

ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING



- Russell was the kind of guy you love to hate. He was always in a good mood and always had something positive to say. When someone would ask him how he was doing, he would reply, "If I were any better, I would be twins!"
- He was a unique manager because he had several co-workers who had followed him around from job to job. The reason the co-workers followed Russell was because of his attitude. He was a natural motivator. If an employee was having a bad day, Russell was there telling the employee how to look on the positive side of the situation.
- Seeing this style really made me curious, so one day I went up to Russell and asked him, "I don't get it! You can't be a positive person all of the time. How do you do it?"
- Russell replied, " Each morning I wake up and say to myself, Russell, you have two choices today. You can choose to be in a good mood or you can choose to be in a bad mood. I choose to be in a good mood. Each time something bad happens, I can choose to be a victim or I can choose to learn from it. I choose to learn from it. Every time someone comes to me complaining, I can choose to accept their complaining or I can point out the positive side of life. I choose the positive side of life."

- "Yeah, right, it's not that easy," I protested.
- "Yes it is," Russell said. "Life is all about choices. When you cut away all the junk, every situation is a choice. You choose how you react to situations. You choose how people will affect your mood. You choose to be in a good mood or bad mood. The bottom line: It's your choice how you live life."
- Several years ago, Russell, while working at a 7-11 was shot by a hold up man. He was rushed to the local trauma center, had 14 hours of surgery and weeks of intensive care, Russell was released from the hospital with fragments of the bullets still in his body.
- I saw Russell about six months after the accident. When I asked him how he was, he replied, "If I were any better, I'd be twins. Wanna see my scars?" He told me that the first thing as he layed on the floor that he thought of was he had two choices: I could choose to live, or I could choose to die. I chose to live.
- "Weren't you scared? Did you lose consciousness?" I asked.
- Russell continued, "The paramedics were great. They kept telling me I was going to be fine. But when they wheeled me into the ER and I saw the expressions on the faces of the doctors and nurses, I got really scared. In their eyes, I read, He's a dead man. " I knew I needed to take action."
- " What did you do?" I asked.
- "Well, there was a big, burly nurse shouting questions at me," said Russell. "She asked if I was allergic to anything. Yes, I replied. The doctors and nurses stopped working as they waited for my reply... I took a deep breath and yelled, BULLETS! Over their laughter, I told them, I am choosing to live. Operate on me as if I am alive, not dead."
- Russell lived, thanks to the skill of the medical staff, but also because of his amazing attitude. I learned from him that everyday we have the choice to live fully. Attitude, after all, is everything.
- SO! - TODAY YOU HAVE TWO CHOICES . .

Author Unknown