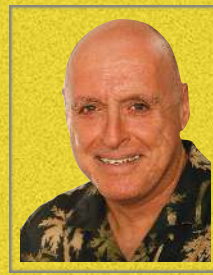


THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



281 “Banking” and the Workplace

If I said you need to set up a bank account for your boss and all other team members you deal with, you might say, “Uhh, that sounds crazy and I’m not going to do that.” I’m Jerry Roberts and today we’ll tell you why you really should it and it’s coming next, on The Extra Point.

“Setting up bank accounts for my boss and everybody else I work with? What madness are you talking about now, Jerry?” Let me see if I can unpack this for you.

Have you ever worked or do you now work with someone who occasionally loses control of their temper and you’ve been the object of their wrath? This doesn’t have to be the boss. Sometimes it is, but this can be any coworker.

Have you worked with someone who let you down? They promised to deliver a job on time and didn’t. Or, said they’d stay late and help you, and didn’t. They pledged to be there for you, and they weren’t. You believed people would honor their word, but it didn’t turn out that way.

How did you feel when this happened? How did you feel when the same person did the same disappointing, upsetting thing, again, and maybe it was the third or fourth time, or more?

I once worked with a very talented guy, a guy with major passion for his job. He was very good at what he did and well-liked by most people. The only thing was, a couple of times a year he totally lost his temper and went over the edge. The language and the screaming that ensued wasn’t pretty. I caught it a few times and I wasn’t the only one.

Here’s the thing, 99.9% of the time he was a fun, charming, helpful, big-hearted guy who was a solid asset for the company — and good to be around. Nobody wanted him fired and that included me. Each time we went through one of these episodes, a couple of days later

he’d apologize and promise it would never happen again. I knew it probably would.

So, what to do about it? Maybe God was planting a seed for this fun we have on The Extra Point, because the idea came to me one day, with the image of me going to the bank, Jerry’s bank, and opening up an account in his name. The currency was not in dollars. It had nothing to do with money, it had everything to do with attitude.

I decided that every time this man was at his best, his great-to-be-around best, I was going to make a deposit into his account. Over time the balance in the account would grow and that was good, because I knew a couple of times each year, there was going to be a monstrous withdrawal...a withdrawal so big that, if I didn’t make all those deposits, the account would empty out completely — and that could lead to problems none of us wanted to face.

I caught a couple of those outbursts after the account was set up, and while it still wasn’t a pleasant thing to endure, it bothered me less, because I knew — after it was over — there was still money in the account, and there would be new deposits coming soon.

If you have people around you that are fine most of the time but once in a while they make you crazy, you might want to consider opening up an account for them. Looking back, I’ll bet more than one person opened up an account in my name. How about you?

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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