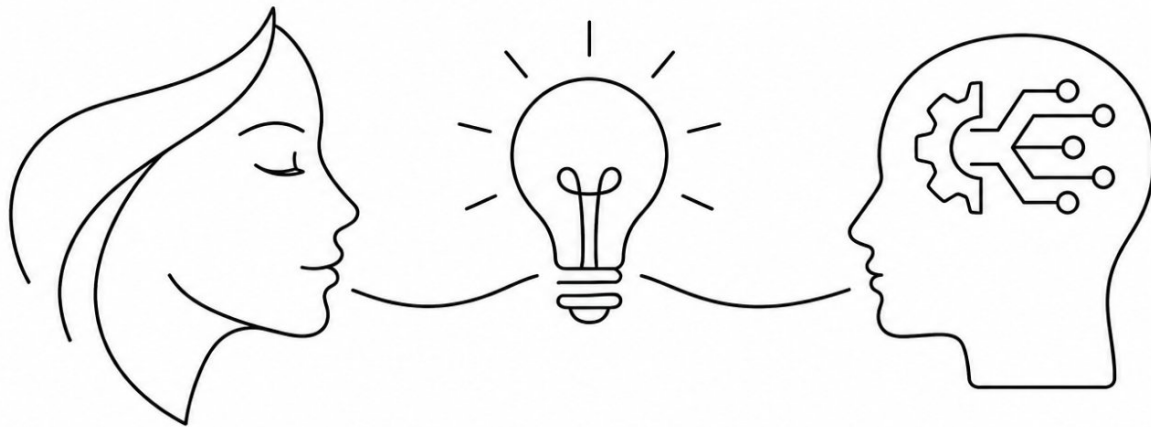


Claude Without the Chaos

How to Use AI as a Thinking Partner
(Without the Learning Curve)



A free resource from Leissa Gebert
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You're Not Behind

You signed up. You stared at the screen. You typed something, got a weird response, and quietly closed the tab.

That's not a you problem. That's a framing problem.

Nobody told you what Claude is actually *for*. So you treated it like a search engine, or a magic answer machine, or something you needed to figure out before you could use it.

None of that is true.

Claude is a thinking partner. That's it. And thinking partners don't require a learning curve — they just require a conversation.

What Claude Actually Is (And Isn't)

Claude is not a magic answer machine. It's not a replacement for your thinking. It's a collaborator — one that gets better the more context you give it.

Think of it like a very well-read colleague who is always available, never judges you for asking a basic question, and genuinely wants to help you think things through.

It won't run your business. But it will help you think about your business — and that's often exactly what's missing when you're doing everything alone.

A straight line on where things stand:

The genie is out of the bottle. AI isn't a trend you can wait out. The question isn't whether to use it — it's whether it's working for you, or just for everyone else.

You don't need to become an expert. You don't need to try every tool. You just need one that works, and a simple way to start.

That's what this is.

Three Things to Try Today

These are not assignments. They're starting points. Pick one. See what happens. You can't break anything.

1. Tell it what you're working on.

Just describe it out loud — what you're building, what you're stuck on, what feels unclear. You don't need a question. Just start talking.

Try saying: "I'm starting a service business and I'm not sure what to focus on first. Here's what I'm thinking..."

2. Ask it to help you say something more clearly.

Take something you've been trying to explain — your offer, your value, what you do — and paste it in. Ask Claude to help you simplify it.

Try saying: "Here's how I describe what I do. Can you help me say this more simply, without losing what makes it mine?"

3. Ask it to push back on something.

Pick an idea you're not sure about and ask Claude to tell you what you might be missing. A good thinking partner tells you the truth. So does Claude.

Try saying: "Here's what I'm thinking. Tell me what I might be missing."

One note: the more context you give it, the better it gets. It learns your patterns over time. The more you use it, the more it feels like working with someone who actually knows how you think.

A NOTE FROM LEISSA

I spent over 40 years in the mortgage industry. I analyzed hundreds of self-employed people — their businesses, their finances, their decisions. And one thing I saw over and over was smart, capable people working incredibly hard without the right support around them.

That's still true. Most solopreneurs are doing everything alone.

I use Claude every single day. Not because I was an early adopter or a developer — I'm neither. But I've been using AI consistently for years, and I know what actually works for people who are running a real business without a team behind them.

Having a thinking partner changed how I work. It keeps me honest when I'm about to disappear down a rabbit hole. It helps me say what I mean. It makes the alone part of running a business feel a little less alone.

You can do this. I promise it's simpler than everything you've read about it.

One thing I want you to know about how I work: I'm not building you a system you'll need me to maintain. I'm building you one you can run yourself. AI is part of that system — and this document is a good example of how I think about every tool I put in your hands. Useful, simple, and yours to keep. That's what a good foundation actually looks like.

If you want to talk through where you're stuck in your business — not just with AI, but with any of it — I'm at leissagebert.com.

I help people in the early stages of building a service business get organized, get clear, and get started simply. That's what I do now. And I love it.

— **Leissa**

Leissa Gebert Design