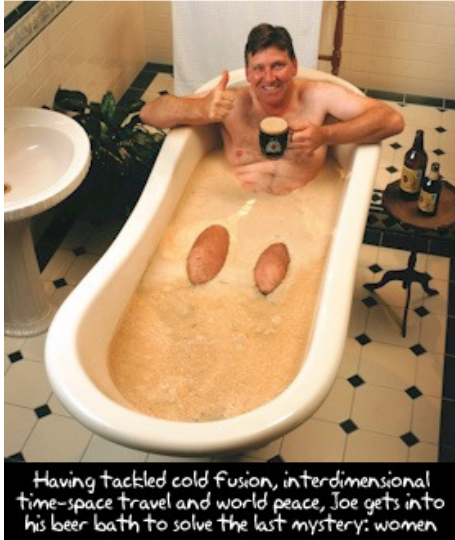


A SOLUTION IS ALWAYS THERE ...

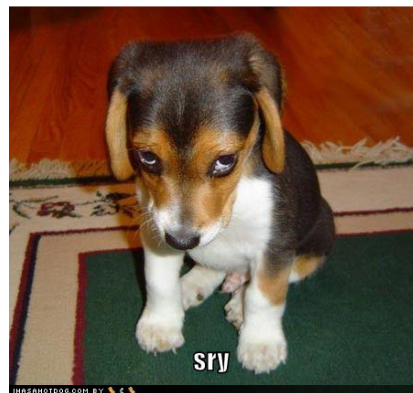
If we expect to find it



Have you ever found yourself in an undesirable situation, and after having unsuccessfully tried everything possible, resigned yourself to the fact that it just wasn't going to work out? Me too! Then have you ever, because you were open to it, been presented with a solution which simply appeared in front of you? I am not talking about any solution, but a perfect solution for the particular challenge you were facing? Well it happened to me, just last Saturday night and I am sitting here reflecting and marvelling at this amazing universe that will continue to deliver us the solution if we simply expect it to.

I was in Canberra for a weekend convention with a great group of people. On the Saturday one of the guys in the group was good enough to book a restaurant for dinner for the 34 people in our group on Saturday night. This guy was told by the restaurant that if we book for 34, we would have to pay for 34 regardless of how many turned up as the food had to be prepared. Now, this sounded fair enough at the time as there was no reason to think that all 34 wouldn't come. That was until well after the dining service had started and **six** people weren't there! Phone calls to these people confirmed that they weren't coming! So now 28 people had to pay for 34 - an extra \$150!

Well, the grovelling began! We tried to plead our cause to the restaurant management but they would have nothing to do with it. All they kept saying is that *'we told you that at the time of booking'*, which we already knew, but then who could blame us for trying? No amount of 'puppy dog eyes' would work for us! We all went back to our tables dejected, a bit angry and mentally preparing ourselves to eat the extra food which we had to pay for!



Expect it and it will appear

As I walked back to my seat I was thinking that there must be a solution to this dilemma (as minor as it was!). I sat down and within no more than one minute a group of people came to the door of the restaurant and looked in. They were just milling around the front door looking at the menu. How many of them do you think there were? You got it, there was **six** - the exact number that we were short!

I looked this group and recognised them as people attending the same convention as us. Then a thought came to me; *'This could be the solution'*. I walked up to the group and asked if they had a booking, when they said 'no' I said, *'boy have I got a deal for you!'* I explained the situation and they were happy to take the six seats and pay for the banquet we had arranged ... problem solved!

So what?!



I know what you are saying, 'So what's the big deal? – that was just a co-incidence'. Maybe it was, but isn't that the point? Why do co-incidences happen? Why do so many things seem to happen just at the right time? Why does it happen to so many people? Is it just luck, is it just co-incidence or is it an expectation that some people have that no matter the

situation or the circumstances and no matter how bad things may seem, there is always a solution – if we are open to opportunities? Over many years of making mistakes and finding myself in all manner of yucky situations I truly believe this deep in my heart. The solution is always there if we simply expect that it will be.

Expectation switches the radar on;

The key is expectation! When we expect to find a solution then we are more open to opportunities. If I didn't expect to find a solution, would I have noticed the group of six people milling around the door? I don't think so – it was simply because my solution finding radar was on. This is not a talent, this is a decision – we can all decide that no matter how bad things may look the solution is out there if we expect to find it.



So how do we get this 'solution finding expectation' when things aren't going well for us? It is by understanding that we already have expectation! The problem for many people is that they expect the worse and guess what? They get it!! If we truly understand that if we expect the worse and often get it then surely if we expect the best and to find the answer then we will get that most of the time. Doesn't that make logical sense?

Give it a go, what is there to lose?

I am not saying believe me. I am not saying look at me I am fabulous. I am saying why not give this idea some serious consideration, and even more than that, give it a go. There is nothing to lose and, believe me, everything to gain. Expect it and have a great week.

March 6, 2011