with her, I am now the proud parent of three wonderful children who I love and care for. We have twins, Lily and Jack, and Henry, who has autism. Not only did my paradigm shift with getting married and having an instant family, but the greatest paradigm shift was living with, loving, and interacting with a child who is on the autism spectrum. Many days, I am not sure who is the student and who is the teacher in my relationship with Henry. It is a rotating dynamic.

One of the most interesting things about Henry is that there is no gray area. Things are usually black or white and every day is a new day, a chance to start anew. We go through his schedule each morning and he is set for the day. Looking at and trying to understand how he sees the world has shifted my paradigm in terms of what is really hard or really important in life. Although some people’s paradigm would label Henry and his autism a burden, and yes, there are some days that are truly hard. I see him as a gift and a reality check every day I

come home. Paradigm shifts are powerful movements that, when embraced, allow us to grow and become happier in ways we could not have imagined.

So, how is this relevant to you and your finances? I think the relevance is that whatever the “big” or “new” thing is we are dealing with today may seem smaller tomorrow. Tomorrow is a new day, and as the song goes... The sun will come out tomorrow, tomorrow is a brand new day.

We are here to help you navigate for your tomorrows, sunny days, and some not so sunny. Regardless of what is happening in terms of the noise of the mainstream media, interpret how you wish depending on the paradigm you are viewing the world through. We are here to help navigate you through the turbulence and the noise to help you reach your goals for a bright, sunny tomorrow.

Sincerely,

**Mitchell J. Thompson, CFP®**

**Navigating Clients to Financial Success™**

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