

## Parenting Tip

### 21 Things The Rich Do That The Poor Don't

By Tom Corley

So what do the rich do every day that the poor don't do?

Tom Corley, on his website RichHabits.net, outlines a few of the differences between the habits of the rich and the poor:

1. 70% of wealthy eat less than 300 junk food calories per day. 97% of poor people eat more than 300 junk food calories per day.
2. 80% of wealthy are focused on accomplishing some single goal. Only 12% of the poor do this.
3. 76% of wealthy exercise aerobically 4 days a week. 23% of poor do this.
4. 63% of wealthy listen to audio books during commute to work vs. 5% for poor people.
5. 81% of wealthy maintain a to-do list vs. 19% for poor.
6. 63% of wealthy parents make their children read 2 or more non-fiction books a month vs. 3% for poor.
7. 70% of wealthy parents make their children volunteer 10 hours or more a month vs. 3% for poor.
8. 80% of wealthy make Happy Birthday calls vs. 11% of poor
9. 67% of wealthy write down their goals vs. 17% for poor
10. 88% of wealthy read 30 minutes or more each day for education or career reasons vs 2% for poor.
11. 6% of wealthy say what's on their mind vs. 69% for poor.
12. 79% of wealthy network 5 hours or more each month vs. 16% for poor.
13. 67% of wealthy watch 1 hour or less of TV. every day vs. 23% for poor
14. 6% of wealthy watch reality TV vs. 78% for poor.
15. 23% of wealthy gamble. 52% of poor people gamble.
16. 44% of wealthy wake up 3 hours before work starts vs.3% for poor.
17. 74% of wealthy teach good daily success habits to their children vs. 1% for poor.
18. 84% of wealthy believe good habits create opportunity luck vs. 4% for poor.
19. 76% of wealthy believe bad habits create detrimental luck vs. 9% for poor.
20. 86% of wealthy believe in life-long educational self-improvement vs. 5% for poor.
21. 86% of wealthy love to read vs. 26% for poor.

## Spiritual Tip

### The Principle of the Harvest: You Reap More Than You Sow

By Rick Warren

The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 9:6-7, "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (NIV).

If you ever feel pressured to give, don't. You don't get any credit for that kind of gift. The Bible says, "God loves a cheerful giver." God's not looking at the amount you give but at your attitude.

This principle of sowing and reaping applies to every area of life, not just your finances. Whatever you sow in life, you're going to reap. Whatever you deposit is going to be returned to you. If you sow criticism in life, you are going to reap criticism from other people. If you sow kindness, you're going to reap kindness.

It's the law of the harvest. If you plant apple seeds, you don't get pears; you get apples. If you sow with generosity, you will reap generosity.

This is the principle of the harvest: Whenever you have a need, plant a seed. When a farmer looks at his barren fields, he doesn't gripe about it. He just goes out and starts planting some seed. If he only has a little bit of seed, he has a choice. He can either hoard it, or he can give it away. If he holds onto it, that's all he's got. If he gives it away, God will multiply it. The amazing thing is this: You don't just reap what you sow. You always reap more than you sow!

God set it up this way because he wants you to become like him. God is a giver.

The only way that you're ever going to become like him is to learn to be generous. When you're stingy, you're like the devil. When you're generous, you're like God. When you give it away, God multiplies it.

This sounds illogical — to give away when you have a need so that you will get more back. But that's why it's faith! God says the way you get is by giving, not by holding on.

# Marriage Tip

## Things I Wish I Knew Before We Got Married - Part 2

By Gary Chapman

The book, Things I Wish I'd Known Before We Got Married, is my attempt to help couples get ready for marriage. I looked back on my own life and asked, "What do I know now that I wish I had known then?" I think if someone had told me these things, my marriage would have been much easier. Let's face it most people spend far more time preparing for their vacation than preparing for their marriage. Perhaps that's why they are more successful in their vacations than in their marriages. I hope you'll learn from my mistakes.

### 5. How To Listen

One evening about six weeks after our wedding, Carolyn and I were engaged in a full-fledged argument. In the midst of the argument, she went to a closet, got her raincoat, slammed the front door and walked out into the pouring rain. My first thought was, "Why doesn't she stay and fight like a man?" My second thought was, "What have I done?"

I wish I'd known how to listen, how to respect her ideas and feelings, how to treat her with love, instead of demanding that she agree with me. There is so much I've learned in our 40 plus years of marriage.

### 6. Talk About Marriage Roles

About six weeks after we got married, I said to Carolyn, "Honey, the toilet is getting dirty." To which she responded, "I know, I was wondering when you're going to clean it." "Me, I don't know how to clean toilets." "I can teach you," she said.

Have you thought about who will do what after you are married? Who will buy the groceries? Cook the meals? Mop the floors? Vacuum the carpets? Wash the dishes? Mow the grass? And walk the dog? Deciding these matters before you get married will save you a lot of frustration after the wedding.

### 7. Talk About Money

Are you thinking about getting married? Do you have a plan for handling your money? Do you know how much debt your 'spouse to be' has accumulated? Do you know how much they have in savings? Once you get married, how much of your

regular income do you plan to save? How much do you plan to give away? Who will balance the checkbook each month?

These are the kind of questions that should be answered before you get married. Money is a huge area of conflict among married couples. Much of this could be avoided if we talk honestly about how we will handle money after we get married.

### 8. Talk About Sex

I wish I'd known, before we got married, that mutual sexual fulfillment is not automatic.

I had the idea, "I'm fully male. She is fully female. We have a high level of sexual attraction for each other. What more could we need?" Answer? A lot more! You would think that with all the explicit sex talk we find on TV and radio that sex would not be a problem in marriage.

In reality, sex becomes a battlefield for many couples. Information and communication are the keys to finding mutual sexual satisfaction in marriage. Sex was God's idea. You will not find the answer in Hollywood movies, or TV sitcoms.

### 9. Talk About Faith

When couples contemplate marriage, religion needs to be near the top of the list of matters that need to be discussed. Mankind is incurably religious. There are no cultures that have not developed a system of beliefs about the non-material world. These religious beliefs greatly influence the behavior of those who believe them.

Therefore, if you are thinking about getting married, I urge you to discuss your beliefs about spiritual matters. The Scriptures ask, "Can two walk together if they do not agree?" The answer is; "not very well."

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