

Cut It Out

December 26, 2018

Christmas was yesterday. You know what that means? No more Christmas music! Is that a good or bad thing? I love Christmas music. All people may not like Christmas music, but we all like music.

The most popular artists on the radio are Ariana Grande, Halsey, and Panic! at the Disco. Several students at Bullock County High School listen to NBA Youngboy.

My favorite artists include Whitney Houston, Garth Brooks and Michael Jackson. My absolute favorite is Michael Jackson. In second grade I wore my Michael Jackson jacket with all the zippers for picture day. I could not get enough Michael Jackson.

His second album with producer Quincy Jones was absolutely incredible. In just over a year, the Thriller album became the world's best-selling album, having sold an estimated 66 million copies. Bestselling! I admire people who are at the top of their profession and over the years I've studied them because I want to know how they did it.

As an educator I spend time with top teachers and ask them questions. I have researched Chick-fil-a, Apple, Nike and other top companies. As a coach, I spend time with several coaches each season with the goal of learning so that one day I can be the best. I probably know more about Nick Saban than most Alabama fans and I don't own any Alabama paraphernalia. His path to greatness is encouraging, especially the four seasons he was the defensive coordinator for Bill Belichick and had only one winning season.

I have learned a great deal by studying the best. They all have several things in common. They are all competent, they have great chemistry, they see their work as a calling, and they have great character.

However, the one thing I have also noticed that no one talks about is the fact they all have made the tough decision to cut some things out of their life or business. Confrontation is not comfortable, but it's necessary. In order for a plant to grow to its fullest potential you have to prune it. The pruning process is probably the most over looked technique in building great businesses.

Prune- trim, by cutting away dead or overgrown branches or stems, especially to increase fruitfulness and growth.

How do we increase fruitfulness and growth in our personal life and relationships? The same way farmers produce in the world of agriculture and horticulture. What do you need to cut out of your life so you can increase fruitfulness and growth? You may not need to cut it out completely, but you may need to trim, cut back, clip or shear. Who do you need to cut out of your life so you can increase fruitfulness and growth? You may not need to cut them completely out, but you may need to trim, cut back, clip, or shear.

We cannot reach our full potential if we keep the same behaviors and same people in our life. Some things have to be cut out.

When my children are getting on each other's nerves in my stern daddy voice I say "cut it out." Some of us need to just "cut it out." We need a new routine in 2019. We need to choose the difficult right over the easy wrong.

Who's holding you back from becoming your best? What is holding you back from becoming your best?

When Quincy Jones worked with Michael Jackson on the Thriller album they recorded thirty songs, but only nine made the album. You get the best by cutting back what you don't need. Thriller was the number one selling album in the world for almost 36 years. Cutting away seemingly good songs produced an amazing album. What will you Cut Away?

New Year, New You!