

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



479 Gratitude, Gifts, and Changes in 2020.

Entering the new year I took a look at myself and realized that I have to change. I'm Jerry Roberts and today, the issue of gratitude, mindset, what I saw in myself and what I decided to do about it. That's next on The Extra Point.

It was Wednesday afternoon, New Year's Day 2020, my wife was napping and my son was online. The house was quiet and I was reading an article that contrasted people who are unhappy with life, always thinking of what they don't have, compared to those who are grateful and simply appreciative for everything they do have.

Experience shows that people who have no true sense of gratitude and who focus on negativity often make destructive lifestyle choices, and those choices can influence and even derail a career and a life. I've seen that up close and it's never pretty. Maybe you can relate and have a similar story to tell.

Most of my life I've been a person who wakes up wide-eyed, jumps out of bed, and feels the day is full of possibilities. I've always had the idea that if I do my part and prepare myself to be of value to someone, that good things will happen. Every day doesn't play out the way I want, but tomorrow, tomorrow will be better. I just feel it.

In the past 20-plus years with Guam Training, I've had countless people tell me how bad their job is and how they can't wait for something better. They don't feel appreciated. I tell managers to give frequent and specific praise, but I know many don't. While I'm working to get more supervisors to do that, let me give a different perspective on what a job is.

For me, the definition of a job is an organization with a need, showing confidence that you and I have the necessary skills and desire to fill it. A job is also a gift. Whenever I've been hired

I've focused on that decision, that need, that vote of confidence, that gift — and I've taken it personally. I always wanted to show that in my performance.

On Wednesday I thought how blessed I am to be able to come here every weekday morning and do this radio feature. We're getting close to 500 of them. I also thought about my Tuesday spot in The Guam Daily Post. Next Tuesday is number 87 for The Work Zone. It's a privilege to be able to talk on The Point and write for The Post, and I never forget that. I pray that my efforts are beneficial for both, so I pay off on the decisions by friends Ray Gibson and Mindy Aguon to grant me the opportunity. I don't want to disappoint them, nor you in your decision to listen and read what I have to offer.

I also believe that if we're truly grateful for what we have, we must strive to improve ourselves so we can continue to deliver value into the future. My skills of 2019 need to be upgraded to help my clients in 2020 — including my broadcast and print partners — so I'm adding to them. I'm taking new courses, reading more books, establishing more relationships, taking on people who will mentor me, looking for new ways to grow, and new ways to benefit people. I have to be better than I am today.

As the saying goes, our gifts are on loan from God. Either we really believe that or we don't. I do. I'm grateful for gifts, and I feel the best way to show appreciation for one is to use it. I encourage you to do the same.

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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