

TAYLOR'S TIPS for a more productive you...

Dear Friend,

In 1993 my husband asked me to quit my job at a law firm and come work with him. We have a small business selling tools and times were tough. He wanted to let the two front office girls go and have me work there instead.

I adamantly said....NO! Working together and being married just don't mix. I stamped my feet. I roared over the injustice of him even asking me such a thing. I huffed and puffed the entire weekend. I liked the job I had, thank you very much. I liked the hours, the boss, the coworkers and friends I'd made. I'd worked there for three years. I didn't want to change. I liked my life exactly as it was. What he was asking was out of the question.

Then I prayed about it, got insight from others, looked at ways it *might be good*. And I said yes.



We've been working together ever since. But it isn't always easy.

Are there times in your life when you must work closely with someone? Maybe on a church newsletter? An article for a magazine where the editor wants changes? Preparing reports for the boss? Raising your children with your spouse? Living with (or taking care of) a parent?

WORKING TOGETHER means thinking about the other person and their feelings, not just your own.

WORKING TOGETHER means compromising and allowing two people to have input into decision making.

WORKING TOGETHER means having a clear division of labor and deciding who does what.

In our work situation, my husband decided to handle all the sales and the shipping/receiving in the back. My job was to manage the front office. A clear line was drawn so we both knew where our efforts and energy were to go, and where they were not. I was tempted sometimes to tell him how to do certain things. And he was tempted at times to tell me how to run the front office

better. We nipped that in the bud and learned to respect each other. Now we ask if the other person wants advice, or help in any way. Most of the time we listen to each other and then make our own decision.

Is there a way you can work with someone in a more congenial way? Are you listening, allowing input, taking into consideration their feelings? It's something I remind myself of all the time. I'm used to jumping in and getting things done, sometimes without asking others for input or help. But I'm not in this world alone, and working together on projects, and on life, is a good thing!

Happy writing and blessings on your work.

What's Happening...

Mount Hermon Christian Writers Conference March 26th to 30th. Less than a month away, I look forward with great enthusiasm to this conference filled with writer friends, editors, agents, directors and staff. The food is always fantastic, served buffet style so you can pick and choose how much of everything you want; the accommodations are varied, you can choose economy or private single; the workshops are full of talented instructors, imparting as much knowledge upon you as you can absorb. Come join the fun at this wonderful conference held up in the hills near San Jose. Check it out. <http://mounthermon.org/adult/professionals/writers-conference>

Follow your dreams...

B.J.

Follow me on Facebook. I'm listed as B.j.Taylor (little j).

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