

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



1261 Try All You Want: You Can't Un-break an Egg

I was working on my management training series and going over the module on trust. It's so important, and is actually the thread that runs through every aspect of our lives. We can't function without trust. I came across a story that highlighted this in a memorable way. I'm Jerry Roberts and I'll have that story for you, next on The Extra Point.

We're talking about trust today. Before we dive into it, if you'd like transcripts for what we talk about here on The Extra Point, you can download them at guamtraining.com. Go to the site and click "XP" on the top menu, then you can grab any of the 1,261 programs we've already loaded up.

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall,
All the king's horses and all the king's men,
couldn't put Humpty together again.

Humpty Dumpty is one of the best known nursery rhymes in the English language. Did you know from the get-go that Humpty was an egg? I'll make the connection on why that's important in a moment.

A successful clinical psychologist was in his internship, and was assigned a patient, a young lady who was earning her living through prostitution. The woman wanted to change her life and leave that dark world behind, and she hoped this intern would be able to help her.

For our purposes, we'll call the woman Jenny, and the intern Dr. John.

Dr. John was meeting with Jenny regularly, and he felt her progress was good. He thought she was turning a corner in her desire for a better life.

One day he was working with Jenny and the conversation was going well. She was upbeat and positive. Dr. John then realized he needed to take a restroom break. As he reached the door to leave, he suddenly realized his wallet

was in his suit jacket, which was still in the room with Jenny. He went back, pulled the wallet out of the jacket and stuffed it into his back pocket.

As Dr. John left the room, Jenny said to him, "I'm no thief." When he returned, Jenny was gone.

Dr. John knew he'd dropped the ball, just as Jenny was ready to score a victory, and he felt bad. He asked his supervisor for advice on what to do to save the situation. His supervisor simply looked at him and said, "John, you can't un-break an egg."

Our relationships are all built on trust. When we violate that trust, it's very difficult to restore it. We want a bunch of magic words or some kind of emotional super glue that can repair the broken relationship. Those don't exist. It takes time and effort. Relationships, like eggs, are fragile. They break easily.

Happily, Dr. John got a second chance with Jenny, as she realized his help had made a big difference for her.

A short time later, Dr. John again had to use the restroom during her session. He excused himself, then realized he had left his wallet in his jacket, same as before. This time, as he left the room, he handed Jenny his wallet.

When he returned to the room, she was still there and put the wallet into his hand, first showing him that nothing was missing. They both laughed, and new seeds of trust had been sprinkled into their relationship.

Dr. John's supervisor was right. You can't un-break an egg. That being said, you can plant new seeds of kindness, respect, and sincere appreciation...and keep planting them. One day, the seeds will grow into new trust.

Have you lost someone's trust? Are you willing to invest the time and make the effort to get it back? (Con't.)

Start scattering seeds, and you may as well start today.

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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