

Change Your Life by Changing Your Vision

By *Teddy Burriss*

Wednesday December 15, 2010, I quit my job as a successful technology business developer. Three days later, December 18, 2010, my wife and I set out on what has been the greatest trip of our lives. We loaded up the Honda Accord and headed southwest across the United States. We traveled across the bottom of the country, up the coastal roads of the west coast, into Seattle, back down to Boise, Idaho, across the middle of the country to Atlantic City, New Jersey, and then down the east coast to home in North Carolina. We visited 23 states and met an untold number of people who shared laughs, tears and lots of stories with us. Many of these people inspired us to look at life in a different way than we had before.

At 52 years old, I decided I wanted to change my life. I wanted to start a business with only a basic plan that included the desire to help others while creating revenue.

I knew that I wanted to help others; however I was not sure what the revenue side of the business would look like. After nearly 25 years in the technology world, I thought it may be something to do with technology consulting. Little did I know how far off I would be.

It took six months to discover the best business model for my wife and me. The folks I talked with help me to discover four very clear visions.

Vision #1 – Our business would be what I refer to as a 50/50 business, meaning I give away 50 percent of my time every day.

Vision #2 – Our business would focus on helping individuals.

Vision #3 – My give-back time would focus on the unemployed.

Vision #4 – During the many conversations I had with folks, it became clear that I was no longer a technology consultant. They helped me realize that I love social media. I decided that I could create revenue by consulting, training, coaching, public speaking and writing about Social Media as a business tool.

The trip across the country, and the people we had open conversations with in part helped us to discover these visions that today fuel our business.

If you are ready to make the leap to a career change – or a life change – I encourage you to spend time meeting people and listening to their stories. Then let your mind wander into ideas that you have never imagined or considered in your life. You may be surprised that you too can change your life by changing your vision.

Teddy Burriss is a social media consultant, coach and trainer. Find more of his stories at <http://about.me/tlburriss>.

helped me. This is one of the greatest conversations I've ever had." You, however, are thinking, but I only said a few words. But they were heard.

We can plant seeds today for a fertile future by showing and modeling this skill, active listening, for all those around us and everyone we come in contact with.

And, as we give, so shall we receive. Be open, willing and vulnerable to share your story so others can give you this gift as well and to help them learn and grow.

I challenge and invite you to go on a story-gathering treasure hunt and to seek out ways and people so you too can share, feel seen and be heard. The goal is to create hearts full of love and compassion (true treasure) and foster a fertile future!

Karen Perry is a local life coach and joyful story sharer, www.lifecoachingwithkp.com.

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