

Ask Ken That Time Again Coleman

Start with Humility and Gratitude

QUESTION: I’ve been with my employer for almost 10 years. Over the last four years I’ve received two promotions, but no increase in pay. It’s getting to the point where I feel like the owner is taking me for granted. How can I approach him about a raise without jeopardizing my career?

ANSWER: Trust me, we’ve all been in situations where we’ve felt we deserved better — or more. And sometimes we’re right. If you’ve shown your boss you’re worth more, and he doesn’t see it, that could be life showing you an exit. If you like your job and the industry you’re in, however, asking for a raise is often more about posture than technique.

The best way to ask for a raise is to first research your industry, and more specifically, your job title. Go in with an attitude of humility and gratitude — combined with the research you’ve done, and your accomplishments with the company — and ask what you need to do in order to make more money. Don’t issue an ultimatum, or ask for an answer immediately. Have a friendly, professional conversation, and politely ask your boss to give your request consideration.

Remember, you can’t control how he will react. All you can do is approach the situation with the proper posture and attitude. In many cases, that makes all the difference.

Realizing Your Dream

QUESTION: I’m in an unhappy place in my career. I don’t enjoy my current job, but I don’t know what I really want to do, either. How can I learn what I was made to do?

ANSWER: I believe it all starts with discovery. Once you realize who you really are on the inside, you can more easily begin to unpack and examine the things you’re passionate about and where your true talents lie.

I’m not talking about some kind of pat-yourself-on-the-back exercise. I want you to sit down, and make a list of some serious stuff. Write out your talents, your weaknesses, what excites you, and the things that

Well here it is that time once again. The new clothing has been bought. Backpacks are filled with note books, pencils, loose leaf paper, colors, glue and etc. set at the ready. New haircuts have been fashioned and hair ribbons for our little princesses are waiting to be shown off. Our elementary children are excited as well as somewhat anxious to meet new teachers and new friends as well as renewing friendships. Our triplets, one born in September one in November, and one in December will begin their last year of junior high school this year. These three would never show any anxiety at beginning this previously strolled trail from last year



Peggy’s Take

exhaust you. The answers to these four questions will help provide an early picture of what you should — and should not — be doing with your life. You might also consider running your answers by a close friend, someone who cares enough to want the very best for you, but is willing to be completely honest about your attributes.

There are four essential components of a human being: personality, passion, talent, and values. Once you discover what speaks to all of these, I think you’ll begin to realize your purpose in life.

**Ken Coleman is host of The Ken Coleman Show and the top-rated EntreLeadership Podcast, and author of One Question: Life-Changing Answers from Today’s Leading Voices. An acclaimed interviewer and broadcaster, Coleman equips, encourages and entertains listeners through thought-provoking interviews, helping them grow their businesses, pursue their passions, and move toward a fulfilled purpose. You can follow him on Twitter at @KenColeman, on Instagram at @KenColemanShow, and online at kencolemanshow.com or facebook.com/KenCole*

Blue Spruce and Dogwood Trees available through Arbor Day Foundation

Spruce up your landscape by joining the Arbor Day Foundation in August.

Everyone who joins the non-profit Arbor Day Foundation with a \$10 donation will receive 10 free Colorado blue spruce trees or 10 white flowering dogwood trees through the Foundation’s Trees for America campaign.

The trees will be shipped postpaid between October 15 and December 10, depending on the right time for planting in each member’s area. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

“Colorado blue spruce trees truly provide year-round beauty for any landscape,” said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. “Dog-

wood trees will add color and beauty to your yard throughout the year, with their showy spring flowers, scarlet autumn foliage, and red berries that attract songbirds in the winter.”

New members of the Arbor Day Foundation will also receive The Tree Book, which includes information about tree planting and care, and a subscription to Arbor Day, the Foundation’s bimonthly publication.

To receive the free Colorado blue spruce trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to: Ten Free Blue Spruces OR Ten Free Dogwood, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, by August 31, 2018, or join online at arborday.org/august.

have had eighteen and I am less ready. He comes from a family of “Rebels” as his mother and daddy both are Ole Miss graduates. It has been an unspoken reality that he too, will someday be an alumni. However, early on in his senior year of high school he made the decision to become a “Bulldog.” I can say this was somewhat of a surprise for all of us. I will say that it was a pleasant surprise for me because I will have an hour to get to see him instead of the two and half hours I had anticipated. I can deliver mashed potatoes and chicken strips most often now. Our house has been a house divided for as long as I can remember. Our oldest an Ole MS alumni and our two youngest both Bulldogs. We have flown both flags at the ap-

propriate times. He will also be in the Maroon Band drum line and I will be there with the same binoculars I used to zoom in on his dad playing his drum in the Rebel Band several years ago.

History repeats itself. Times and people change but not really. Children grow into adults. The adults have children who begin the entire process over and over. We have three high school off-spring seniors this year and I am not ready for them to leave me behind either. However, this one, this year is my first grandson, my first born, still thought of as our baby even though he is a fine young man. I’ve never been one for change, but I can say that I am very excited just what this young man/our baby will make of himself. Watch out world!

Mississippi Sin Dip
16 oz. Sour cream
8 oz. cream cheese
2 cups sharp shredded cheddar cheese
1 cup chopped ham,
1 tsp hot sauce
1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 loaf of French bread
Preheat oven to 350*. Cut a hole out of the top of the bread and remove the inside. Mix sour cream, cream cheese, cheddar cheese, ham, hot sauce, and Worcestershire sauce together in a bowl and add mixture to the French bread. Wrap stuffed bread in aluminum foil and bake for 45 minutes. Serve with removed bread.
* Peggy Sims is a life-long resident of Attala County and columnist.

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