

Handicap Parking

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Who do you think you are?

Dale, a Plumbing Foreman for JH Kelly, a Vancouver based construction firm providing services to commercial facilities, told Session 2 of the Leadership Development Lab™:



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*Are you ready to
Thrive in '25?*

"After a long day at work and driving through crowded, slow traffic my wife and I finally arrived at Fred Meyer's. I noticed the small street racing car following us into the parking lot. There was *one* handicap spot left, and he darted into it! I was already irritable and now I was really full of disgust and righteous indignation for this person's inconsiderate illegal behavior. "Who does he think he is parking in that handicap spot?"



'As we were getting out of my truck, I was condemning, venting to my wife, Brendah. I decided I'd just walk across the parking lot and tell him a thing or two. I would have a "little chat" with this

guy about his inconsiderate, selfish behavior and ask him, "Who do you think you are?"

'I was heated up, halfway across the lot when the door of his car opened. The driver swung his legs out, pulled a folding wheelchair from behind the seat, set it up, transferred himself, and wheeled his way into the store!

'I don't know if he even knew I was there, but I knew. Boy, did I know, and boy did I have egg on my face!

'The lesson I learned from this experience is to wait until I have more information, *a lot more information*, before I jump to the conclusions that lead me to "criticizing, condemning, or complaining." Things on the surface are not always what they seem to be.



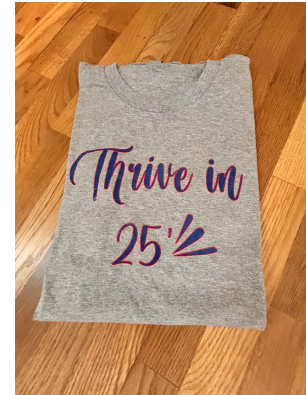
'The action I call you to take is to be more observant and patient, get all the information and don't be too quick to judge. Who appointed you the arbiter of worldwide justice, anyway?

'The benefit you will gain is less stress, more ease, and with more information, you will find yourself less judgmental. In the end, you'll make better choices."

Leadership Principle #3 Don't Criticize, Condemn, or Complain – Why is this principle so important? The 3C's are so natural, so common and in the final analysis never justified. Who are you to know all that could be known about the context and history of those you are prepared to condemn, criticize or complain about? This kind of judgemental behavior *ALWAYS* hurts you more than it helps improve your circumstance. Criticizing, attacking the character of the other person damages relationships. Making critical judgements and comments about another person doesn't endear you to the person you are burdening with your judgements and borders on

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