

November 2011 – One Situation. So Many Lessons.

I had the fortunate situation this week of being approached for some coaching work in Europe in the New Year. Unfortunately, it was for a date that I had already booked for a New Year's Resolution Goal workshop in London. Although cloning has been successful in the animal kingdom I didn't feel this was an option for me.

I was really torn – I wanted to do both the coaching work and the workshop. The new opportunity paid more than the original workshop. I had committed to the workshop months earlier. Both were with organizations I respect. And both seemed fixed to the January timing. I investigated the idea of doing both – could I complete the workshop in the morning and fly to the coaching in time for the evening session? Not really, and even if I could there was the uncertainty of weather at that time of year impacting air travel.

I mentioned my dilemma to a few people. One said take the higher pay (true capitalist). One said honour your original commitment (true integrity). One asked "what do you want?" (always a great coaching question). My ideal was to do both, moving the workshop to February and take the coaching work in January. It wasn't a case of either or, but rather both please. Now how to make sense of a New Year's Resolution Goal workshop in February? Again I shared the thought with a friend and she said "February is the perfect time for resolutions, because most people have already given up on their resolutions by the end of January so February could be the real start." Great point! I now had a plausible idea for moving the workshop.

I phoned the workshop organizer and shared my dilemma. Before I even finished speaking she said to take the coaching work and that doing the workshop in February would be no problem. As simple as that I had my ideal with full support of the person I was concerned about inconveniencing.

So here's what this one situation reinforced for me:

- Be open and transparent
- Imagine your ideal and go for it
- Share your burden, engage others to help you in problem solving
- Embrace abundance, ask for what you want
- People do want to help you
- Get creative, there are endless possibilities

What's your ideal? What dilemma could others help you with? What could you ask for that would move you towards your ideal? What's possible?

Live your potential

Anne Taylor
Certified Professional Co-Active Coach
DIRECTIONS – Coaching for Results
www.taynac.com/directions
coachanne@taynac.com

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