

What you sow, is what you will reap! ...you'll love this

'What goes around, goes around, goes around, comes all the way, back around!' - Lyrics of a song by Justin Timberlake. The saddest thing about Justin's video clip is; they destroyed a beautiful 1965 Corvette making this truth known again.

This is a true story that happened in 1892 at Stanford University in the USA. The moral of this story is still relevant today. A young, 18-year-old student was struggling to pay his fees. He was an orphan, and not knowing where to turn for money, he came up with a bright idea. A friend and he decided to host a musical concert on campus to raise money for their education.

They reached out to the great pianist Ignacy J. Paderewski. His manager demanded a guaranteed fee of \$2000 for the piano recital. A deal was struck. The boys got busy to make the concert a success.

The big day arrived. Paderewski performed at Stanford. But unfortunately, they had not managed to sell enough tickets. The total collected was only \$1600. Disappointed, they went to Paderewski and explained their plight. They gave him the entire \$1600, plus a cheque for the balance \$400. They promised to honour the cheque as soon as possible.

'No' said Paderewski. 'This is not acceptable.' He tore up the cheque, returned the \$1600 and told the two boys 'Here's the \$1600. Please deduct whatever expenses you have incurred, keep the money you need for your fees and just give me whatever is left.' The boys were surprised, and thanked him profusely.

It was a small act of kindness. But it clearly marked out Paderewski as a great human being. Why should he help two people he did not even know? We all come across situations like these in our lives. And most of us only think 'If I help them, what would happen to me?' The truly great people think, 'If I don't help them, what will happen to them?' They don't do it expecting something in return. They do it because they feel it's the right thing to do.

Paderewski later went on to become the Prime Minister of Poland. He was a great leader, but unfortunately when the World War began, Poland was ravaged. There were over 1.5 million people starving in his country, and no money to feed them. Paderewski did not know where to turn for help. He reached out to the US Food and Relief Administration for help.

The head there was a man called Herbert Hoover - who later went on to become a US President. Hoover agreed to help and quickly shipped tons of grains to feed the starving Polish people. A calamity averted.

Paderewski was relieved. He decided to go across to meet Hoover and personally thank him. When Paderewski began to thank Hoover for his noble gesture, Hoover quickly interjected and said, 'You shouldn't be thanking me Mr. Prime Minister. You may not remember this, but several years ago, you helped two young students go through college in the United States. I was one of them.'

I love stories like this. Sometimes it's easier just to walk or look away but, the good book says 'Don't be tricked! He is watching and how one sows, they will reap!' Just like a farmer who sows, he can only harvest what he seeds into the ground. And then, the seed multiplies and the farmer yields an increase.

Let's get busy doing some good things, which help people out. Be looking and ready to do something kind. I promise you, you'll feel good and what goes around, goes around, comes all the way, back around.

Doing Life Together, enjoy it! – Mark Bateman 0412 151 121