

Appreciative Inquiry: Spirit of the Season 2005

Mankind was my business. The common welfare was my business; charity, mercy, forgiveness, forbearance, and benevolence, were, all, my business. The dealings of my trade were but a drop of water in the comprehensive ocean of my business! ~ Marley's Ghost

Dear Friends and Colleagues ~

Most of us are familiar with the redemptive story of Scrooge in A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. If you remember, the ghost of Jacob Marley returns to Scrooge on Christmas to spare him the torment of missed opportunities and Scrooge, with some additional persuasion, takes heed. From that night on, Scrooge "became as good a friend, as good a master, and as good a man, as the good old city knew, or any other good old city, town, or borough, in the good old world."

This story is a favorite of mine, in part, because the redeemed Scrooge so captures the spirit of my Dad. People were the "comprehensive ocean" of his small tire business in southeastern Colorado. His jovial demeanor and generosity throughout the year continues to fuel my imagination as to what life can be about.

In true appreciative fashion, Skip suggested that we do an Appreciative Inquiry into our "best" Christmas memories as a way of sending you seasonal greetings. We invite you to savor our stories and send us yours. And if your traditions at this time of year have their roots in other faiths or secular practices, don't hesitate to share a favorite story.

My Best Christmas by Chet Bowling
My Best Christmas Memories by Skip Lineberg

Enjoy! Let us continue to hear from you.
~ Trish, Chet, and Skip

If at any time you wish to be removed from this "learning space", please hit reply and say, "Please remove" in the body of the email. Thanks!