

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



1229 I'm Imagining Another Set of Quotations

Recently, I began to think about the value of imagination, in both life and work. How is your imagination? I'm Jerry Roberts, and we're going to examine this in the words and ideas of several notable folks, next on The Extra Point.

Imagination is our word today, let's see where it takes us.

1. *"The world of reality has its limits; the world of imagination is boundless."*

— Jean-Jacques Rousseau, philosopher

2. *"Children see magic because they look for it."*

— Christopher Moore, author

Who has a boundless imagination? A kid. Can you remember back when your mind would take you to unexpected places? When we jumped into adulthood, did our imagination get left behind?

Or, was it reality that took our imagination hostage? Marriages, mortgages, jobs, kids, and more...then we looked around and our imagination was gone.

Lewis Carroll, author of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, once said: *"Imagination is the only weapon in the war against reality."*

George Lucas, the driving force behind the Star Wars series, was blunt when he said: *"You can't do it unless you can imagine it."*

So, we need to imagine things. We need to see them in our mind. Author Mark Twain once said: *"You can't depend on your eyes when your imagination is out of focus."*

I think that's the problem for a lot of us. We haven't used the imagination muscle for a long time and it needs adjusting.

In fact, maybe our attitude toward imagination needs retooling. Every product and service got

its start through an idea, an idea conjured up in the mind of a single individual. Cars, trains, boats, planes, phones, appliances, plumbing, television, the Internet, selling food in markets, and everything else you can come up with.

Even the concept of teaching people in groups, the thing called school, began as a single idea. Albert Einstein famously said, "The true sign of intelligence is not knowledge but imagination."

We built schools to increase intelligence, but nowhere did I see that we were supposed to get rid of any connection to our imagination.

Antoine de Saint-Exupery, a journalist, was clear on that connection. He said: "A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man contemplates it, bearing within him the image of a cathedral."

Another man who knew something about cathedrals, Michelangelo, said: "I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free."

Robin Williams, actor and comedian, took the entertainment world by storm as Mork, in *Mork and Mindy*, and later in movies, told us: "You're only given a little spark of madness. You mustn't lose it."

Use your imagination to conjure up what it is you want. See it, feel it, taste it, smell it, then believe in it — even if no one else does. Finally, take action and make it happen."

I want to close with a passage from George Bernard Shaw's play, *Back to Methuselah*. Some of us may remember these words from Sen. Ted Kennedy, who spoke them in his eulogy for his brother, Robert, in June of 1968. "Some men see things as they are and say why? I dream things that never were and say why not?"

(Con't.)

Question. What are you dreaming of today? If your imagination is still in gear, could it use another gear?

One more thing. Make sure you talk to the kids in your life about the incredible value of having a powerful imagination. Listen to them dream out loud about all kinds of things. Maybe they'll help you get to that next gear.

Enjoy the welcoming of 2023, and I'll talk with you Tuesday, as we get rolling in the new year.

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.

###

For information on training and consulting services with Jerry Roberts, please click this link: guamtraining.com

