

Kenston J. Griffin

Dream Builders Communication, Inc.

"If Better Is Possible Good Is No Longer An Option"



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NEWSLETTER

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Happy Holidays

Another year has come and is almost gone. I consider it a blessing for all of us to still be here. However, as well as this being a blessing, I do not want you to be cursed by phrases such as "could have..., should have..., or well, what had happen was..." These words have rendered some people powerless for years. So how do you truly, and I do mean truly, have a *breakthrough year*? I am glad you asked! In assisting you achieve that *breakthrough year*, I have provided *Eight Steps Towards a Breakthrough Year*.

- ☑ Create short-term plans that are measurable.
- ☑ Evaluate how you measure your plan.
- ☑ Hold yourself accountable (this works well with an accountability partner).
- ☑ Do not get on an emotional rollercoaster.
- ☑ Inspect what you have expected.
- ☑ Look for the solutions quickly.
- ☑ Keep It Simple Superstar (K.I.S.S.)

Upon establishing and implementing these *Eight Steps Towards a Breakthrough Year*, your life will truly be great. Plan now to enjoy your HOLIDAY and work on YOU the rest of the way. Remember, Christmas is only one day, but you have your **entire life** to live.

*For further assistance making your **Eight Steps** go from a "READ" word to a "LIVING" application, please contact us for our holiday coaching specials.*

Best regards,
Kenston J. Griffin, Chief Executive Officer

Ways to stay on the Edge: This Christmas Give the Gift of Yourself

By: Jorris Edge



Some of today's youth are searching for someone to care for them, to love them, and give them the attention and sense of belongingness they deserve. Some youth are not receiving the simple and free things of love, affection, and belongingness at home or at school from adults who could be the role model of their lives. Since they do not receive these things from the adults they need to obtain it from in their everyday lives, they seek love from their peers. Seeking love from their peers causes the youth of today to become involved in gangs or they become intimate with each other.

It was not too long ago that I was employed in a school system, and I have friends who still work in the school system. You would not believe the stories I heard or the stories my friends hear about our youth who are searching for love. In this world today, we have students fighting each other such as girls versus girls,

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boys versus boys, and even girls versus boys because they belong to different “sets”, “groups”, “families”, or also known as gangs. They are fighting over things such as a person throwing up a symbol of their gang in another person’s face who does not belong to that particular gang. The sad thing about this is they may not even know what the symbol truly means if it means anything at all. Therefore, they do not know why they are fighting. They *do* know the gang they belong to gave them the sense of belongingness and love they were seeking, and they will do anything in their power to fight and keep this feeling of family and loving around in their lives.

Also, you have females and males becoming intimate with each other at an early age as well as females becoming intimate with other females and males becoming intimate with other males who are not having any thoughts of homosexuality, but they think it is an exciting thing to do because they see it on television. This leads our youth to a wild lifestyle, and a lifestyle of unplanned teenage pregnancy which starts the cycle to continue all over again through the unborn child.

The youth of today like how it feels to receive affection from someone no matter whom it is. They like the hugs and kisses their peers are giving them because they are not obtaining this simple thing from the adults in their lives. So, *this Christmas* give the gift of yourself to some youth who are seeking love and affection. Do not allow the youth to search for these things any longer, but bring it directly to them through you.



As you shop for Christmas gifts this Christmas remember this:

- fur coat - \$5,000.00
- new car - \$20,000.00 or higher
- the gift of yourself - **priceless.**



“Five D’s to Winning”

By: Christopher Land

As stated last month, I will be sharing the “Five D’s to Winning”. Using these five steps in your life will put you in a position to achieve all the things you’ve ever wanted to accomplish and assist in winning across the board. The first was Decision. Here is D two, **Dedication.**

My definition of dedication is a simple one: “it’s doing something you set out to do, long after the feeling of wanting to do it has gone”. *Webster* defines it as a devoting or setting aside for a particular purpose; self-sacrificing devotion. Wow, that’s heavy.

Now we have to consider what have we been truly dedicated to? Have we set goals and wavered? I have seen it happen numerous times where someone has an incredible business idea, starts towards the mark, and stops short due to one reason or the other. A short while later, they see another individual with the success they wanted, but wasn’t dedicated enough to stick. What an awful feeling.

Success does not come over night. In most cases, it takes (time) dedication. Dedication typically consists of hard work. We have to stand strong; we cannot play or drift when it comes to reaching our goals and obtaining our dreams. There will be challenges; there may be a lesser way, but once you have decided, you have to go for the second step, and that step is to be dedicated to the task.

Please view our next issue where I will write step 3 of the “Five D’s to Winning”.

Every worthwhile accomplishment has a price tag attached to it. The question is always whether you are willing to pay the price to attain it - in hard work, sacrifice, patience, faith, and endurance.

John C. Maxwell

“The Art of Listening – Part II”

By: Roderick Land

In July we looked at how selective listening is an important part of communicating effectively. Today, we will discuss another type of listening, one in some aspects even more important. The type of listening today is *comprehensive listening*.



There are several overlapping components that comprise comprehensive listening. Recall, understanding, and recognition are the main parts, and one could guess that the reason for this type of listening is usually to learn. Whether to learn something simple or complex, comprehensive listening is a learning mechanism and can constantly be improved upon. *Bridging*, which is relating some known fact or information to some unknown is one of the simplest way to improve ones' comprehensive listening. *Confirming and clarifying*, where the listener repeats or asks questions to be sure of the new information is also a very easy way of improving understanding. Used in a Dream Builders Communications, Inc. setting or even a classroom setting, students should be able to recite pledges, dates, times, or word spellings if they are effective comprehensive listeners.

If you add the components evaluation and assessment to comprehensive listening, you get critical listening. Critical listening is not listening for the reason of criticizing, but analyzing what is heard. That could make for some good class discussions, but will take some time to explain. Perhaps that will be the next type of listening we discuss.

To be the best communicator you can be, whether teacher or student, parent or child, learning to comprehensively listen better will seem to give you total recall of seemingly

endless information. Unlock the key in a child's mind and you can unlock a success story.



“The World without Seeds”

By: Tonya R. Allen

Have you ever thought about the fact that we as a society have become more interested in things without “seeds”? For example, I was in the grocery store one Friday afternoon and I went over to the produce department seeking some white seedless grapes.



Now, as I walked along the sections where the grapes were located, they just did not appear to be appealing to my taste buds. So, I proceeded to the area where the watermelons were located. I searched and searched for the watermelons that had been pre-sliced and all the seeds removed. After asking the produce manager if they had any in the back and was informed that the store was out, I decided that I did not want to have to do the work of slicing the watermelon and removing the seeds, so I did not purchase any watermelons either. This entire 15-minute process caused me to ponder over how this entire “seedless” phenomenon relates to life.

As we all know, success comes from work, dedication, and some form of sacrifice. Without those ingredients, can success be truly achieved? For the most part, the answer to that is NO! Well, let us take a moment to return to my shopping experience. If we do not have seeds and put forth effort to plant those seeds, will we ever produce more grapes or watermelons? The answer to that question is NO!

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Success differs from person to person, but the basic principles are the same. One has a vision and then that vision must be implemented with dedication, hard work, and sacrifice.

The moral of this analogy is, without planting seeds, how can anything GROW?

Without proper nurturing, how can anything GROW?

Without proper harvesting, how can anything GROW?

Therefore, look at and evaluate your life. If you are not planting “seeds” and putting forth effort towards your GROWING, then are you?

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A man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them.

- Mark Twain

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