

## Discover the 90/10 Principle

The 90/10 Principle can change your life by changing the way you react to situations. What it means is: 10% of life is made up of what happens to you, but 90% of life is decided by how you react. This means we really have NO control over 10% of what happens to us. You cannot control a red light. However, you can control your reaction. Do not let people fool you. YOU can control how you react.

Let us use an example: You are having breakfast with your family. Your daughter knocks over a cup of coffee onto your business shirt. You have no control over what has just happened. What happens next will be determined by how you react. You curse. You harshly scold your daughter for knocking the cup over. She breaks down in tears. After scolding her, your turn to your wife and you criticize her for placing the cup too close to the edge of the table. A short verbal battle follows. You storm upstairs and change your shirt. Back downstairs, you find your daughter has been too busy crying to finish her breakfast and getting ready to go to school. She misses the bus.

Your spouse must leave immediately for work. You rush to the car and drive your daughter to school. Because you are late, you drive 45 miles per hour in a 30 mph speed limit zone. After a 15-minute delay and a \$60.00 traffic fine, you arrive at school. Your daughter runs into the building without saying goodbye. After arriving at the office 20 minutes late, you realize you forgot your briefcase. Your day has started terrible and it continues to get worse and worse. You look forward to going home. When you arrive home, you find a small wedge in your relationship with your wife and daughter. Why? It was all because of how you reacted that morning at the breakfast table.

What caused the bad day? Did the coffee cause it? Did your daughter cause it? Did the policeman cause it? Did you cause it? The answer is, you caused it. You had no control over what happened with the coffee. How you reacted in those 5 seconds is what caused your bad day.

Here is what could have and should have happened: Coffee splashes over you. Your daughter is about to cry. You gently say: "It is okay, honey, you just need to be more careful next time." Grabbing a towel you go upstairs and change your shirt. You grab your briefcase, and you come back down in time to look through the window and see your child getting on the bus. She turns and waves. You arrive 5 minutes early and cheerfully greet the staff.

What a difference! There were two different scenarios. Both started the same. Both ended differently, but why? The difference was your reaction. You really have no control over 10% of what happens in your life (the coffee). The other 90% was determined by YOU--your reaction.

Millions of people are suffering from undeserved stress, trials, problems and headaches. We all must understand and apply the 90/10 Principle. It can change your life! Enjoy it. It only takes willpower to give ourselves permission to make the change. Absolutely everything we do, give, say, or even think is like a boomerang. It will come back to us. If we want to receive, we must first learn to give. This reminds me of the Golden Rule that Jesus gave to the world: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." (Contributed)

Funny Isn't It

Funny how a \$20.00 bill looks so big when you take it to church, but so small when you take it to the market.

Funny how big an hour serving God looks and how small 60 minutes are when spent playing golf, fishing, or talking on the telephone.

Funny how long a couple of hours seems when spent at church, but how short they are when watching a movie.

Funny how we get thrilled when a football game goes into overtime, but we complain when a sermon is longer than the regular time.

Funny how laborious it is to read a chapter in the Bible and how easy it is to read 200-300 pages of a best selling novel.

Funny how we believe what newspapers say, but question what the Bible says.

Funny how people scramble to get a front row seat at any games, but scramble to get a back seat at a church service.

Funny how we cannot fit a gospel meeting into our schedule with a yearly planner, but we can schedule for other events at a moment's notice.

Funny how we need two or three weeks to fit a church activity into our schedule, but can adjust it for a social event at the last minute.

Funny how much difficulty some have learning a simple gospel well enough to tell others, but how simple it is for the same people to understand and explain gossip about someone.

Funny how we can't think of anything to say when we pray, and don't have any difficulty thinking of things to talk about to a friend.

Funny how we are so quick to take directions from a total stranger when we are lost, but are hesitant to take God's directions to be found.

Funny how people are so consumed with what others think about them rather than what God thinks about them.

Funny how so many churchgoers sing, "Standing on the Promises," but all they do is sit on the premises.

Funny how people think that they can get more accomplished in a lifetime without God than in an hour with Him.

Funny how everyone wants to go to heaven, provided they don't have to believe, or to think, or to say, or to do anything.

Not really funny, is it? (Author Unknown)

## Changing Course

"Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord..." (Acts 3:19)

For years, the opening of "The Wide World of Sports" television program illustrated "the agony of defeat" with a painful ending to an attempted ski jump. The skier appeared in good form as he headed down the jump, but then, for no apparent reason, he tumbled head over heels off the side of the jump, bouncing off the supporting structure. What viewers didn't know was that he chose to fall rather than finish the jump. Why? As he explained later, the jump surface had become too fast, and midway down the ramp, he realized if he completed the jump, he would land on the level ground,

beyond the safe slope landing area, which could have been fatal. As it was, the skier suffered no more than a headache from the tumble.

To change one's course in life can be a dramatic and sometimes painful undertaking, but change is better than a fatal landing at the end. (From Illustrations for Preaching and Teaching, p. 21)

### Rules For A Happy Married Life

Never both be angry at once.

Never yell at each other unless the house is on fire.

Yield to the wishes of the other as an exercise in self-discipline if you can't think of a better reason.

If you have a choice between making yourself or your mate look good, choose your mate.

If you have any criticism, make it lovingly.

Never bring up a mistake of the past.

Neglect the whole world rather than each other.

Never let the day end without saying at least one kind or complimentary thing to your life's partner.

Never meet without an affectionate welcome.

Never let the sun go down on an argument unresolved.

When you do wrong, make sure you have talked it out and asked for forgiveness.

Remember, it takes two to make a quarrel. The one with the least sense is the one who will be doing the most talking.

### A Moments Wisdom

He who is a Christian in little things is not little himself.

Man has the opportunity, but not the right, to do wrong.

Past experience should be a guide post, not a hitching post.

Praise makes good men better and bad men worse.

Many people who claim to be neutral soon show which side they are on.

It is easy to tell one lie; it is hard to tell only one.