## THE EXTRA POINT

## BY JERRY ROBERTS



## # 234 Will You Scale Back Your Dreams?

For anybody who's ever been told that they shouldn't have such high hopes for their future, that maybe they should be a little more realistic about their plans, I've got something for you. I'm Jerry Roberts and that's coming next on The Extra Point.

It's a painful thing to endure when someone you know, maybe someone close to you, tells you that you should scale back your dreams because you're not good enough, not tall enough, not fast enough, not smart enough, not tough enough, don't have the gift of conversation — or other reasons why you should aim lower than you were thinking.

I've been there and I can tell you that sometimes it's somebody who really cares for you and doesn't want to see you be hurt or disappointed. In my case, one of those times it was my mother. I mean, who knows you better than your mother does, and who wants you to succeed more than she does? And still, the words burned as she said them. Maybe you can relate.

If you could survey people who've enjoyed success in life, I believe most would be able to recall a memory when they were advised not to move forward, not to pursue the course of action they were planning because of some reason another person saw as important.

To be sure, a lot of people listen to these voices and ramp down their plan, and some even give up — "Yeah, what was I thinking...he's right, she's right. It's for the best, I probably wouldn't have made it."

The world's most famous rocket scientist was a high school dropout, and the head of his school told him to his face that he would never amount to anything. He finally managed to complete his high school education elsewhere and made it through college. Was that the turning point for him? No, because he was

one of the only students in his class not to get a job after graduating.

This classic underachiever penned the most famous scientific equation of all time just four years later... "e=mc2". Yes, Albert Einstein was the classic underachiever. He was considered a loser up until that moment, but from that point forward it all changed, and his very name became synonymous with the term "genius."

The world is chock full of stories of people who ignored the negatives, even those from well-meaning people close to them, and they just worked harder than anyone else to achieve goals no one thought them capable of. You can add in the departments of GovGuam, and the military, including local units, where people decided they would do more, and sacrifice more, in order to be more.

Take a look around you as you hear me speak these words, because the landscape of Guam would be very different if a lot more people had backed away from what they thought they could accomplish. That store wouldn't be there, or that office building, or that hotel, radio station, car dealership, coffee house, a hot dog stand that put kids through college, and that lady banker surely wouldn't be sitting in Adelup right now if she'd heard the voices and agreed with them.

So, do you believe in yourself...do you have a plan...do you see what others can't?

That's The Extra Point. Get out there and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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