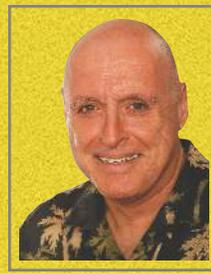


# THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



## # 1157 The Pros and Cons of Pride

What do you think about pride? Is it a good thing or a bad thing? Does it lead to being boastful, or is just us in appreciation mode? Are you a proud person? I'm Jerry Roberts and let's talk about pride, next, on The Extra Point.

Pride is on the agenda for today. You can find the transcript for this discussion in Extra Point #1157, at [guamtraining.com](http://guamtraining.com)

What are you prideful about? Perhaps your position in your chosen field, or your position in life. How about what you've accumulated?

Is your pride based in the accomplishments of others, such as the team members you've worked with, adding value to their lives? How about being proud of a family member, such as a spouse or child, achieving success? Is it that you're just happy, glad, and grateful — or would there indeed also be a feeling of pride?

Here's how I check in about pride. When I have someone show me appreciation for what I do, I show my gratitude. I like praise as much as the next person.

If I did something that allowed that individual to get further and do better, then that's the payoff for me. Kind words are great, but their achievement is a huge win. I'm proud of them for implementing ideas and strategies into their work and life. Not everyone does it.

If they then share what they learned with others on their team, I'm doubly impressed. If they do the ultimate, taking the information home and teaching it to their kids, that's as good as it gets. My pride in them skyrockets. In my view, that's a great pride to have.

On the other hand, if I take credit for what they achieve, that wouldn't be a good thing. If my God-given gifts have helped someone, then doesn't the credit for that go to the one who gave me the gift? It's all perspective, isn't it?

If I was so enamored of my own abilities, that might make me lazy and less apt to seek ways to improve. I believe in the Japanese theory of *Kaizen*, defined as continuous improvement.

This is like the "power of just" that we've talked about several times. Run just one more block, one more mile, lift one more set with weights, make one more try at whatever you're chasing, and it will help you get stronger, and better.

To this day, I watch the replays of The Extra Point, sometimes the same day, sometimes a day later, looking for how to improve. There's always something. A word that should have been emphasized differently, or a gesture, or my voice didn't sound like I wanted it to.

If I pride myself on anything at all, it might be that I desire to give people the best effort and results I'm capable of, and wanting to expand on those capabilities. That's just part of my DNA and always has been. I don't know any different. Maybe you're the same.

When we're blinded by pride, selfish pride, two things often follow. If you place yourself up on a pedestal, it's human nature that people will want to see you fall. The same ones who congratulate you when you win, may silently be glad when you go face first into the dirt.

Second, when our pride impairs our vision, we will likely make poor decisions, making our fall from that pedestal come more quickly.

It's fine to be excited over winning, achieving, and being recognized for it. There's no issue with that. Just don't confuse winning with superiority.

Share the victory with those who helped you get there. When we score a win, whether it's individually or collectively as a team, it's almost certain that somebody hidden from view was instrumental in that success. Give them credit. (Con't.)

Who are you proud of today? Will you tell them that you are, and why?

Will it be a coworker, or your boss, or your spouse, or a child?

You have influence with people. Somebody looks up to you. When you tell them that you're proud of them, and you're specific about why you are, the impact can be life-altering.

Some people never hear those words, "I'm proud of you."

Make it a point to tell them today.

When you do, I'll be proud of you.

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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