130th KZGN News Talking Points Editorial

Here’s today topic: Are you having a good day, or ask yourself, is your neighbor having a good day?

Today’s editorial is not going to cover politics or any news stories, just basic human decency. You know, as we go through life, a lot of things happen to affect us. We all go through times of great happiness and sadness. Most of our time is spent in between those extremes. Most of us have a job, make a fair living and have good families. Then again, is your neighbor as they appear? Are they really having a good day? We have things that affect us every day. Many times our state of happiness changes minute to minute. We could be going along with everything going just fine, and in an instant that can change.

When you meet someone on the street, or in a store, or at work, you have no idea where they are at in the happiness scale. They could be having a terrible day, but hiding it carrying the load, so to speak. I have found, working as a police volunteer, both with my own citizen contacts, and watching officers handle the public, most of the time the most important aspect of handling of a tense situation is remaining calm and treating someone with decency. The whole tone of the contact can be brought down to a softer level, by remaining calm. It goes back to where the others person’s head is at this particular time. When you go up to someone, you have no idea what may be going on in their lives.

We all see things differently. We all look at life differently. Some people are happy with hardly any income or material things. Some people need those things to make them happy.

The point is, we are all different. We are all in a different state of mind. When you see someone on the street or in a store or at work, don’t assume they are having a good day. They might be, but they might not. They could be having a terrible day. People can be sick, but not look sick. People can be broke, but not look broke. People can be hurting mentally, but look fine. People can be mad, but look happy.

Regardless of the person or situation, try an act of kindness. Just a simple smile sometimes does wonders for someone having a lousy day. The reverse is also true. Let’s say you are having the bad day. Wouldn’t someone looking at you and giving you a smile perk your day just a little bit? Would someone just saying hi lighten up your day just a little bit? Sure, not much, but just a little. When you talk to the employee behind the counter at a store, do you think that just maybe that employee maybe could use a smile and a thank you, from you, the customer? Human decency is important. We live in a chaotic world. All these things can influence our days. We can get mad at some news we hear. We can be happy when something nice happens. All these outside influences on us shape our day.

I know that I’m not always the happy good person I’d like to be. I go on trying to make today a better day. Maybe it won’t be, maybe it will. Only God knows. I know that trying to understand another person’s position in life is important. Understanding my own position in life is important. Did you ever shout out, what the heck is going on here today? I know I have a lot. Often there is someone there to calm me down. Someone that cares for me enough to look past my sometimes bad temper, mad at a bad day. someone that puts me first. Takes the time to tell me it’ll be ok. Someone that just smiles at me. Yes, that is important. It’s important to the giver and receiver. I recently was blessed with a new great grandson. As I looked into his eyes, I wondered, how his life is going to turn out. Now, the family awaits the arrival of yet another baby. This little baby will be a girl. She is due any day now. So, with the blessing of God, another person will join us in this world. My wish is they will grow up fine Americans. Happy in their life. That they too will be able to appreciate all the things that make us full. That they too will understand human decency. I believe they will.

Anyway, in conclusion; Remember, life can be hard. Try and understand that your neighbor could be having a great day, or a real bad day. Just be decent to your neighbor. Decency is contagious. It spreads if you pass it around.

I’m Tom Wiknich, and that’s what I think. I’d like to know what you think. If you have any comments about this editorial, or would like to discuss or recommend a topic, I’d like to hear from you. Please email them to info@kzgn.net.