

## Chime In Youth Ambassador Call 9/16/15

As this part of the Hero's Journey is The Reward, Kelly opened the call with a request for everyone's take on what the reward is for them on their journey so far.

Jeetan feels really thankful for being around all the Youth Ambassadors. He gets caught up in his work and wants to fulfill all the needs, and he finds it helpful being on the weekly calls as it's a chance to take time to reflect and focus on what's next. He also created a video for Peace Day and was surprised to hear Kelly tell him that it will be shown all over the world. Being part of this group has helped him focus on where he's going and not be so focused just on himself.

Kelly said it's valuable to be around people who inspire us as well as being able to learn from people who do the opposite of what you want to do. She noted that Jeetan has had a number of experiences, both good and bad, that have helped him to become a good leader.

Susan said that the best place for her to learn how to become a good mother was to seek out role models to emulate as well as looking at mothers whom she felt weren't doing as well as job as she could learn from both. She said the same thing holds for learning how to be a good leader, to be able to model the people you want to be and see what are they doing that you admire and try to emulate them.

Kelly also wants to give a thank you to the people who don't act the way she likes, as it's possible to learn from them, what not to do in your own life.

Lea Anne loved and related to what Jeetan said. Her journey has made her discover what makes her happy and what her passion in life is. She is inspired by these calls for the entire next week. She gets a sense of calmness and happiness and feels fulfilled by her interaction with these people in the group. She feels this is what she was looking for when she moved to the United States six years ago. She considers this the beginning of a new journey for her.

Benjamin is also grateful for these calls and the wisdom that is reflected back at him. He feels he gets a huge favor from seeing people who live in a way that he doesn't want to emulate. He gets to learn from that as it enables him to see what's really in his heart and then follow that direction. The one mistake he feels he makes is to see the reward as an end in itself. He often sees that it's really just one layer of the onion and that there are other challenges and rewards to follow that bring him to a deeper level. He saw the collapse of the Caravan as a way for him to be able to explore new places which has now gotten him excited about the upcoming Guatemala trip. He feels the green lights are on and it's time to make things happen. He's now researching refugee camps to visit. He reached out to an arts supply company to help and has also reached out to a woman doing a mural project around the world and is looking forward to working with her group. Lea Anne has been helping him to open doors to these new opportunities to bring art to people who need it the most.

Lea Anne is extremely excited about working with Benjamin and finds it hard to put her excitement into words.

Susan feels their project is a reward for her as she is so excited for their being able to work together. Kelly noted Lea Anne's desire for doing something good and that her being receptive to wanting to do something good enabled her to be ready to be there for Benjamin, to be able to help him on his journey when the time was right. Kelly said it took her years to know exactly what she wanted to do, and that it's okay not to rush something or go into something you don't want to do. It's okay to wait until the voice inside of you guides you to what your heart really wants.

Benjamin also said that failure is not an option. He has a reason to be here and knows there's more to do and as long as he's here he's going to continue on being of service to others.

Kelly then gave a shout out to Steve Allen on his birthday, as he has been a powerful force behind the scenes in making this organization possible. Mara said he loves working on this project, that it helps him get out of bed in the morning. Mara said that she, too, gets inspired by these calls, just by listening to what everyone has to say.

Susan then updated the group about the donations. So far there has been over \$5000 raised and said they're looking to the ambassadors to help with the fundraising. She asked everyone to use social media to get the word out, to get people around them to encourage the effort, as every encouragement is worth \$1. She asked the ambassadors to speak to everyone they know about the project, to see if they could raise funds for their own plane tickets. Kelly noted that fundraising was not part of this program when it started, but that they can inspire others to donate funds by speaking about building houses for homeless people and how by doing this you are making a huge difference in people's lives.

Susan is excited about all the projects that are coming out of this group and wants everyone to realize how powerful a force this group is becoming. She sees this group as a great way for the Youth Ambassadors to have a voice for change. She asked everyone to participate in the Love is the True Black campaign by posting a picture of themselves with a message of hope. The goal is that different people from different parts of the world hold the same message of hope and peace.

Jeetan is having a fundraiser for Nepal this week, focusing on education projects. He is hoping to raise several thousand dollars for this effort. Susan asked him if he's created business cards that he could hand out when he's on the peace bus. He feels a little uncomfortable about it. But Susan told him that for \$10 he could get the word out.

Mariah said she's in the process of starting a club on campus regarding environmental sustainability. She's working with Generation Green, an organization run by the Forest Service devoted to environmental sustainability and education. This would be the first Generation Green club on a college campus. She also is in contact with Connected Leadership and through

this helped feed the homeless at a homeless shelter. This helped her change her definition of what giving is, which is giving without expectation and through love and to be of service. She realized that her purpose in life is to serve and to empower others to realize the gifts and talents in themselves so they can give back to the world.

Susan applauded Mariah for her efforts. She said that being in actual contact with the homeless makes you realize they are strong people in difficult circumstances and are special and worthy of support.

Yesterday Kelly spoke at Solarity School, which uses her Dream Curriculum. She told them about the Guatemala trip and as a result a lot of the students want to both fundraise and go to Guatemala.

Btw, check out this article re: the missing Zone in Guatemala:

<http://www.latimes.com/world/great-reads/la-fg-c1-guatemala-zones-20150915-story.html>