

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



832 The Relentless Reality of Change

I've been going through a switch to a different computer, and it hasn't been easy. I started the process about 10 days ago, and it's been one agonizing step after another. It might be done, and I'll find out today if the nightmare is over. I'm Jerry Roberts and today, some thoughts on change, coming next on The Extra Point.

I've switched computers numerous times over the years, and the longest I think it ever took was two days. Most times, it's a one-day exercise. This time was different. The primary hard drive came up with problems and my backup attempts all failed.

The backup was supposed to be used to plug into the other computer, to migrate data to it effortlessly.

Now I would have to migrate data from one computer to the other manually. Three terabytes worth. That pretty much left me breathless, because it would require weeks to complete with the time I could devote to it.

My frustration is that I did everything you're supposed to do in this situation, and it still went the wrong way for me.

The last six months or so haven't been great in terms of machines. We had a big mixer fry in a power surge. The washing machine broke, and two days ago it was the living room air conditioner. On top of that, we've had some relatively unique issues come up with a car. It's just been a weird time. Lots of changes.

Many times, changes show up in the form of costs, when you have to repair or replace something. Changes may also bring new opportunities we can take advantage of. If we're alert, changes also bring something else — reminders.

You see, I was reminded that the computer I'm

leaving is nine years old. Most of the 30-plus training courses I've created were made with it. In addition, all The Extra Point episodes came from it, now numbering 832. My Tuesday WorkZone column in the Guam Daily Post, this computer has banged out all 160 of those. Of all the computers I've ever owned, this has easily been the most reliable, delivering the most value.

We've had the car over six years and it's in the P.O. category; P.O. standing for "paid off." Going through the miseries with it recently had me thinking of selling it and buying another one, but "paid off" has a certain ring to it, if you know what I mean.

There's an awesome repair shop we use, and the head guy there told me that it could run for a long time to come. So, while the car has been on the sidelines for more time than we'd like and cost more than we'd hoped for, its longevity has made it a definite asset.

We had the sorrow of losing a family member this year, a good guy who had it tough the last several years. We had the joy of getting another one back whom we thought might have been lost. Next month there's more joy as we'll add one, with the birth of our second great-grandson.

My 16 year-old son plays video games and he's good at it. We sometimes worry that he's overdoing it, and encourage him to read more. He's often resisted that. This week, he found a book he really likes and he's reporting to me on each chapter, in rich detail, and with energy. It's renewed his interest in reading, and he wants more. It's an answer to prayer.

I've talked here many times about the challenge of change, and how we often push back against it. How we often fear it.

(Con't.)

When I discuss this topic in my training, I position change as something we can embrace, or endure, depending upon your point of view. It's certainly something to expect. Change is life, life is change.

As the saying goes, the only constant is change. Nobody escapes it. We may as well take the best possible advantage of it. One thing is for sure...there's more of it to come. I hope change is treating you well.

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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