

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



1219 Teaching the Value of a Great Work Ethic — Part 1

We've shared the words of *Dirty Jobs* TV host Mike Rowe, because he's as solid as they come and his is a voice that needs to be heard by all generations — especially youth. I'm Jerry Roberts, and today we'll talk about Mike's views on work ethic, next on The Extra Point.

In light of what has happened in the general working world the past couple of years — *The Great Resignation* and *Quiet Quitting*, millions of people in America — Guam included — have left their jobs.

There are reasons to explain away some of this, but the topic of work ethic has surfaced, and it's not a comfortable subject for many.

Work ethic is personal, and it gets into areas that many folks would prefer to avoid. It deals with *character*, and that makes us nervous. Here's what Mike Rowe has to say:

"Work ethic is important because, unlike intelligence, athleticism, charisma, or any other natural attribute, it's a choice."

Some people complain that life has dealt them a bad hand. They didn't grow up with certain privileges that others supposedly had, and that is the reason they give for them not having achieved as much as those others.

Yet, every year we hear countless stories of people who came from nothing, with zero advantages, and they rose to success through sheer will and a work ethic that made them stand out.

Another Rowe quote is: *"What you do, who you're with, and how you feel about the world around you is completely up to you."*

Think about where you work. Who has a rock solid work ethic, and who just does enough to hang onto their job? If you're in the office as you're hearing this, don't stare at anyone.

Here's the thing, you know who is stepping up,

stepping out, and taking care of their business. You know who puts out a big effort all the time. Come on, we know who the real players are, and people looking at us know if we're included.

I tell young people to never mind working to impress the boss. Instead, they should work to impress themselves, that they were able to go a little farther than yesterday.

If they still want people to impress, I tell them their efforts can honor those who worked their tails off to give them a start in the world.

Somebody, somewhere paid for you, and me. Maybe it was our family shelling out for our formal education. Maybe it was an employer who took a loss because we screwed up and cost the company a pretty penny, and they covered us. Even if nobody else knows, you know. I know. We all know.

They likely never asked us to repay the debt in monetary form. How we're expected to pay it back is through our commitment to make something of ourselves, and to grow past our mistakes to deliver the results they know we're capable of.

The commitment comes in the form of our work ethic. We may not have all the gifts that others have, but we can make a choice that nobody, will ever work harder and hopefully work smarter than we will.

Work ethic is huge. Tell you kids. Show your kids. They have all they need to be a high-value contributor. They just have to want to do it.

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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