

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



1226 Random Lessons Picked Up Along the Way – Part 1

I picked up an article recently from a guy who was turning 40, and decided to list key lessons he'd learned along the way. I like reading articles like that to see if I've learned similar things and, more important, to see what the writer's life had taught him that I don't know. I'm Jerry Roberts, and we'll dig into this, next, on The Extra Point.

His name is Nick Loper, and he runs a website known as sidehustlenation.com, specializing in helping employed people to get involved in secondary means of making money.

When Loper hit the Big Four-Oh, he sat down and wrote about specific things he'd learned in life, and we'll highlight some of those in the next couple of days.

The first one is something that should be printed on the diploma of every kid graduating from high school or college: *"The best opportunities aren't visible until you're already in motion."*

Momentum counts. If we're active, if we connect with and are visible to more people, we're going to naturally see more opportunity and be able to take advantage of ways to advance.

A lot of kids and far too many adults just wait for good things to come their way. Perhaps they apply for work at one or two places, and then wait for a call. Minimal effort brings minimal results.

My mom told me early on that getting a job was a full-time job. You apply at 10 places a day, day after day. Do that for a week, then choose between the job offers you get. Do the math.

Loper said, *"You vote your priorities with your time. So many people say 'there's no time to read' or 'there's no time to learn a new skill.' Yet, there's always time for TV, or social media, or hanging out."* Our priorities will tell our story.

Another thing Loper said that resonated with me is *"Choosing what's next doesn't mean choosing what's forever."* If you're working in one career field and decide you really want to try something else for awhile, do so with the knowledge that you can always resume the former career if you decide it's a better fit.

Here's something else my mom told me, and maybe somebody in your life told you the same thing. Loper referenced the value of mentorship. Whether you own a business or work for someone, a mentor can speed up your success.

Loper said: *"You don't have to learn every lesson on your own. Take advantage of the journeys of others."* I have to admit, it's a lesson I didn't learn as well as I should have.

I love how he phrased the next point: *"If you don't take care of your body, where will you live?"* We often talk about diet, exercise, and especially sleep. How about making 2023 the year you and I stop fooling around and take responsibility for improving our overall health?

Then he added, *"Control the controllables."* I've been preaching this since ever since. The world may seem out of control, and getting crazier all the time. You can't control the world, but you can control *your* world. Be proactive. Be intentional.

This is a good start. We'll have more tomorrow with lessons learned by the age of 40, by Nick Loper, of sidehustlenation.com.

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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