



Summer Edition 2023  
Issue 38

## The Way of Business



Theme Verse:  
**Proverbs 17:6**

Children's children are a crown  
to the aged, and parents are  
the pride of their children  
(NIV).

## Book Your Calendar for Spokane Family Day, Saturday, August 5, 2023!

### Upcoming Events

**Mountain of  
Business Prayer  
Meeting**



**July 25, 2023  
11:30 AM—1 PM**

**The Gathering House  
733 W. Garland Ave.  
Spokane, WA, 99205**

### Spokane Family Day



**Saturday,  
August 5, 2023**

**Franklin Park,  
302 W. Queen Ave.**

**Spokane  
11AM-3PM**



A great and exciting time is just around the corner, as Spokane readies itself to celebrate Family Day!

This day of celebrating God's love for families occurs on the first Saturday of August each year and 2023 represents our community's third such celebration.

Beginning in 2019, a group of Christian churches and organizations decided that it was time that our community provide itself the chance to honor the family as the Lord has designed,

as well as praise God for His love, blessing, and guidance for children and their parents.

This year's event takes place on August 5, 2023, from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM at Franklin Park, which is located at the corner of N. Division and Queen Avenue in Spokane. The event is free for everyone to attend and provides a variety of entertainment, snack, beverages, and messages of hope from this year's guest speakers.

This year's special guest speakers are Mayor Nadine

Woodward and Sheriff John Nowels who each have much to say on the values of strong families.

There will be many activities for all ages of children provided by the many organizations that are attending. Three different music groups will be performing and there will be a number of special art displays available for people to tour.

So bring your favorite picnic lunch and blanket to Family Day and join in this very special time dedicated to the celebration of God's family plan!

## U.S.A.— What a History, What a Future!

As we recently celebrated Independence Day of our country, we now can boast of having a 247 year history of living under a democratic form of government, which is operated through our republic form of governing authorities.

What you may find most interesting is the study that was

done back in the 1700's by Lord Alexander Fraser Tytler, a Scottish lawyer, historian, professor, and writer. His research centered on the life cycle of a democracy, focusing on how long a democratic form of government could last. His research included studying historical democracies/republics such as the Athenian and Roman

empires. Interesting enough was learning that nearly all democracies failed within 200 years of their inception.

Lord Tytler is accredited for identifying the nine stages that democracies evolve through, which today is referred to as, "The Tytler Cycle." The first stage is "bondage" where the people oppose the con-

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## ***U.S.A.— What a History, What a Future!*** (Continued from previous page)

ditions that they live under. From bondage the people move to “spiritual faith” that unites them within a strong and deep moral commitment. Next comes “courage,” where that people fight for freedom. The result from courage is the people attaining the stage of “liberty,” where freedom to live and achieve by is attained. Then the fifth stage occurs, which is “abundance,” where the attention of the people moves to material wealth. From abundance the people move into “selfishness,” which is the sixth stage. The seventh stage is “complacency,” which revolves around entitlement and self-absorption. Next comes “apathy,”

where personal responsibility is lost. The final stage of the Tytler Cycle is “dependence.” This is often referred to as “the point of no return” and is signified by the people having the right to vote themselves financial support from the public treasury. In fact, attributed to Lord Tytler is the statement, *“A democracy will continue to exist until the voters discover that they can vote themselves generous gifts from the public treasury. From that moment, the majority will always vote for candidates who promise the most benefits from the treasury, leading to a government collapse due to loose fiscal policy.”*

The most frightening thought is that after all nine stages are complete, the people end back in “bondage.”

So I ask, what stage is our country in, now that we’ve existed 47 years beyond the average life-span of a democracy? Many economists claim that we’ve entered the stage of “dependence,” following COVID.

There is one way to avoid falling back into the pain and suffering of bondage and that is through people moving into the stage of spiritual faith. As I’ve heard one instructor state, *“The stage of spiritual faith is required to unite our nation, which has never been so badly divided.”* I agree, and more importantly, I believe that Lord Tytler has provided a loud wake up call for our nation.

## ***Let’s Get Practical: Becoming a Great Listener***

Many in the professional realm of teaching good business practices often agree that the most difficult skill to teach people is how to become a great listener. And keep in mind that poor listeners don’t necessarily do all of the talking; often they just aren’t tuned in. So how do we assure ourselves of becoming better at the skill of listening? What follows are some motivational and skillful tips:

1. Follow Prado’s 80/20 law: Listen 80% of the time and talk only 20%. The motivation is that you always need to be learning and you never learn unless the other person is talking. Speaking 20% of the time causes you to pick your words well and offer them at the perfect time.
2. Ask good questions, which requires some planning on your part. Getting everyone involved in the discussion builds trust, unity, and appreciation. Most importantly it provides you the time to listen, analyze, and build a sense of where people stand on any given subject.
3. Carry a token in your off-hand: Using a coin, a small agate, or anything similar will work. Holding it tight in your non-writing hand provides a physical reinforcement to listen much and speak little. After awhile, you’ll get so good that you can just keep your token in your pocket.

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