

Putting on Airs

A young executive, fresh out of business school, entered his office for his first day of work. Settling into his leather chair, he breathed a sigh of satisfaction and adjusted his silk Hermes tie. He had toiled long and hard to get where he was. He leaned back to savor the moment.

Then, noticing a prospective client coming toward his office door, he began to look busy and energetic. He opened a notebook and then picked up his phone, cradling the receiver under his chin for an imaginary conversation.

As the client entered the office, the neophyte executive began to write furiously, while stating in his most business-like tone, "Very good, then, Mr. Forsythe. I will meet with you on Friday to finalize the deal. What's that? Yes, \$4 million should be adequate. I will notify the New York office of our agreement."

Hanging up the phone, the executive put down his pen and extended his hand to his visitor.

"Good morning, sir," he said in his most officious tone. "How may I help you?"

The "client" replied. "Actually, I'm here to help you – to hook up your phone."

Don't go out of your way to impress people – especially if it means putting on airs. Nothing makes a worse impression than someone falling on his or her face.

Don't talk so much. You keep putting your foot in your mouth. Be sensible and turn off the flow (Proverbs 10:19 TLB).

--Beecher Hunter