jds. speaker and podcast kit

Jared D. Simmons

Keynotes and workshops for leaders on the decisions that stall execution.

Talks · Workshops · Podcast conversations

Useful in the room. Still useful on Monday morning.

Planning a keynote, a workshop, or an episode? Send the date, the audience, and what you want people to leave with.

Jared@JaredDSimmons.com · jareddsimmons.com

Usually replies within two business days.

Meet Jared

In preschool, Jared D. Simmons brought home a paper with more red ink than crayon on it. The teacher's complaint? He kept helping the other kids instead of doing his own work.

He never really stopped. Trained as a chemical engineer, he worked in R&D at Procter & Gamble, in McKinsey & Company's Product Development and Innovation practice, and as a Strategic Initiatives Director at The Coca-Cola Company. Now he advises leaders as a certified executive coach, works with leadership teams, and hosts the *What is Innovation?* podcast. His newest venture, KIWAVI, is a concept for a network of business hubs in mid-market cities across America.

What does he bring to your room? A plain framework, sharp questions, and a next step people take on Monday.

Signature sessions

Manager, Coach, Leader: Choosing the Role the Moment Needs
For managers and executives who direct work, develop people, and set direction, often all in the same day. By the end, people can read the moment and pick the role on purpose, instead of the one that feels comfortable.

The Hidden Mechanics of Team Effectiveness
For leadership teams with agreements on paper and uneven follow-through in practice. Results often live in the plumbing: trust, decision rights, handoffs, and operating rhythm. This session shows teams where theirs leaks and what to fix first.

The Cost of Cutting the Wrong Things
For executives and operating leaders under pressure to protect margin. Leaders walk out with a way to weigh cost moves across product, process, and operations while protecting what customers value.

Where Ideas Stall: Finding the Seams That Slow Execution
For cross-functional teams that turn ideas into results. Where do goals, capability, collaboration, and process stop lining up? Teams learn to spot those seams before they cost a quarter.

What's Re-worthy? What deserves our return, and what doesn't
For teams that keep circling the same issues or reaching for the next new tool. Everyone leaves with three things: something worth revisiting, something worth releasing, and a next action.

How he shows up

Keynote · Interactive workshop · Facilitated executive session · Fireside chat or panel · Podcast guest · In person or virtual

Lengths: keynote 45 to 60 min · workshop half day or full day · fireside or panel 30 to 45 min · podcast flexible

Where: Available in person or virtual, anywhere.

Classrooms: Guest lecturer at The University of Texas at Austin's McCombs School of Business, the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business, and The University of Alabama's Culverhouse College of Business.

Jared shapes every session to your audience after a short planning call.

What people say about working with Jared

"Jared is truly a world-class coach and consultant. ... Jared's passion for helping others, combined with his strong problem-solving, structuring, listening, and storylining skills ensure that he delivers results WHILE improving the capabilities of those he works with."

Sr. Manager, Major Consumer Goods Company

"Jared provides firm feedback in a caring and objective way. He is great at pushing me just enough beyond my comfort zone to continually encourage me to experiment and grow."

Fortune 500 Oil & Gas Company

"Through his consistent, steadfast guidance and unwavering beliefs, our organization as a whole reaped the benefits of having Jared onboard."

S. Forzley, SVP Client Services, Major Market Research Company

On air

Host, *What is Innovation?* Since 2020, Jared has put one question to more than 140 guests from across industries. Each guest's answer becomes the episode title. The result is a running argument about how new ideas actually get done.

Listen: whatisinnovationpodcast.com · Apple Podcasts

Start with these:

- Innovation is a leadership challenge, not an idea challenge, with Robyn Bolton
- Innovation is the ability to get creative ideas done, with Duncan Wardle
- Innovation is getting "unattached" to outcomes, with David Greer
- Innovation is bringing unseen opportunities to profitable reality, with Steve Hinch

Guest, on other shows (start here):

- *Specified: Building Materials & Construction Growth Podcast*, S2. Ep. 127: Exploring Innovation Processes (2024). His career story and how innovation works inside organizations.
- *Unleashed*, Ep. 550: Design to Value (2024). A step-by-step walk through a hard business problem.
- *Whiskey, Jazz and Leadership*: Top Shelf Sampling with Jared Simmons, Part 1 (2021). A personal conversation about jazz and leadership. The conversation continues in Part 2.

All guest appearances are listed in A2.

For podcast hosts

Jared knows both sides of the mic. He comes prepared and brings stories.

Questions your listeners will want answered

1. You've asked more than 140 guests what innovation is. What's your answer today?
2. Why do good ideas stall after everyone has agreed to them?
3. Manager, coach, or leader: how do you know which one the moment needs?
4. You say progress beats activity. How can someone tell the difference by Friday?
5. What's a base metaphor, and how did triplet eighth notes rescue a stuck workflow redesign?
6. What did a chemical engineer from Procter & Gamble learn about people that he couldn't learn about products?

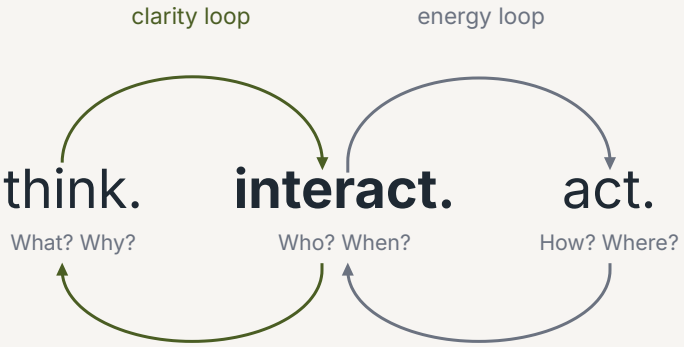
What your listeners get

- **think. interact. act.**, a plain three-part framework they can use on a stalled problem this week
- Stories from a career across product R&D, consulting, and corporate strategy
- One concrete next step to try before the episode is a week old

Media

High-res headshots for programs, posters, and show art: jareddsimmons.com/headshots/

> "Inspiration fades. Education rusts. Momentum propels progress."



Listen first

Specified S2 Ep. 127, Exploring Innovation Processes

Hear Jared's path from engineering to innovation leadership.

think. interact. act. LinkedIn *What is Innovation?*

Let's talk

Have a date, a room, or a mic? Start with an email.

Jared@JaredDSimmons.com
jareddsimmons.com

Usually replies within two business days.

Helpful to include: the session or topic, keynote or workshop or episode, audience size, date, and what you want people to leave with.

Making the case to someone else? Forward this kit to your decision-maker. Appendix A4 has a short email you can paste.