



March 07, 2010

I Will Seize Opportunities

(Seeing the possibilities in problems)
(SERIES: Accept No Mediocre Life; 04 of 07)
by Dr. David Foster

"If you wait for perfect conditions, you will never get anything done." (Eccl 11:4 TLB)

3 Ways Life Works in the Real World

1. Out of clutter, find **simplicity**.
2. Out of discord, find **harmony**.
3. Out of crisis arises **opportunity**.

How to Find an Opportunity

It all starts with a **crisis**.

"... He was a giant of a man, measuring over nine feet tall! He wore a bronze helmet, a two-hundred-pound coat of mail, bronze leggings, and carried a bronze javelin several inches thick, tipped with a twenty-five-pound iron spearhead, and his armor-bearer walked ahead of him with a huge shield. He stood and shouted across to the Israelis, 'Do you need a whole army to settle this? I will represent the Philistines, and you choose someone to represent you, and we will settle this in single combat! If your man is able to kill me, then we will be your slaves. But if I kill him, then you must be our slaves! I defy the armies of Israel! Send me a man who will fight with me!' When Saul and the Israeli army heard this, they were dismayed and frightened."
(1 Sam 17:1-11; NIV)

Isolate the U.S.P. (unique serving proposition)

"**Have you seen the giant?**' the soldiers were asking. 'He has insulted the entire army of Israel. And have you heard about the huge reward the king has offered to anyone who kills him?'"
(1 Sam 17:20-26; NIV)

Do what you're prepared to do.

"For I know **the plans I** have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. **You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.**" (Jer 29:11-13; NIV)

3 Ways to be Ready

The will to win must be preceded with the will to prepare.

"How can a kid like you fight with a man like him? ..."

Half the battle is won when you show up.

"Then he picked up five smooth stones from a stream and put them in his shepherd's bag and, armed only with his shepherd's staff and sling, started across to Goliath. Goliath walked out toward David ... sneering in contempt, 'Am I a dog,' he roared.

You must drink your own Kool-Aid.

"Today the Lord will conquer you, and I will kill you and cut off your head; and then I will give the dead bodies of your men to the birds and wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel!"