

Lesson 5-6 Robert On a Roll

1. Robert and Uncle Leo had a bit of a falling out, but Robert decided that he has done so well living with Uncle Leo that he would continue. He also realized that too much independence now could lead him on the wrong path. So, he is going in the direction of broadening his interests and self education. He is reading books and listening to various types of music. He is not a good reader, so he is slow and needs a dictionary to look up many words. He is beginning to appreciate and enjoy this new challenge.

2. As a reminder, secrets 13 and 14 are:

13. Broaden your interests.

14. Self educate continuously throughout your life.

Robert is reading books and listening to various types of music. Can you think of any other ways of Robert broadening his interests? (Please try to name 3)

3. Can you think of any benefits of self education as opposed to structured education? (Please name three)

4. Robert is now realizing that he has access to a full education. He is so interested in learning that some nights he doesn't even play his game box. Also, he loves sharing his learning with Uncle Leo. Do you have someone with whom you can share your thoughts? If not how can you find someone?

5. Robert decides to go home the next weekend to see his mother and family. He stops at the shoe store to get some shoe polish so that he can look very successful and important when he sees his family. The employee that gave him the wrong change (Lesson 5-3) was there and thanked him again for returning the money. She said that the loss would have come out of her pocket. She is

a very nice looking girl and about Robert's age. Her name is Sylvie. They talk for a while and find that they have some common interests: good books and various types of music. Robert truly likes to talk with her. What would they talk about if Robert hadn't broadened his interests?

6. After his conversation with Sylvie, Robert is feeling very successful and very sophisticated, and, unfortunately, he is feeling superior to his family and those in his community back home.

Please read:

[Proverbs 16:18](#) *Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.* (KJV)

How will this affect Robert on his quest for success?

7. So, Robert went home that weekend looking very successful with his polished shoes and everyone was happy to see him. That evening Robert's mom said that she wanted to talk. She was concerned that Robert was becoming somewhat arrogant and she sensed his attitude was a bit scornful towards his family. Also, she wanted Robert to pay Uncle Leo for staying with him and she wanted to make sure Robert helped with the dishes, cleaning up, and buying groceries. She concluded with Robert should always do what is right.

8. Robert was surprised and even somewhat angry; he didn't want to have to pay Uncle Leo thinking that Uncle Leo had plenty of money. Also, he felt that since Uncle Leo was retired, he had nothing better to do than dishes and cleaning up after Robert. Robert felt he was entitled to these services. What do you think?

9. Robert wasn't sure, at all, that his mother's suggestions were the right thing to do. He asked his mother, "how do we know what is the right thing to do?" What would you tell Robert?

10. His mother responded, "You have inside you the knowledge of good and evil. Sometimes it gets clouded by outside influences,

but it is in you. If you read your Bible regularly, the Holy Spirit will confirm clearly what is right and what is wrong for you personally" (John 14:26). Can you think of any other scriptures that support this theme?

11. Do you always know clearly what the right thing to do is?

12. If Robert decides to pay Uncle Leo and helps with chores, how do you think Uncle Leo will feel? How will God feel?

13. Robert's mother also added that she uses two of her favorite scriptures to separate right from wrong, and they are:

Matthew 7:12 "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets. (ESV - words of Jesus in red)

and

Psalms 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

14. Here we will add one more secret to success:

15. Always attempt to do the right thing

15. Divide into groups and discuss your experiences with choosing right and wrong. Then attempt to devise a system so that you will always do what is right.

16. Robert also talked at length with his younger brother, Daniel. Daniel was very proud of Robert and Robert told Daniel that he would pass on to Daniel all that he had learned. They spent the evening talking about the recipe to success. Robert is very happy to think that he can possibly be mentor to Daniel just as Uncle Leo is to Robert. This is a ministry.

17. Just before Robert left home, his mother asked Robert if he had met any girls. He told her about Nadia, the boss's daughter and Sylvie, the shoe store girl. His mother suggested that Robert proceed very slowly with the girls and allow the Holy

Spirit to guide him to the right girl. We will see in the coming next lessons what happens. Nadia was very kind to Robert when he first hired in to his job and others were criticizing him, but Robert loves to talk to Sylvie about many things. Do you have a favorite? How should Robert proceed with the two girls?

James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.