

RESCUE IN A SNOWSTORM

The late Zig Ziglar, a nationally known motivational speaker, liked to tell the following story:

A man was hiking in the mountains. He was taken by surprise in a sudden snowstorm and quickly lost his way.

He knew he needed to find shelter fast, or he would freeze to death. Despite all of his efforts, his hands and feet quickly went numb. In his wandering, he literally tripped over another man who also was almost frozen.

The hiker had to make a decision: Should he help the man, or should he continue in hopes of saving himself?



In an instant, he made a decision and threw off his wet gloves. He knelt beside the man and began massaging his arms and legs. After the hiker worked for a few minutes, the man began to respond and was soon able to get on his feet. Together, the two men, supporting each other, found help.

The hiker was later informed that by helping another, he had helped himself. His numbness vanished while he was massaging the stranger's arms and legs. His heightened activity had enhanced his circulation and brought warmth to his hands and feet.

It is ironic but not surprising that when he lost sight of himself and his predicament and focused on someone else, he solved his own problem.

Associates in Life Care and Century Park have come to understand this principle. As they serve others, their own problems are seen in a different light.

Somebody once made the observation that the person who is wrapped up entirely in himself or herself makes a very small package – and the package contains an unhappy person. Think about it: Have you ever known a genuinely happy, self-centered person?

And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant (Matthew 20:27 KJV).

– Beecher Hunter