Powerful questions are provocative queries that put a halt to evasion and confusion. By asking the powerful question, the coach invites the client to clarity, action, and discovery at a whole new level. As you can see from the following examples, these generally are open-ended questions that create greater possibility for expanded learning and fresh perspective.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anticipation</th>
<th>Evaluation</th>
<th>For Instance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is possible?</td>
<td>What is the opportunity here?</td>
<td>If you could do it over again, what would you do differently?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What if it works out exactly as you want it to?</td>
<td>What is the challenge?</td>
<td>If it had been you, what would you have done?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the dream?</td>
<td>How does this fit with your plans/way of life/values?</td>
<td>How else could a person handle this?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is exciting to you about this?</td>
<td>What do you think that means?</td>
<td>If you could do anything you wanted, what would you do?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the urge? What does your intuition tell you?</td>
<td>What is your assessment?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clarification</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Fun as Perspective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What do you mean?</td>
<td>What is an example?</td>
<td>What does fun mean to you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What does it feel like?</td>
<td>For instance?</td>
<td>What was humorous about the situation?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the part that is not yet clear?</td>
<td>Like what?</td>
<td>How can you make this more fun?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can you say more?</td>
<td>Such as?</td>
<td>How do you want it to be?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What do you want?</td>
<td>What would it look like?</td>
<td>If you were to teach people how to have fun, what would you say?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elaboration</th>
<th>Exploration</th>
<th>History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Can you tell me more?</td>
<td>What is here that you want to explore?</td>
<td>What caused it?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What else?</td>
<td>What part of the situation have you not yet explored?</td>
<td>What led up to it?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What other ideas/thoughts/feelings do you have about it?</td>
<td>What other angles can you think of?</td>
<td>What have you tried so far?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What is just one more possibility?</td>
<td>What do you make of it all?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

continued >>
**Implementation**
What is the action plan?
What will you have to do to get the job done?
What support do you need to accomplish it?
What will you do?
When will you do it?

**Integration**
What will you take away from this?
How do you explain this to yourself?
What was the lesson?
How can you make sure you remember what you have learned?
How would you pull all this together?

**Learning**
If your life depended on taking action, what would you do?
If you had free choice in the matter, what would you do?
If the same thing came up again, what would you do?
If we could wipe the slate clean, what would you do?
If you had it to do over again, what would you do?

**Options**
What are the possibilities?
If you had your choice, what would you do?
What are possible solutions?
What will happen if you do, and what will happen if you don’t?
What options can you create?

**Outcomes**
What do you want?
What is your desired outcome?

If you got it, what would you have?
How will you know you have reached it?
What would it look like?

**Perspective**
When you are ninety-five years old, what will you want to say about your life?
What will you think about this five years from now?
How does this relate to your life purpose?
In the bigger scheme of things, how important is this?
So what?

**Planning**
What do you plan to do about it?
What is your game plan?
What kind of plan do you need to create?
How do you suppose you could improve the situation?
Now what?

**Predictions**
How do you suppose it will all work out?
What will that get you?
Where will this lead?
What are the chances of success?
What is your prediction?

**Resources**
What resources do you need to help you decide?
What do you know about it now?
How do you suppose you can find out more about it?
What kind of picture do you have right now?

What resources are available to you?

**Starting the Session**
What’s occurred since we last spoke?
What would you like to talk about?
What’s new/the latest/the update?
How was your week?
Where are you right now?

**Substance**
What seems to be the trouble?
What seems to be the main obstacle?
What is stopping you?
What concerns you the most about . . . ?
What do you want?

**Summary**
What is your conclusion?
How is this working?
How would you describe this?
What do you think this all amounts to?
How would you summarize the effort so far?

**Taking Action**
What action will you take?
And after that?
What will you do? When?
Is this a time for action? What action?
Where do you go from here?
When will you do that?
What are your next steps? By what date or time will you complete these steps?