
INJOY LIFE CLUB

What To Do In A Crisis

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Intro:

Terse Verse

"From the day of your birth, til you ride in your hearse,
Things are never so bad that they couldn't get worse."

There are two kinds of people:

1. Those who have problems
2. Those who are about to have problems.

Definition of a crisis - _____

Three Reasons For Continued Conflict

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Arnold Toynbee, the historian, says every nation, movement, or organization can face its crisis hours in one of four ways:

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____

How to take the "crisis" out of a crisis:

1. _____

You cannot prepare for crisis without anticipating it. Anticipation begins with the simple acknowledgment that crisis can and will occur. Heroic leaders accept the fact that they are not invincible, that even the best-made plans will, at some point, come up against unforeseen obstacles.

They know that just because you can't foresee a crisis doesn't mean you can't anticipate the inevitability of crisis.

A crisis many times becomes a crisis because we did not anticipate it.

You know it's going to be a bad year when...

- ◆ The government notifies you that your Social Security number has been revoked.
- ◆ Your personal computer threatens to tell all.
- ◆ As the moving van starts to unload next door, the first four items down the ramp are dirt bikes.
- ◆ Your 14-year old daughter insists Jesus never preached against pierced noses.
- ◆ Your ailing station wagon fails to qualify for the demolition derby.
- ◆ Upon arriving home from a week in the Bahamas, you can't find your Bible with six months of Sunday school plans tucked inside.
- ◆ Your new boss asks if they've filled your old position yet.
- ◆ Your pacemaker is recalled by the manufacturer.
- ◆ Your church treasurer says, "The IRS called me the other day about some of your donation totals..."

(The Christian Herald, January 1988)

2. _____

Three common choices when a crisis comes:

- ◆ Refuse to accept it
- ◆ Accept it but just put up with it
- ◆ Accept it and try to benefit from it

"This is a great truth, one of the greatest truths. It is a great truth because once we truly see this truth, we transcend it. Once we truly know that life is difficult - once we truly understand and accept it - then life is no longer difficult. Because once it has been accepted, the fact that life is difficult no longer matters.

Most do not fully see this truth that life is difficult. Instead they moan more or less incessantly, noisily or subtly, about the enormity of their problems... as if life were generally easy, as if life SHOULD be easy."

(Scott Peck, The Road Less Traveled)

Paul Harvey said: "In times like these it is good to remember that there have always been times like these."

3. _____

"When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us."

(Helen Keller)

Abraham Maslow said, "If the only tool you have is a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail."

Why we fail to see the "Big Picture" in a crisis:

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____

How to see the big picture:

A. _____
Swap problems because we all know how to solve other people's problems.

B. _____
When confronted by an impossible crisis it is easier solved by reducing it to this question: "HOW WOULD THE LONE RANGER HAVE HANDLED THIS?"

- 1) What is the problem?
- 2) What is the background?
- 3) What is the worse thing that could happen?
- 4) What is the best thing that could happen?
- 5) What are the possible options?
- 6) What is the best option?
- 7) How should this option be processed?
- 8) Did this course of action work?
- 9) What did we learn?
- 10) Is there a plan to keep this from happening again?
- 11) Did I train anyone during this ordeal?

C. _____

4. _____

A crisis will put the "squeeze" on your character.

5. _____
Richard Sloma says, "Never try to solve all the problems all at once—make them line up for you one-by-one. Whether you face three problems, thirty, or three hundred...make them stand in single file so you face only one at a time."

The object of all dedicated employees should be to thoroughly analyze all instructions, anticipate all problems prior to their occurrence, have answers for these problems and move swiftly to solve these problems when called upon...

However...when you are up to your neck in alligators, it is difficult to remind yourself that your initial objective was to drain the swamp.

6. _____

Getting emotionally hooked is one of the easiest, most common, and most dangerous facets of problem solving. None of us is immune to it. We've all succumbed to our emotions at one point or another, and we will again – probably soon. You're emotionally hooked when your emotions are in control, when you can no longer think logically. You are "hooked" when you don't really care about the problem any more; you simply want to satisfy your feelings.

The "Peak To Peak" Principle



Where do you make your decisions?

7. _____
"Nothing is more dangerous than an idea when it is the only one we have."
(Emile Chartier)

Creativity is being able to look at whatever else people are looking at – and think something totally different. We have been taught to look for the right answer. However, there are often several right answers. Start by looking for the second right answer.

8. _____
Charles Swindoll says, "Of all the things God created, I am often most grateful He created laughter." Unlike Charlie Brown who "only dreads life one day at a time," God want us to have fun and enjoy life. He wants us to have a joyful spirit when we approach our problems. Having fun releases our problem-solving abilities and gives us an objective and flexible frame of reference. So, laugh away your troubles.

9. _____
The Chinese word for crisis is a combination of the characters meaning "danger" and "opportunity."

10. _____
"The measure of success is not whether you have a tough problem to deal with, but whether it is the same problem you had last year."
(John Foster Dulles)

"Each new morning, before you awaken, life makes a delivery to your front door, rings the doorbell, and runs. Each package is cleverly wrapped. Put together they comprise a series of challenging opportunities, brilliantly disguised as unsolvable problems. They are wrapped in paper with big print: 'WATCH OUT - BETTER WORRY ABOUT THIS.' 'DANGER - THIS WILL BRING FEAR.' 'IMPOSSIBLE - YOU'LL NEVER HANDLE THIS ONE.'

When you hear the ring in the morning, try something new...have Jesus Christ answer the door for you."

(Chuck Swindoll)