

## Spiritual Tip

### Who Will Be a Good Samaritan?

Several years ago two psychologists conducted a study of seminary students to see who would stop and help a man in distress. The study, of course, was inspired by the story of the Good Samaritan.

You remember the story in Luke 10: Jesus had commended a young man in answering correctly that the whole Law could be summed up in the command to love the Lord your God with all your heart...and your neighbor as yourself.

Next, the young man, wanting to justify himself, asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" At that, Jesus tells the story of the Good Samaritan.

So, based on the truth in this story, the psychologists set up a scenario that asked seminary students deliver a short talk on a biblical theme, then walk over to a nearby building to present it. On the way over, each student ran into a man slumped down, coughing and groaning, clearly in distress. Who would stop to help the man?

To try and predict who would stop, the psychologists studied the seminary students' motivation for entering the ministry, and their beliefs about helping others. They also primed them by reviewing the story of the Good Samaritan before they crossed the road. However, psychologists discovered that none of these factors indicated with any accuracy who would help the man.

However, there was one factor they discovered was an accurate predictor: time.

Each seminary student, prior to crossing the road, would receive one of two directions. The experimenter would look at his watch then say either, "You're late. They were expecting you a couple of minutes ago. We'd better get moving" or "It will be a few minutes before they're ready for you, but you might as well head over now."

Wow. Do you catch that? The determining factor in whether the distressed man received help was whether or not the student had time to do it.

#### Action Point

Take a hard look at your schedule and the routines in your life and your family's life. To create room for selfless living, cut out some things. Allow a margin of time for working on behalf of others, even unexpectedly. You may not see the man in distress right now, but you can be sure that if you make room for him now, not only will you see him later, you will also have time to stop for him.

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## Marriage Tip

### “Why won’t my husband listen to me?”

#### By Carol Tuttle

If you've ever said that, you don't have to stay frustrated. If you feel like your husband doesn't listen, you might be surprised to find that you can change the pattern without changing him at all!

Here are 3 surprising reasons your husband doesn't listen.

Try out my tips and see what changes...

#### 1. You talk too much (without saying anything more).

Because many women suffer from a feeling of not being heard, they try to make up for it by talking more than necessary.

A husband will often tune out his wife after 10-15 minutes.

When that happens, the wife intuitively notices she's not being heard and talks more in an attempt to get his attention. But that causes the opposite of what she wants. Try to stop talking if he is not listening and figure out why. Husbands pick up on an energy of resentment and often deal with it by tuning out even more. Have you ever experienced a moment like that?

Your husband will listen better if you just share what you want to say in a few minutes. Go for the “bullet points”.

#### 2. You catch him at the wrong time when he is already focusing on something else.

Some women ask their husband to listen when he is already in the middle of something.

Of course, you want your husband's attention, but if he's already focused on something else, he naturally won't be able to give it to you 100%. He would have to completely stop what he is doing, listen to you, and then go back and start up again the other project if possible. Talk before he starts a project or else wait. That would be showing more respect for his time by letting him finish...unless it's an emergency of course.

#### 3. You believe he won't listen.

If you've ever been caught in the first two patterns, you probably found yourself saying again, “My husband doesn't listen to me!”

When you put that out there, you only set the stage for it to happen again. Great communication is the foundation of any good marriage. So communicate what you need.

Try this: “Honey, I really want you to pay 100% attention to what I want to share with you. When could you give me that?” Even consider naming how many minutes you need.

It is okay and appropriate to expect that attention and time from your husband! When he gives it to you, share what you want in a time frame that honors his attention span and your needs.

He will be shocked when you say, “I'm done.” He will exclaim, “Really?” And he'll be even more willing to listen the next time.

May you and your spouse both listen to one another with respect and love.

# Parenting Tip

## The Number 1 Thing NOT To Say To Kids About Money

By Carol Tuttle

It's amazing, isn't it?

Just how much stuff is on your child's Christmas list?

Do their wants ever seem a little excessive?

Before you say anything, before you try to give them more "realistic" expectations, consider your wording, how you are going to phrase it, and also what are your underlying beliefs about wanting something. Don't make this mistake.

The mistake we make when faced with a child's endless wants, parents everywhere say a certain phrase.

It's a phrase of limiting belief. We say it over and over. The result is shutting our children down spiritually.

Parents think they're helping their child write a more realistic Christmas list. But actually they're just imprinting that child with a feeling of lack and a belief that they are dependent and helpless.

All that from one 4-word phrase!

**"We can't afford it!"**

Watch this video to hear the damaging phrase and to know what to say instead...

- See more at:  
<http://thechildwhisperer.com/child-christmas-list/#sthash.NDf7Enix.dpuf>

The wants never go away all your life.

The phrase, "We can't afford it", communicates to our children that they are selfish to want so many things. They want too much.

But think about it.

We were born in a state of want. As babies, we wanted love, food, care, and support.

As an adult, you're still wanting. You don't always want things. You might want certain experiences, connections, new skills, validation, or just more time.

Your children were born wanting and they'll never stop wanting. That doesn't have to be a drain on a parent. It can be a wonderful, fun opportunity to teach a child how to create and receive their desires in this world.

What I am NOT suggesting.

I'm not suggesting you buy everything on your child's Christmas list - or that you give

your child false expectations that you will. I'm not suggesting that you tell your child that anything they want will appear (poof!) if they just wish for it.

I am suggesting that before you communicate boundaries about how much you choose to spend, you consider your beliefs.

Of course you can guide your child in knowing what to reasonably expect from you on Christmas.

You can even explain why you choose not to spend money in certain ways, if you want.

But you don't need to say that phrase - ever. There's no reason.

It doesn't matter if you feel you can't afford a gift or not. It's not about the stuff anyway.

One of the greatest gifts you can give your child is the understanding that they create their life, not you. Once they know this, you can more easily teach them to create experiences of contentment and gratitude with what they already have.

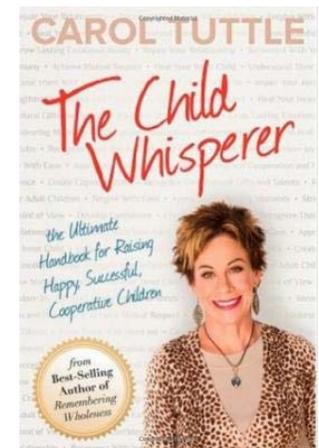
View more at:  
<http://thechildwhisperer.com>

Also check out Carol's CD on The Law of Attraction for Kids

and Teens. It will help parents understand how to teach children about their own creatorship and not being dependent on others...a stepping stone to being responsible adults.

Visit Carol's website to get a free 7 day online course called "How To Have A More Cooperative Child in 7 Days"

<http://thechildwhisperer.com/child-christmas-list/>



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