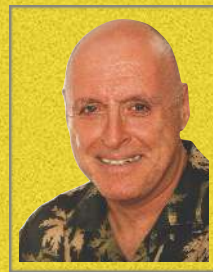


# THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



## # 630 More on Mediocrity: The Key

Today we finish up our revisit to mediocrity, where we all live from time to time. I'm Jerry Roberts and that's next on The Extra Point.

We've discussed procrastination, the myth of multitasking. Today, I'll sneak in three more conditions where we see trouble for the majority of people.

The first is failure. What if I said, "Workers who are judged as mediocre don't fail near as often as people judged top-notch or elite." Would you think I'm crazy? Would you say mediocre people fail more than top talent? No, they don't. Can you guess why?

If you said it's because top-level workers take more risks than mediocre workers do, you'd be absolutely right. Somewhere along the line, both failed. One, was encouraged to keep trying, and was told that failure is just a part of the process and a step closer to success. The other person may have been scolded or taught that failure was always the end of the line. Most average workers avoid risk and thus don't fail much. They mostly play it safe.

Next is lack of originality. We idolize creativity and displays of talent, and if we don't have it we just sit in a corner, sort of out of sight. We are impressed when someone comes up with a great idea, and maybe wish it could have been them.

It can be. Maybe the person with the new idea or process needs someone to help him/her make it a reality. You can offer to help and be a part of it. Learn how the idea was formulated and use the same structure to possibly come up with something on your own.

Here's another way to hit the spotlight. Look around for something your organization has been doing the same old way for an eternity, and figure an updated method. There may be a ton of things you could refresh a little and be

seen as a critical, perhaps progressive thinker.

Finally, accept yourself for who you are, your skill set, everything. Then, accept the fact that you can improve on things if you choose. You can strengthen one or more of your strengths, until you become recognized for it. To get from average to excellent is many times not a matter of raw skill but of desire...decision...and commitment.

Finally, I promised you the key to this topic, being mediocre, but maybe wanting more if you could get it.

The key is, and you may want to scribble this down somewhere, and tell your kids, grand kids, and anyone who needs some encouragement — because they think they're nothing special.

You can reach higher than you may ever imagine by remembering what I tell you next. You can be mediocre, average, so-so, no big deal in virtually every part of your life, and still exceed anyone's expectations by being excellent in just one thing. Just one thing may be all you need to distinguish yourself and have a career and life that exceeds your wildest dreams.

History has recorded countless people who were average, if not hopeless in most areas of their life, but they were great at one thing, and they drove that to incredible success.

So, where does your greatness lie?

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

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