

## THE POWER OF TITHING

Here is a confession about this article – Not sure if it is intended for you, or for me. Truth be told, the wisdom derived from the life lesson discussed below could be used by all of us.

John Rockefeller is a name most of us are familiar with, or at least have heard. He was an American business magnate and philanthropist. He became an assistant bookkeeper at the age of 16, and started several businesses in his 20's. Keep in mind, this was in the mid-19th century, so imagine the gumption that came along with being that entrepreneurial in those days.

His business achieved another level when he went on to create the Standard Oil Company in 1870. As fate would have it, this was a time when kerosene and gasoline grew by leaps and bounds due to the industrial revolution, the invention of cars, electricity and so forth. As a matter of fact, it became so large he was forced to break his company into many pieces, since the Court ruled it violated federal antitrust laws. Some of these companies you may know by name today – Chevron, Exxon, and Shell to name a few.

Imagine the type of person you would likely become with that amount of wealth and power. What type of person did he become you wonder? Well, he became a philanthropist, and created schools, universities, libraries, and created countless charitable organizations. It is safe to say this man packed more in a lifetime than most of us would in ten!

A story that stands out about Rockefeller is the influence his mother had on him. At a young age, when he earned his first wages; he loved his mother so much that he wanted to give her a portion of it. However moved she was, his mother asked that she would be happier still if he would go on and tithe that portion to the Church.

This became a philosophy he carried with him for life.

Thus, no matter how little or how much he made, he always put aside a portion of it to give away. As a small entrepreneur myself, I am humbled by this attitude. We have all had our fair share of struggles on our way to building our company, and how many of us can say we adhered to tithing a portion of every dollar no matter how challenging times were?

This is what truly separates the good from the great, the ones that make history and those that don't. His overall biography is nothing short of amazing. However, another lesson that can be learned from him is that he was not born with any particular gifts that set him apart from his peers.

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## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

We are well into Fall, and many people are getting ready to wind out the year with a big bang. We are no different. This is no time to slow down, rest on your laurels, or even think about reflecting back on the year. Not quite yet. If what you've done so far has worked, keep working at it! If not, this is the ideal time to improvise, adapt, and overcome. There is sufficient time to test out new ideas and have it measured by the time December comes around.

This month, let us keep things positive and keep the inertia going. In this issue, we review an inspiring, positive book by Dana Perino – “And the Good News Is...” Let us find out how this woman is giving us practical insights on why and how using gentler words in debates can make a big difference. In politics, and much more in sports lately, it has become a bit trendy to knock down your opponent. Though such debates can lead to comical situations, it does little in terms of conflict resolution. Author Perino takes us on a different approach. Speaking of optimism, let's talk about ways to stop the negative self-talk and reduce stress. It is a safe bet that if you projected your inner dialogue to your friends, family or loved ones, you would have very little community left surrounding you. Let us change this bad habit of ours.

Your friends at the Asset Protection Center (AssetProtectionCenter.com) hope that you find valuable information in this Newsletter. Now, if you need advice on estate planning or asset protection, call us at 714-966-2646 today!

October 2019

“At our Firm,  
Your Estate Plan  
is Not Business,  
it's Personal...”



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Asset Protection, Estate Planning,  
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*Leading people is the most  
challenging and, therefore,  
the most gratifying  
undertaking of all  
human endeavors.*

*Jocko Willink*

## WHAT HAPPENS TO MY TRUST WHEN I MOVE

Whether we realize it or not, moving is a part of life. Whether it is created because of a change in jobs, family situation, or a simple desire for a change of scenery; many factors come into play when making that transition.

First of all, your social circle usually becomes one of the biggest changes you have to adapt to when moving. If you're lucky, that change can also be a pleasant experience, and you should make all efforts possible to prevent feeling alienated. We as a species are social beings, and it is a healthy thing to know people in your close geographical vicinity. This is often alleviated when someone has a job, as it often entails co-workers inviting you to social gatherings, happy hours and events of that sort. For those of us who are shy, this is usually uncomfortable, but something that can be overcome. Take it from someone who had to learn public speaking for a living, yet was too shy to talk to a stranger in his younger days 🙄.

The more 'technical' issues to deal with are your bank accounts and legal documents. With banking, if you are technically savvy at all, the majority of it is now done via the internet. Thus, doing an address change is usually not a big ordeal at all. Take caution nevertheless. No longer than two years ago, a client of mine had moved and was paying an investment property from his account that was withdrawn automatically. Unbeknownst to him, the loan rate was changing, and the bank had sent him a lender notice that was never received.

In the process, the monthly payment had been altered, and the normally automated payment did not go through as it did not match the bank's required amount. So for several months, his mortgage was not getting paid, and he simply had not seen it. By the time he caught on, his credit had been hurt, and there was nothing the bank would do to accommodate. The moral of the story... "Trust, but verify!"

What about your Revocable Living Trust (RLT), also known as your Inter Vivos Trust? After all, if you did it correctly, this legal document must have cost you several thousands of dollars. It would be a shame to let it all go to waste once you move out-of-state. Well, the good news is that other states will recognize it. Once a valid trust is created, it is valid in every state, not just the state in which it was created.

Again, the goal here is not to get reckless. You want to ensure that certain state specific issues are addressed. Maybe do a proper amendment or restatement. But the reality is that you can count on your Trust being recognized as valid.

When moving, a person has to take in many factors to leap forward in the right direction. It is normal that someone would feel overwhelmed with the amount of things that need to be handled. Thus, it does bring some comfort to know that your RLT is not as pressing as some of the other matters that would fall on your lap... I bet you never thought you'd hear an attorney saying that legal documents should not be a priority! But that is the point in this particular instance.

Moral of the story: As we see it, there are no shortfalls in doing a proper estate plan, whether you're going to stay put or move. But no matter what, it is always good to call us during any major life changes.

## Dana Perino - And the Good News Is...

As you may have noticed, a book written by a politician is not usually a book of choice. However, as a student of life, it is imperative to stay open minded. And we are glad we did. In "And the Good News Is," Author Dana Perino gives a very open and frank discussion about her life and the way her upbringing has formed her work ethic and political views.

She was raised in rural Wyoming. Not exactly the place that breeds brilliant politicians. However, it was during the early mornings and often demanding physical jobs where Perino developed a relentless approach to work. Born of Italian immigrants, her parents taught her early that life did not come easy. She would not be spared due to her youth or gender, as work was blind to excuses.

She tells of one episode where she developed her tough, yet gentle approach to debate. One day, driving home from work with her sister and father, they noticed a suffering horse. It was clear that the horse had a broken leg. The father took his rifle and was forced to kill the horse in order to end its suffering. Perino was sad and her father squeezed her knee ever so gently. Thus, was where her ability to remain firm yet gentle developed.

Her parents also had an insatiable appetite for reading and knowledge. From the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times, the Colorado Post, and the list went on. If it involved politics, her dad ordered it. And thus, the family would often gather around to read about the latest news happening in the world. Well, as fate would have it, this love drove Perino to D.C.

While in D.C. and especially under the Bush Administration, she went through the gamut of positions, until she landed her dream job of Deputy Press Secretary. By the time Obama took over, she fit the role perfectly for a talk show opening up at Fox News.

One of those remarkable sections in the book I appreciate, is the author's feelings regarding civility. She is firm standing by her belief that if the U.S. has lost one thing, it is the ability to disagree without giving respect to one another. She notes that people could use gentler words when debating, and that can make us all more productive.

Perino also proposes not working against one another if we actually have the same goals that we eventually want to achieve. Differences need not to be a blood sport and notes that people need to recognize that they choose when to open their mouths. Thus, it is likewise one's decision whether to be or speak and act graciously or not.

You will notice that this book has a very positive outlook towards the nation – and it succeeds at using an optimistic undertone. If you're looking to feel inspired, no matter your political disposition or side, you probably want to check out this book by Dana Perino.

## How to Stop the Negative Self-Talk and Reduce Stress

Stress has long been associated with chronic illnesses and diseases such as diabetes and heart attacks. It is often said that if you were to talk to a friend or a stranger the way you talk to yourself, you wouldn't know anyone! This implies that we are not too kind to ourselves. We can often be overtly critical of our mistakes, or have a habit of thinking that "everyone is staring at me." What would be a healthy way to deal with this you ask? Based on the countless books out there, positive thinking has long been touted as the answer to circumvent such bad habits. We would like to offer a solution one step deeper.

Let's be clear, positive thinking and positive self-talk is an incredibly important and necessary component of a successful life. Philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche was attributed with saying that you could give me any baby of normal capacity at birth, and he could turn him or her into anything. In this statement, he goes on to explain that we are nothing more than a reflection of what we are taught at birth. There is a lot of wisdom in that. However, what can you do if you find yourself today as an adult wanting to make changes? What if you have tried positive thinking, and haven't found out why it doesn't seem to quite work for you.

Let's start with a scenario and evaluate if you see yourself in it -

You completed your monthly report at the office and received compliments from colleagues "and your boss." Although, your boss suggests you add an additional sentence to the last paragraph. As you go home, you begin focusing your thoughts on the change your boss suggested while ignoring the praises you've received from the everyone on how well it was drafted. This is a form of filtering wherein you magnify the negatives of a specific situation, meanwhile filtering out its positive aspects.

First, identify areas in your life that you think negatively about all the time - is it your relationship, daily tasks or work in general? Start slow and focus only on one area that you can approach in a positive manner.

Here is one more step to take this positive approach to a whole new level - try subliminal messages. In other words, appealing to your subconscious. According to Psychologist Dr. Joe Dispenza, we fail to tap into 90% of our power source by grossly under utilizing our subconscious. If you have that part of your mind on board, the results will grow that much more quickly. If you are interested in developing that aspect of your skills, look into Dr. Dispenza's material, it will change your life!

For parting words - always practice positive self-talk by not saying anything to yourself that you actually don't want to say to other people. Instead of negative self-talk, you should instead use gentle and encouraging words with yourself. Start blocking out negative thoughts by evaluating and responding to them with affirmations that you are the right person for the job! Finally, think about the things that you're thankful for in your life.

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It was his mind, his sense of integrity that set him apart. It is the reason that almost 200 years later, he is still remembered as one of the greatest business tycoons of all time, and his philosophies are still studied to this day.

Religion was a guiding force throughout his life, and he believed it to be the source of his success. Whatever your beliefs may be, carry a strong sense of ideal and moral compass. It can only lead you to a better life. This is clearly evidenced by this great man... And while you're at it, get your Trust! 😊



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&  
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### How do you celebrate in October?

Halloween began as the festival of Samhain. It was part of the ancient Celtic religion in Britain and other parts of Europe. At the end of summer, the Celts thought the barrier between our world and the world of ghosts and spirits got really thin. ... The Celts had a big party.

In Mexico, the Day of the Dead, or Dia de Muertos in Spanish, is a multi-day holiday that involves family and friends gathering to pray for and remember friends and family members who have died, and help support their spiritual journey. In Mexican culture, death is viewed as a natural part of the human cycle. Mexicans view it not as a day of sadness but as a day of celebration because their loved ones awake and celebrate with them.

No matter how you celebrate, this October, be safe and happy and remember those who are gone but never forgotten.