

How to have a more successful New Year Part 8 handout

Successful People Don't Play Fair

Joshua 1:6-8 (NKJV)

1. We all learned the "play fair or else doctrine."

A. You know what I'm talking about?

B. This doctrine or belief is probably one of the most destructive of all beliefs to relationships.

C. Maybe it started when you were a child and your and your brother hit you for no good reason, so you hit him back.

D. That's not fair we say, therefore "I'm not going to do good to you anymore.

E. It's the philosophy of the masses.

F. Live by the fairness doctrine and you'll destroy your relationships in your family, community and business..

G. If you give bad for bad you just get more bad, but it is fair.

H. All that it takes to drag down a relationship is for one person to fail.

I. We give tit for tat, and relationships decline for the moment or fail completely.

2. Successful people move beyond being fair.

A. They don't just act like nothing happened.

B. Successful people give back better than they receive.

C. The Bible teaches this principle repeatedly. Luke 6:32-35 (NKJV)
Romans 12:17-18 (NKJV) Romans 12:21 (NKJV)

D. Successful people are a redemptive force

E. Jesus said everybody loves those that love them, does good to those that do good to them.

F. It starts with how you handle your anger.

G. Don't let your anger lead you to get back at those who wronged you, to put them down, hurt them, lash out, shame them or manipulate them into improving.

H. When you start getting angry, ask yourself the question; "what is helpful?"

- I. A better response to anger is to use it to let the other person know there's a problem.
 - J. When we co-dependently enable people we are not thinking about what's best for them.
3. Successful people exercise the joint benefits not being fair.
- A. At times they set limits and impose consequences.
 - B. Instead, they might respond "I love you, and I want what's best for you."
 - C. Instead of continuing to fight they might say "I love you and want what's best for us."
 - D. If things don't improve they might say "It seems that this pattern of behavior we talked about is not getting better. Can you see that? How can I help?"
 - E. Successful people get past their own need.
 - F. The basic issue here is to avoid adding another hurt or infraction to the one that has already occurred.
 - G. Remaining in the dependent stance is what keeps you from being helpful to your spouse.
 - H. While working on the problem you must find other ways and places to meet those needs.
 - I. Only when you are full do you have enough to give to others, especially those you love.
 - J. When a person takes the high road and helps
 - K. So become responsible for getting what you need and maintaining your own emotional health
 - L. Love takes people to a higher place not a fairer place.
 - M. The goal is not to get better treatment from others, the goal is to treat people better regardless of how they treat you.