

WORKPLACE WISDOM NEWSLETTER

**Plan Your Day! Plan Your Week!
Plan Your Year!
Plan Your Life!**

Yet...sometimes it is good to "not know" what the day holds!

This is a twist on my normal professional advice.

During the Christmas holidays, one of our family members had a car accident. Thankfully, no one was hurt, but it did scare everyone as we gathered information from the phone call and then rushed to the scene of the accident.

As the days passed afterwards, I thought to myself, "What a wonderful thing it is that we are *actually forced* to take each day as it comes."

Can you imagine what it would have been like for our family to have known months and years, in advance, that an automobile accident would occur right in the middle of our Christmas Eve? When would we have begun to dread the upcoming 2006 holidays? In November? In September? Last summer? A year ago? Many years ago?

I know...it's normal for us to **WANT** to gather all the facts, to plan our days ahead of time, to be prepared, and to even have a "Backup Plan A" and a "Backup Plan B". I definitely **WANT** to be prepared. I'm sure you do, too.

Yet, there is another element that we should not miss!

It is wise for us to squeeze all of the riches of **EACH DAY** as it comes.

- Whatever it holds, we make the most of it.
- Whatever the assignment, we do our best.
- Whatever good news, we celebrate our fortune.
- Whatever rocks are in our path, we maneuver around them.
- Whatever heartache, we persevere through it.

**The good events are like sweet surprises.
The sad events are always character-building.**

Yes, it is definitely good to prepare, but there is also a benefit to "not knowing" what a day holds for us. The worry that would infiltrate our lives would ruin ALL THE OTHER GOOD DAYS that really are filled with productivity, health, and good times.

I think there's a life lesson here – both professionally and personally.
It has to do with managing TODAY.

On my desk is the following small script. It has been with me since 1967.

***Yesterday is history.
Tomorrow's a mystery.
Today is a gift.
That's why it's called the present.
Live and savor every moment.
This is not a dress rehearsal!***

**Don't worry about tomorrow?
YES, the "key" word is "WORRY!"
That's what I believe.**

Experts tell us that less than 10% of the things we worry about ever come true. And of those 10%, we can only make a difference in less than half!!

Worry will rob each day of many good things.
Today is all we have.
Be as prudent, as productive, and as positive each day as you can be.
Tomorrow --- then --- will take care of itself.

**So, I encourage you to approach each day in 2007 with this goal:
*Determine to give TODAY all you can give it.***

And to leave behind, when the days closes, the best of yourself!

**Happy New Year...oops!
Happy New DAY!**