

Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

If you have any questions or need help you can email us

Feb. 08, 2016

Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

If you have any questions or need help you can email us



When we think about money, let's be honest – we're not talking about just money, but also a host of related consequences and deeply felt emotions, says retirement specialist

Lee Stoerzinger.

“Money cuts to the emotional roots of every human issue,” says Stoerzinger, a

Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

If you have any questions or need help you can email us

Stoerzinger, who says he began to see money in a new way after adopting two children from Haiti and who has helped streamline adoption efforts for other Haitian children to

American families, offers ways adult children may speak to their retired or retiring family members about money.

- 1. Start by appreciating storytelling.** We communicate with one another through storytelling, and if you want to learn more about yourself, then listen to your family stories. Don't be afraid to get your parents talking – about how they met, their first or worst job, what the economy was like when they were younger, etc. For many, talk about money is tough because families often are not communicative in general. Get to know your folks better. While you have gotten older and developed your own sense of self, you may be shocked to learn how much you have in common. Appreciate the stories and try to make for a comfortable environment, such as dinner.
- 2. Be true to your feelings.** Let your parents know how you really feel (the good and the not so good). Your feelings will outlive your parents. Let them out now, while there is time to resolve them. Clear things up and be honest. It's good to do some spiritual housekeeping.
- 3. Appreciate their plight and express compassion.** Let them know you recognize the efforts they have made in this world. It's very powerful to be able to say to someone, “I understand.” Everyone has sins, mistakes, failures, pain and guilt. Though you were not around to observe, your parents endured broken hearts and tough circumstances, too. They did the best they could. Let them know you “get it.” You may not approve of their actions, but you can certainly understand them.
- 4. Be thankful out loud with gratitude.** These are, after all, the people who toilet trained you. Thank them for giving you life. Think of the good times and appreciate the opportunities they provided. Vacations, education, special outings, bicycles, time together, a room of your own—let them know how grateful you are

for these things. “I’m willing to bet there were times when you as a child were

Hello. It looks like you’re using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

If you have any questions or need help you can email us

my phone in order to remain in your company. Let's move onto more important things. Forgiveness keeps us together, even when opinions clash. In the case of profound hurts, forgiveness can be a way to heal and move on. The pain may never be resolved, but at least we can gather our dignity.

Since 1993, Lee Stoerzinger, CFP, has dedicated his professional life to the study of finance, and to helping people become financially independent. His perspective on “true wealth” involves celebrating what we already have, honoring our commitments and helping those who need it most. After graduating from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in 1992 with a bachelor of arts in cumulative finance, Lee began his career as an independent financial representative at his firm, Lee Stoerzinger, Inc., (www.leestoerzinger.com). Lee is a registered rep with SII Investments, Inc. A self-proclaimed “student of the world,” especially faith, history and politics, he spends much of his time trying to figure out “what it all means.” He savors his time with his wife, two children and a wonderful community of genuine friends.

Financial Planning • Payroll

CPA Practice Advisor is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors.

© 2024 Firmworks, LLC. All rights reserved

Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

If you have any questions or need help you can email us