

THE **3**RD SECRET

GIVE FIRST, RECEIVE SECOND

day 13: max's hook-up

Max loved cooking so much that at age 18, instead of going to college, he started working full-time at a restaurant. His dream was to become a great chef and to have his own restaurant.

But since he was just starting at his new job, Max wasn't allowed to cook any food. Instead, he cleaned the pots and pans, swept and mopped the floor, and organized the food so it went to the right tables.

After months of hard work, Max got promoted: his boss asked him to help make the cakes, sorbets and other desserts. Although that wasn't exactly what Max wanted to do, he worked for over a year making the desserts. Sometimes he got bored. But he always showed up on time, he always gave 100% effort, and he tried his best to have a bright attitude. His co-workers came to trust and respect him.

Just recently, Max quit his job. Why? One of his co-workers opened a new Japanese restaurant in Chicago and asked Max to help him run it. Now, at age 20, Max is helping to run an entire restaurant – something most people don't do until they're in their 30s or 40s.

How did Max get what he wanted?

His mom didn't hook him up; his friends didn't hook him up – no, Max hooked himself up. He gave his job hard work, gave his boss and co-workers respect, gave enthusiasm to everyone around him, and set himself up for his new opportunity.

That's The 3rd Secret: Give First, Receive Second.

live the secret

Think about your own life:

No matter what you want to get – a scholarship, a music career, lots of friends, respect from other people – you'll help yourself get it by doing what Max did: giving first, without looking for the immediate payback.

These next six days of the program will help you do just that: they'll help you give to your friends, your family, your school, and yourself.

To get started, write down one activity, class, or relationship that you would like to work on extra hard while we're focusing on this Secret. Also, write a little bit about why you're choosing to give in that area.

(Later in this Secret, you'll be asked to look back, and see if you've worked on what you said you'd work on.)

***“The true measure
of an individual is how
he treats a person who can do him
absolutely no good.” – Anne Landers***

day 22: the rumor mill

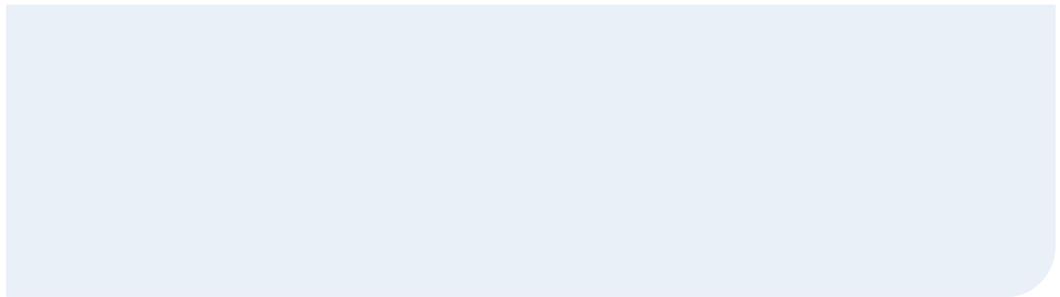
Jenny was doing OK in her sophomore year at Millwood High School. Even though she was new in town, she had made a decent group of friends and was pretty happy.

Then one day, someone started a rumor that Jenny had fooled around with a bunch of guys at her old school. People started making fun of her, calling her names, even though Jenny insisted it wasn't true. Some of her new friends stopped talking to her.

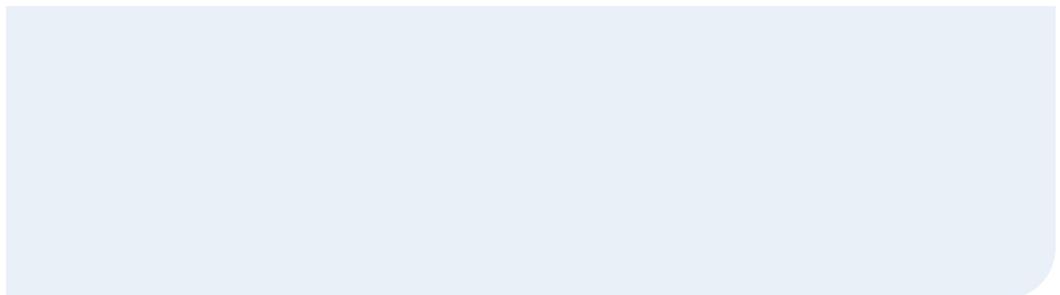
Eventually, Jenny found out who had started the rumor: one of the most popular girls at Millwood. When Jenny tried to confront the girl, she got into a shouting match and got sent to the assistant principal's office.

That got even more rumors started – that Jenny was a troublemaker. All of a sudden, Jenny felt like the entire school hated her.

Imagine if Jenny had your Code. What would she do?



How about if you were one of the friends Jenny had made at Millwood? You don't know whether the rumors are true: What would you do?



“If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant; if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome.”

– Anne Bradstreet