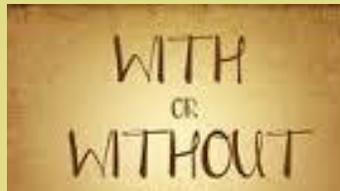




Monday Matters

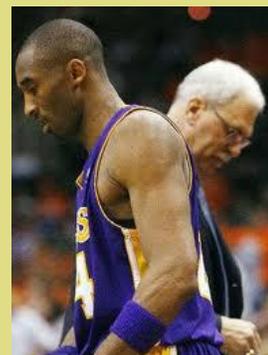
October 6, 2014



We live in the country, and we usually don't travel into town every day of the week. Sometimes we go more than other weeks. It depends on what we need to do that requires something from town. Last night we had a meeting at church, so we left a little early to stop at our favorite McDonald's for something to eat. Most people don't have a "favorite" McDonald's, and we normally wouldn't either, but this particular McD's often has Fox News on TV.

We don't have cable TV out here in the country, so we generally only get network news, which admittedly is not the news feed we would prefer. We look forward to this little visit to McD's so we can get some real news. However, last night they didn't have the news on...they had a sports station on. Even though it was disappointing to me, Ron got some sports news that he enjoyed.

They were interviewing a basketball player, Kobe Bryant. I noticed some statistics they placed on the screen referring to his accomplishments. What I found interesting was his numbers "with" and "without" a coach named Phil Jackson.



	With Phil Jackson	Without Phil Jackson
Seasons	11	7
Playoff Win/Loss	118 - 62	17 - 23
Final Appearances	7	0

Titles	5	0
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You can see with this chart that Kobe Bryant did not do so well without Phil Jackson as a coach. This coach seemed to boost this player's potential and bring him to play the game better.

So many times in life we experience the same thing. Someone comes alongside us and helps us to view ourselves or our world in a way that increases our potential. It can result in being an unforgettable and unique relationship that helped round us out and broaden who we are.

"Coming alongside" is designed for our benefit. 2 Corinthians chapter 1 talks about coming alongside. *"All praise to the God and Father of our Master, Jesus the Messiah! Father of all mercy! God of all healing counsel! He comes alongside us when we go through hard times, and before you know it, He brings us alongside someone else who is going through hard times so that we can be there for that person just as God was there for us."* (The Message)



**God created us to give and receive.
Be a blessing - give. Be a blessing - receive.**



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