



Create a Pet Pleasure

“Christ died for us so that, whether we are dead or alive when he returns, we can live with him forever. So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.”

The Apostle Paul | 1 Thessalonians 5:10-11 (NLT)

I’ve developed a huge pet peeve... perhaps you have too?

COVID hit and the world was spinning. Not just lives were threatened—people’s livelihoods were too. I was moved to boost my tipping; I raised my usual 15% to 25%. It was the least I could do, and many others did the same. It felt good to build others up, even if only in a small way.

Now, several years later, heartfelt generosity has been institutionalized. Swipe your card and up pop preset options: 20, 25, even 30%! Off in the corner is one called “Other.” Selecting it requires a

deliberate, guilt-filled effort. Ugh.

Then I go to an airport counter to buy a cookie, and the tip options pop up... really?!

Am I saying workers don't deserve tips? Absolutely not. But the spirit of tipping—to express gratitude and satisfaction for service—has been snuffed out.

Reflect: **How often do I express sincere gratitude to others?**

Who likes being forced or guilted into giving? Now, each time I go to pay, I feel myself recoil—a hot button pushed. It makes me not want to give anything—and I've felt it spreading like cancer, tightening my grip, my lips, even my heart—tight, tight, tight!

“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” (Hebrews 13:16 ESV)

Is this the good God has me here for? It's not good for me, for others, or pleasing to him. My pet peeve is tainting my attitude—it's keeping me from building others up and is fostering selfishness. It's keeping me from my Mission.

Consider: **If a pet peeve fosters selfishness, what might a pet pleasure do?**

Who would have guessed a pet peeve has such power? It's that old principle at work—you reap what you sow. During COVID, my act of generosity filled me, inspiring me to do even more. Now, the institutionalization of tipping has tightened my grip, with compounding consequences.

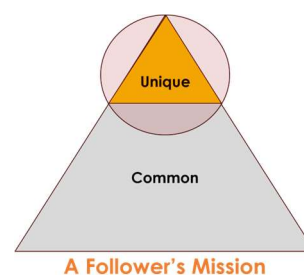
"Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous." The Apostle Paul (2 Corinthians 9:11)

I'm guaranteed life with Christ forever—I've already been enriched in every way! I can always be generous. I realize I have no excuse to maintain a tight grip.

Challenged, I asked, "How can I flip this and regain my inspiration?" I decided to create a "**Pet Pleasure**": encourage and build others up... turns out it's part of my Mission—yours too.

*Imagine: **My Mission includes encouraging and building others up every day.***

Jesus has left you here on earth for a reason—a **Mission**—to carry on what he started. You are to follow him, his ways—you're a **Follower**. Part of this work leverages your uniqueness—your experiences, personality, and wiring—your "**Unique Mission**."



“You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” Jesus Christ (Matthew 22:37-39)

But most of your Mission is shared with all Followers—your **“Common Mission.”** It includes the Great Commission, the Greatest Commandments, and so much more. Watch out! Neglect your Common Mission and, like cancer, it will spread to the point that your overall Mission becomes stuck in the mire. Free it up! Squash your pet peeve and...

Create a Pet Pleasure!

Go off the grid and ask these questions:

Coach’s Questions

- **Reflect:** “What pet peeve has developed in me?”
- **Ask:** “What are some of the Biblical commands that form my Common Mission?”
- **Act:** Select one and create a Pet Pleasure to advance it.
- Don’t know my Mission? [Start here!](#)

Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

Encourage and Build Others Up Daily.

"Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works."

Hebrews 10:24 (NLT)



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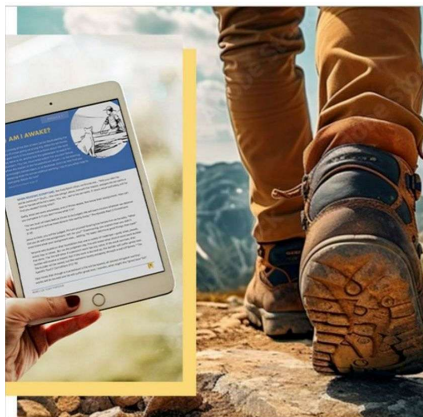
Forward



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Don't know your Mission?

Our "Mobilize Your Mission Self-Guided Workshop" will guide you to it.



This focused workshop progresses down a proven path where you'll receive your Mission (the work God has you here to do) and the passion filled story that powers it. Along the way, discover the four life transforming Foundations of Mission and find yourself challenged to enter the Adventure of Your Life.

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~ DAN B.

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