



Monday Matters

January 7, 2013

Is Your Slate Clean?

Some years back I was working for an insurance company and responsible for the supervision of quite a few customer service representatives. One day my boss, a vice president, requested that I add a particular lady to my staff by the name of Faith. I knew who Faith was. She was a troublemaker, a person that had filed grievances against a previous supervisor. Her personnel file was inches thick with only problems in it. After thinking about it for maybe five seconds I told my boss I would rather not have her on my staff. He accepted my decision.

A couple of weeks later he came back to me and made the same request. Again I declined his offer. I knew he wouldn't force me to accept Faith and he fully understood my reasoning. Over the next week or so I thought long and hard about this situation. I decided to talk to Lee about his request and presented specific terms of how we could make this work. I told him I would add her to my staff if I could terminate her employment without any hassles or going through the Personnel Department if she created any more problems in the company. I also said that Faith would need to accept this condition. He agreed.

I sat down with Faith and told her that I would like her in my department on certain conditions. I explained that her personnel file was very thick, filled with complaints since she was hired. I showed her her new personnel file. It was empty. I said that what she puts into it is up to her. It can be good or it can be bad. It was her decision.

Click on Video below



Mighty Clouds Of Joy
song by B.J. Thomas

Quote of the Week

January starts off with a new year, a new year with new beginnings and new hopes. A new year hoping to be successful and hoping all your efforts and hard work will be paid off. This is a chance of a lifetime and a chance to start all over again.

~Wazim Shaw~

The Nelson Family

However, I also told her this was her last chance with the company. If she fails to make good and be a model employee I would immediately fire her. For whatever the reason she agreed. Again I showed her new personnel file - empty. She was starting with a clean slate.



Much to everyone's surprise, Faith made a 180 degree turn with her life. She became that model employee. I never once had to talk to her about anything but good. After six months she applied for a higher level position within the division. I highly recommended her. Faith was one of the two finalists for the position but was not selected, only because of the other candidate having more experience. Even the manager of that area, who knew Faith well, was greatly impressed with her total change.

Faith remained with the company for many years after and remained a model employee. She had started her new life with a clean slate and only entered good and positive items in her personnel file.

Sitting in church at New Year's I was reminded of the story of Faith and the change she had made in her life. I was also reminded about the verses in the Bible about change. In 2 Corinthians 5:17 it says, "Therefore if any person is [ingrafted] in Christ (the Messiah) he is a new creation (a new creature altogether); the old [previous moral and spiritual condition] has passed away. Behold, the fresh and new has come!" (AMP). If we have accepted Christ as our Savior, our lives are changed, our slate has been wiped clean. We have an empty file. The old file folder has been discarded. Isn't that fantastic? As I looked at the many, many responses to last week's Monday Matters, I read where people had changed their lives, where people decided not to quit, where people had their slates cleaned. As we continue into this new year, remember to begin with a clean slate, a clean file folder, and to put only positive and good things into your life. Each year we are reminded that we have a second chance to make a difference in and through our lives. Let's make 2013 our best year yet!



Anthony, Kristin, Leif, Juliana,
Soren, Mia, Evangeline
The Nelson's are missionaries
to the natives in Alaska.
Read about the update to
"The Update - Saving Fingers -
Saving Souls" at:

NelsonNews.org

Monday Matters

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Without Wings
by Linda J. Nelson