Leadership Link Author: Sharleen Smith March 2013

Tick, tick, tick...

Yes, here we are in the month of March! So how goes it, my friend? Still making it with those REVOLUTIONS? Or has time gotten the best of you? Did you start the year with a bang toward organization, prioritizing and leadership, but now you barely hear a fizzle of purpose? You know, kind of like the end of a sparkler on New Year's Eve. A spark here and spark there then a slow burnout! "But...Sharleen...once the year started rolling and things kept getting piled on my desk, in my car and on my plate...well, I'm hard press to find time for anything!"

Let's say there is a bank in town that credited \$86,400 to your account each morning. However, the bank does not allow the balance to be carried over from day to day. "What, you are giving me money then taking it away in 24 hours? Are you the IRS?" No, but you read it correctly. The bank will not allow you to keep any cash in your account at the end of 24 hours. In other words, the bank deletes the amount you fail to use. What would you do? Try to spend every cent during each 24 hours, of course!

Well, everyone does have such a bank, and its name is TIME. Every morning this bank credits you with 86,400 seconds. That night at 11:59 p.m. it empties out and at midnight credits you with 86,400 more seconds! We all have the same deposit. 60 seconds in a minute, 60 minutes in an hour, 24 hours in a day. Time cannot be saved. Time cannot be stored. It is not how much we have. It is how we use it and what we put into it.

I used to author two newspaper columns called Motivational Moments and Management Moments. All we have are moments. A moment to be motivational. A moment to manage our employees. A moment to lead. A moment to make a difference. I truly believe that we need to use our moments with purpose, in service to mankind and in making a difference. However, are you doing this? Are we making progress in bringing positive action to the needs of our special children? Are we changing our community and our state? Are we making any headway in sharing our stories? It only takes a moment.

Moments spent in purpose join with other moments to change the world – our world. Are you living your moments with purpose, reaching for your goals, living out your life values? Each new day does not carry over a balance and does not allow overdrafts. If you don't use the day's deposit, we lose it. There is no going back, no "banking" on tomorrow.

So, let me ask you again, "How goes it, my friends?" Tick, tick, tick, tick, tick, tick...

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