

Advice from Warren Buffett

How much would you pay for some spot-on financial advice from billionaire investor Warren Buffett?

They call him the Oracle of Omaha. He is a legend when it comes to making wise decisions in the financial world. Some people are willing to pay thousands of dollars for his wisdom about the stock market.

And yet, when some reporters asked Buffett for the best advice he ever received, Buffett didn't talk about money at all. Rather, he focused on how best to live ... and how to raise your children.

Buffett said the key is unconditional love.

The billionaire said, "There is no power on earth like unconditional love. And I think that if you offered that to your child – I mean, you're 90 percent of the way home. There may be days when you don't feel like it; it's not uncritical love. That's a different animal. But to know you can always come back, that is huge in life. That takes you a long, long way. And I would say if that every parent out there that can extend that to their child at an early age, it's going to make for a better human being."

That's interesting, don't you think? It's much more important, says Warren Buffett, to make a better human being than it is to make a great fortune in buying and selling.

It wasn't a billionaire but a teacher of the law who asked Jesus a critical question. He asked, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"

"The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

Many years ago, Dr. Albert Schweitzer told a beautiful parable. It was about a flock of wild geese that had settled to rest on a pond. A gardener at a nearby estate captured one of the geese and cruelly clipped some of its feathers. When the geese started to resume their flight, this one bird tried frantically, but vainly, to lift itself into the air. Its clipped wings would not allow it to take flight.

The other geese, observing the goose's struggles, flew about in obvious efforts to encourage him, but it was no use. His damaged wings would not allow it.

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And then something astounding happened, said Dr. Schweitzer. The entire flock settled back on the pond and waited, even though the urge to go on was strong within them. For several days they waited until the damaged feathers had grown sufficiently to permit the goose to fly.

Meanwhile, something was also happening in the heart of this gardener who had clipped the bird's wings. The cruel gardener was converted to Christ by the example of the loving concern of those geese. He gladly watched them as they finally rose together, and all resumed their long flight.

To me, that is a parable of the kingdom of God, a kingdom that is here and now. Wherever love is, there is God. Wherever God is, there is love. And the kingdom of God is centered in Christ Himself.

Where in this world can you see unconditional love? It's on the cross of Calvary. There the very heart of God is displayed for all the world to see

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16 NKJV).

– Beecher Hunter