



Berkshire Asset Management 46 Public Square, Suite 700 Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701 570.825.2600

Practice Management Concepts

What if YOU Could Market Yourself as Well as Apple?

HOW we do something vs WHY we do it...

Perhaps this is the key for financial advisors to unlock differentiated marketing campaigns and accelerate closing prospects.

As financial professionals, we could spend too much time telling clients HOW we do something. Perhaps a more productive and differentiated approach is to tell them WHY we do it.

Take a glance at Simon Sinek Apple's "Golden Circle" and I'll parallel applications to the financial business: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OVnN4S52F3k</u>

The video sounds eerily similar to how financial advisors or portfolio managers present services.

Outside in (Traditional)

What: "I'm a financial advisor at XYZ Firm. I have access to great planning tools, best in class investments and I devise a plan customized for each client. I'm dedicated to exceptional individual service."

How: "My comprehensive process delivers better results than the competition." (competition says the same thing!)

Result: The advisor fails to win the business because the client sees no motivation or anything unique.

Inside Out: (Motivational)

Why: "I'm in this business because there is a retirement crisis in this country. The data shows out-of-pocket health care costs could approach \$250,000 during retirement, inflation is high and it's increasingly difficult to obtain returns commensurate with the risk investors are willing to accept."

How: "My mission is to liberate your retirement assets. I'll start with learning everything possible about your financial lives. I'll work to find tax savings, planning issues and offer budget tactics other advisors tend to miss. (Discuss examples, use case studies). I fight to make sure you get the type of retirement you want, not the one the IRS or the markets dictate for you."

This statement answers the pointed question from the video: Why did you get out of bed this morning...and why should anyone care?

Result: The client clearly understands your passion, expertise, and feels compelled to act. This client is also likely to make referrals and join your cause. There are countless applications in your advisory business. Use your creativity. Articulate your cause and you'll find a "Golden Circle" of client assets!

Bonus: If you are truly inspired, it often won't even feel like work.

What motivates our team at Berkshire?

Why: The financial advisory industry is under assault in many ways. You face increased competition, tougher compliance, fee compression and higher service demands. That is why we are constantly looking for ways to take your business to the next level.

How: Portfolio managers at Berkshire meet directly with prospects and clients, help refine marketing messages, assist in the process of identifying and dominating your niche, and share countless best practices from the field of advisors we service.

Result: A differentiated partnership between advisor, client and manager helping you attract and retain more assets.

The Inside Out Method provides a transformative framework for marketing your financial services practice. By starting with your "why" and communicating it authentically, you create deeper connections, differentiate yourself in a crowded market, engage clients on a profound level, and attract ideal clients. As you implement this method, remember the words of Simon Sinek: "People don't buy what you do; they buy why you do it." Embrace your purpose and let it guide your marketing efforts, and watch your practice flourish.

Ernst & Young's Global Wealth Management Research - https://www.ey.com/en_gl/wealth-and-assetmanagement/how-to-build-a-wealth-management-business-that-scales

Simon Sinek's TED Talk: Start with Why - https://www.ted.com/talks/simon_sinek_how_great_leaders_inspire_action

Contact Berkshire:

Gerard Mihalick, CFA, Portfolio Manager Jason Reilly, CFP®, Partner, Distribution gmihalick@berkshiream.com or (570) 825-2600 jason@berkshiream.com or (570) 825-2600

Berkshire Dividend Growth SMA is available through various custodians, broker-dealers and UMA providers. This commentary is Intended for Institutional and advisor use only. This commentary may make information of third parties available via website links. The Third-Party Content is not created or endorsed by Berkshire nor any business offering products or services through it. The delivery of Third-Party Content is for general informational purposes only and does not constitute a recommendation or solicitation to purchase or sell any security or make any other type of investment or investment decision. In addition, the Third-Party Content is not intended to provide tax, legal or investment advice. the Third-Party Content provided to is obtained from sources believed to be reliable and that no guarantees are made by Berkshire or the providers of the Third-Party Content as to its accuracy, completeness, timeliness.

Berkshire Asset Management, LLC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). Berkshire Asset Management is a fee-based, SEC registered advisory firm serving the portfolio management needs of institutional and high-net worth clients. The Dividend Growth Composite contains portfolios invested in Berkshire's Dividend Growth Strategy with an equity allocation target of 90% - 100%. The Dividend Growth Strategy's primary objective is to generate a growing stream of equity income by investing in a diversified portfolio of equities with stable, high, and growing dividends. The benchmark is the S&P 500 Index. The index returns are provided to represent the investment environment existing during the time periods shown. For comparison purposes, the index is fully invested, does not include any trading costs, management fees, or other costs, and the reinvestment of dividends and other distributions is assumed. An investor cannot invest directly in an index. Gross returns are presented before management and other fees but after all trading expenses. Net returns are calculated by deducting actual management fees from gross returns. Returns reflect the reinvestment of dividends and other earnings. Valuations are computed and performance is reported in U.S. dollars. To receive a complete list of composite descriptions and/or a compliant presentation, contact Jason Reilly, CFP® Tel: 570-825-2600 or info@berkshiream.com. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

Risks: Past performance does not guarantee future results. Different types of investments involve varying degrees of risk, and there can be no assurance that any specific investment will either be suitable or profitable for an individual's investment portfolio. Dividends are subject to change, are not guaranteed, and may be cut. Investing based on dividends alone may not be favorable as it does not include all material risks. There is no guarantee any stated (or implied) portfolio or performance objective mentioned by Berkshire can be met. Berkshire's equity style may focus its investments in certain sectors or industries, thereby increasing potential volatility relative to other strategies or indices. The dividend strategy may include bundled services also known as a "wrap fee program". Because there is typically a low turnover in the strategy, this may be more costly for some investors. No one should assume that any information presented serves as the receipt of, or a substitute for, personalized individual advice from a qualified advisor or any other investment professional.

Market Commentary, Aggregate Holdings, Securities, Sectors, Portfolio Characteristics Mentioned: No statement made in this presentation shall construe investment advice. This presentation is for informational purposes only. Views, comments or research mentioned is not intended to be a forecast of future events. The mention of any security or sector is not deemed as a recommendation to buy or sell. Any reference to any security or sector is used to explain the portfolio manager's rationale for portfolio decisions or philosophy. Research or financial statistics cited regarding securities or sectors do not contain all material information about them. Any securities mentioned represent a partial list of holdings whereas Berkshire portfolios typically contain approximately 30-40 securities in percentage weightings ranging from 1-5%. A complete list of holdings from a representative account is available upon request. Overall portfolio characteristics mentioned are from a representative account deemed representative of the strategy; data may be compiled from Bloomberg, Baseline or Berkshire estimates. Individual holdings, performance and aggregate characteristics of actual portfolios may vary based on a variety of factors including market conditions, timing of client cash flows and manager discretion. This presentation contains Berkshire opinions and use of Berkshire estimates which are subject to change at any time. Berkshire employees may have personal positions in any securities or sectors mentioned. Charts, presentations or articles may be obtained from third parties and Berkshire does not guarantee their accuracy. *Platform restrictions may apply. Preliminary returns are based on composite estimates only. Individual accounts will vary. Copyright © 2024 Berkshire Asset Management, LLC, All rights reserved.