Weekly words of wisdom to keep your bucket filled

Making a Difference

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Bucket Nuggets from Carol McCloud, The Bucket Lady

One for your list

When “The Bucket List” was released late last year, the title of the film demanded that I see it. So off to the movies I went.

What unfolded on the screen was inspiring from a bucket filling point of view. True, it tells the story of two very different men who have each been given a terminal diagnosis, which could be disturbing if not for the film’s underlying message.

“Two very different men” doesn’t begin to describe these two gentlemen who are thrown together through the commonality of their prognoses. One is billionaire; the other, a working man. One has no family and has filled his life with everything money can buy. The other has a loving family and his life is filled with earning enough as a mechanic to educate his children. One is white; the other is black.

These two men put together a Bucket List: an ambitious list of inspiring, beautiful, adventurous things they want to see and do before they die or... “kick the bucket.”

At one point, billionaire Edward Cole (Jack Nicholson) laments that life has gone by “like smoke through a keyhole.”

I’m sure most of us who have suddenly found ourselves in our baby boomer years and beyond can relate to his observation. We wake up one day at age 50 or 60+ and wonder how we could have arrived at this point with such breathtaking speed.

However, the speed with which our days disappear is one reason it is so important to live each day as a bucket filler. There can be no regrets when you are a true bucket filler.

In one scene, Carter Chambers (Morgan Freeman) asks Edward Cole two questions as he approaches his death.

Question 1: “Have you found joy in your life?”

Question 2: “Has your life brought joy to others?”

If you can answer both questions in the affirmative, congratulations, you are an exceptional bucket filler.

Should you take the opportunity to see this movie when it is released to DVD, you will undoubtedly recognize many bucket filling moments in both its comedic and dramatic moments.

Editor’s note: We are not promoting “The Bucket List”, which will be out of theaters by the time you read this. We were, however, delighted to note some of its bucket filling messages.

This week’s winners

Congratulations!

Kathy Wortman, of Lincoln Public Schools, Lincoln, Nebraska is our Bucket Filler of the Week. Congratulations, Kathy! You have a book coming your way.

Every bucket filler is a winner! Encourage your friends to get their buckets filled every week by signing on for our newsletter at www.bucketfillers101.com.

Quote of the Week

“What you see in students, what you see in parents, what you see in each other, will depend on what you look for.”

From a poster at River Oaks Elementary, Dearborn Heights, MI

Original quote — Dr. Rick DuFour