



# BROOKLYN\_BORN

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## “Later Never Comes” – I bet there is a meme for that

Friday, January 08, 2021



That’s what DD Jeannie (AKA Hayburner1969) told me at age 7 when she asked me to color with her.  
I was busy with her little sister, baby brother and some of my coursework and told her I would color with her “later.”

- She was absolutely right as many of us have discovered in our lives
- I will begin to follow a healthy diet “later”
- I will start an exercise program “later”
- I will call that old friend “later”
- I will declutter that closet “later”
- I will (fill in your own blank) “later”

We are inundated with inspirational messages from everywhere  
Type in anything and there’s a meme for that.  
I even have a few of them on my fridge.  
What does it take to get the words on a page (or the fridge) to come to life?  
To really act on them!

Where does the motivation come from?  
How is the motivation sustained over time? (or not)  
I suspect we all have our individual answers to that.

Rather than just tell you mine, I would like to know what you think?  
There is much collective wisdom in Spark World.  
What works for you? (or does not)

“Out of the mouths of Babes”  
In a blog last month I included a flashback to 1979  
Son at age 4: Mommy, I’m glad we’re rich.  
Me: Why do you think we’re rich?  
Son: Because we have everything we need and don’t need.

So now I have shared 2 serious observations from little kids

I will leave you with one more that scared me at first.

It is 1981  
Son at age 6: Mommy, what’s ADULTERY?  
(He was learning the 10 commandments in religious education)  
DD#2 at age 9: That’s EASY, Bobby!  
Me: Gasping a bit – What does my 9 year old know about adultery?  
DD#2: Thou shalt not do what adults do.

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Whew, I could live with that explanation.

But considering recent events, perhaps her definition should now be expanded and taken literally.

Oh yes, back in 1976 I did stop what I was doing and color with my daughter.

As for finding a meme for anything you type in? It's TRUE!



So Sparkers, please share your collective wisdom.

How do you prevent "later never comes?"

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**JSTETSER**

now is the time! Thank you for your blog! We are all in this together!



146 days ago



**JAMER123**

Very insightful and creative. Lots of thoughts can come for any of these questions. Later seems to be one I have used in the past and to be honest even currently.

Thanks for sharing!!

146 days ago



**JUNETTA2002**



147 days ago



**ALIHIKES**

What a great blog. I particularly liked your son's explanation of why your family is rich; aren't we ALL rich by his very apt definition! And your daughter's insight about "later never comes" is GREAT. I have learned for myself that delay and procrastination can eat up MORE time than just doing a dreaded chore!

147 days ago



**2DAWN4**

I am so glad that I came across your blog. Very insightful and inspiring.

147 days ago



**AMUSICALLIFE**

That was very funny. Good question on the "get in done now" thing.

I think putting money behind something motivates me to get moving. Example. I promised myself this year that I would ice skate 2 times a month. I live in Texas and the closest rink is an hour drive away. I started to drag my feet about my promise to myself, but then took the drive and paid for 10 ice rink times and was given a punch card. I hate wasting money so I



will return to the rink.

Tonight, I bought Tennis shoes and a workout outfit tonight for tomorrows workout.

Spending money works for me.

147 days ago



**GREYDOLPHIN**



I've learned the hard way to not postpone. Our neighbors/friends and my DH and myself regularly went out to lunch together. We always enjoyed our visits. Then I got busy and kept telling myself I'd call them soon. When I finally emailed her and tried to arrange another lunch, the return shocked me. He had just died---been sick for over a month. So the lunch was at the church, after his funeral. Not what had been planned.

I'm learning to not postpone, but the darned pandemic is standing in our way. As soon as we get the all clear, going to become way more sociable.

147 days ago



**SHAWFAN**



You opened something quite close to the heart here, Eileen. Something we all have dealt with in one way or another. Thank you for re-energizing my thoughts on this one. Especially as I'm



moving forward towards my own personal goals again.

147 days ago



**MTN\_KITTEN**



There's nothing like the ... present.

With an easy going Hubby ... he does ground me. But I want to seize the moment ... and focus on the moment and live in the moment.



147 days ago



**MAHOLMAN1**



Putting tasks on the calendar helps. Large tasks can be broken into smaller tasks.

147 days ago



**KITTYHAWK1949**



147 days ago



**RACHNACH**



147 days ago



**THOMS1**



I guess all of my motivation comes from spark people. When I was growing up later would mean start on Monday say with a diet. When I joined spark people I learned to not wait until Monday but to get back on track now, today. My inspiration comes from reading blogs from people



such as yourself Eileen. Thank You!!

147 days ago



**NEBRASKANNIE**



I know I only have today, right now, so I make a list each morning, and do what I can. I carry over from the next day if I have to. It's a challenge for me sometimes but I've also learned I have limits to time and energy. I'm glad you took the time to color. That time can't be given again.

147 days ago



**ETHELMERZ**



I'll come back later

147 days ago



**WARRIORSUE518**



Your blogs always touch my heart in one way or the other. Thank you!

147 days ago





**RHOOK20047**

I had to laugh at your Daughter's answer to what is adultery. I teach 2nd graders religion at our church and I never know what is going to come out from them  
148 days ago



**CHERYLHURT**

Great  
148 days ago



**THINCP2004**

Wow you got me thinking about this one, let's see...  
My parents motto and mine as I got older, was wake up thank God for another day and another challenge. Prepare to learn something new, and to make it the best day you can make it! So far so good 👍  
148 days ago



**PLCHAPPELL**

Go to think about  
148 days ago



**SKIRUNNER1**

Awesome blog.  
148 days ago



**NANANANA**

Our 4 & 9 yr olds said, 'Just say you'll think about it.' Why? 'Because we are more likely to do it if you think about it than if Dad promises.'  
148 days ago



**SIMPLY\_JAE**

Thank you  
148 days ago



**MSMOSTIMPROVED**

I set a time for myself that it must get done..  
148 days ago



**LINDA!**

I also like your daughter's explanation to your son's question. LOL  
148 days ago



**WILDKAT781**



148 days ago



**BJAEGE307**

I'll come up with an answer "later". LOL! 😏  
148 days ago



**QUARTERMASTER3**



148 days ago



**AZMOMXTWO**

I was also one who did it not right then I did set a time and "color" with my kids or what ever it was I always felt that they needed to know that they were important to me also  
148 days ago



**IAMBLESSED103**



blog! I enjoyed this!  
148 days ago





**ALICIA363**



Exercise is the first priority, every day. Make it part of the schedule.  
 I agree with the 'do it now' and 'break it down into pieces' responses.  
 When I find myself in that 'later' mindset, if it becomes prolonged, I reevaluate my priorities. Do I REALLY want to do what I thought I wanted to do?  
 If I'm in that 'later' mindset on something too long, I sometimes abandon it. No use making myself miserable by lying to myself and saying I will or I want to, but I will not and do not, really.

So, what do you do?



149 days ago



**DESKJOCKEY925**

I keep a "to do list" all the time.  
 My motivation is checking things off ... So, I put all kinds of things on there every day.  
 Exercise, Tracking Nutrition, Work tasks, Menu Planning, Calling my mom, Quiet time with DH,  
 and Fun with my grandson.

I also love the "Eat the Biggest Frog" lesson.

But ... the trick sometimes, is how to stay motivated for things that take a long time.  
 Like a weight loss goal / Live retirement savings / Like education.  
 And for that ... breaking things down into smaller, measurable goals is a must for me.  
 Along with measuring progress and having rewards along the way.

PS - I'm a Sunday School Teacher, and I think I will have to borrow that definition of adultery in the future if I ever feel cornered to respond. LOL!

149 days ago



**HOLLYM48**

I agree with your daughter that when people say later, it really means no. I am thinking about whether I use that expression or if I just say no to begin with. I am going to have to listen to myself when I am asked about something as to whether I use it.  
 I got a good smile out of the definition of adultery. That was a super answer for your young child!  
 And you are right, there seems to be a meme for everything these days.  
 I am glad you made time and colored with your daughter as after all these years, it obviously made an impression on both of you!

149 days ago



**KELLIEBEAN**



What a darling conversation about adultery!

Sometimes I think if you look up the word procrastinate in the dictionary, you will see my photo. It's a battle I have fought my whole life!

I see everything as a GIANT thing that I can't just get done right now, so I put off any tiny step in the right direction.

During therapy, I am learning to take things I don't feel I can get done into small chunks. Which is something I know, it's how I finally lost the rest of the weight I wanted and stop the yo-yoing but I have not been able to apply that concept to other goals in my life.

Back when there was Spark radio, I heard Chris talk about ending the day on a positive note if you derail, do some stretching, drink some water, eat some fruit, to get your mind back on track for the next day.

So I try to tell myself, 'might as well make a small start now and start over again tomorrow'.

149 days ago



**BESSHAILE**

What an interesting question.

I used to just "let it cook" till I began to act but once I got to know TheBrains better - I let them work it out. At first I did this with a pencil and paper but eventually I could do it on a keyboard and now sometimes we eliminate those procrastination boulders on walks.

149 days ago



**LIS193**

Kids have such a unique perspective!



149 days ago





**MARYJEANSL**

I only wish I had some wisdom to offer on the topic. I struggle with it every day.  
149 days ago



**PATRICIAAK**

Before I go to bed, I prioritize the next day.  
149 days ago



**DARLENEK04**

I made a list of the challenges I am now in.....made a ck. mark by each one each day as I do them.

My motivation is my health and knowing I am the caregiver for the hubs.....I have to get healthier,  
no alternative.....there are places I want to go - to see.

I am glad you stopped and colored, I used to have a sign in my house, kids may not remember you had  
a very clean house, but they will remember if you had time for them and did things with them.

Hence, when one kid wanted to go horseback riding & the other wanted to go fishing, we got on the  
horses with poles and bait, we rode to the back country pond and fished while she rode some more, then  
we rode home.....when they were watching ants, I was laying there with them watching them build their  
house, I taught them honor, patriotism, your word is your bond, so many things.

So, this comes down to me deciding tomorrow might not come if I don't get off my butt and get moving,  
and eat right.....that is called INCENTIVE.

149 days ago



**SAMMILESSACH**

Transformation is not a future event.....it is a present activity. One of my workout videos by Jillian Michaels ( I started this year)she says that...I wrote that in my fridge.

I have the want, the desire, I am motivated I have been staying in the wagon since after the holidays extra calories made my waistline have extra inches.

There are days where I say later and like you said it never comes. I have to exercise after breakfast to avoid any " later" that never happen.

149 days ago



**SUSIEMT**

My mother would use the phrase "later" and it never came for us.  
I like the definition DD#2 gave for adultery!!

Where does the motivation come from? I think for me it came when I hit my bottom and surrendered myself to SparkPeople and the coaches. I would say to myself I know nothing. The coaches know more than me. I got sparked by following their advice.

How is the motivation sustained over time? (or not) Back in July 2008 once I got sparked the fire has never gone out, I may tire at times take the occasional step back but I right myself soon very soon!



149 days ago



**HAYBURNER1969**

Yeah, sometimes I read old blogs of mine where I felt so inspired and it's like... oh yeah, I remember when I thought about doing that..

There are only so many hours in the day and so many things to be done that it's easy to say, "later"

149 days ago



**HARROWJET**

You have wise children.  
149 days ago



**52BINCE**

My dad threatened me with the belt---so later never came. It was always NOW or else! ....



**I LIKE IT!**

your blog that is. Not the whipping--lol  
149 days ago



**DOVESEYES**

By not waiting to feel like 'it' before starting :) ... great memories thanks for sharing :)  
149 days ago



**HARRIETT14**

I always automatically did what had to be done. My mother taught me a great deal of "womanly" things that had to be done to run a household smoothly. I kept it all up and sharing with the children what their job was. Now that I'm alone once again I do a little at a time. If I don't finish it I say to myself "Tomorrow is another day". Eventually things get done especially if company is coming. Reading what went on between you and your children brought me back to lots of fun memories. Thanks.  
149 days ago



**WHYNOTTRY45**

**Well Said!**

149 days ago



**STRIVERONE**

Acting on impulse works, but it's not necessarily a good idea.  
149 days ago



**NANCYPAULINE**

"Later Never Comes" - that is a precious motivational statement! It probably needs no explaining; it makes me think of Jim Croce's "Cat's in the Cradle."  
I think it's human nature to avoid thinking of the finite. It's what makes people focus on kids and grandkids. "... three score and ten..." is not the Biblical quotation we teach in Sunday school, is it?  
149 days ago



**ALEXSGIRL1**

i always give myself a small reward after my walk i will do , or after this great salad, or after my bath . cute stories of your kids  
149 days ago

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