



Free Treat as a Reward of Honesty and Humility

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One of the *Instagram* accounts posted a content about the reason why Morgan Freeman always wears a pair of earring, which is known to be quite expensive, is to provide enough money to pay for his burial if he happens to die in an unknown place. That account mentioned that this is a sailor custom since they often go far from their hometown and possible die there. Such an interesting custom, isn't it?

Based on the article, earrings worn by the sailors or pirates were usually made of silver or gold and they were worth enough to pay their funeral. For this reason, some seamen engraved his hometown on the earrings, so people would know where to send their body. It is told that when a seaman died in the ship, his earrings would be used to cover the cost to transport the body.

Despite the local, in the past time, really used the earring to funded a sailor burial or not, the fact that this custom existed shows that deep inside their heart every single person does not have any intention to burden others. Other people, at that time, were aware that this expensive belonging should be given to the deceased's relative. Can this custom survive in 21st century?

Upon reading the comment section, I found out that most people are skeptical if the people will use Freeman's earring to pay for his burial. They

bet people will use the earrings for their own needs. It is interesting for me how people nowadays see a free treat. It seems like everyone thinks he deserves all the good things in the world; he deserves the best. In other words, people are skeptical if humanity still exists and takes control in that kind of situation.

One thing that people forget: what you reap is what you sow. I always believe when blessing comes to my life, it means I have done something good before that universe thanks me by doing so. I can see this blessing is a fruit of my good deeds. By remembering this concept, hopefully human's trust towards humanity can be regained since no one will do something that he does not want other to do the same to him.

Talking about good deeds, there is always viral news when a person, most of the reported ones are poor, returned the belonging to the owner. That belonging is an expensive thing such as jewelry, bag, or money. This incident leads to a happy ending: the poor were given a money or job for their honesty. This phenomenon proves us that there is always a good result if we do something good.

Let's go back to the discussion about free treat. I define free treat as something given for you for free. This something can be from friends



or relatives or other people. I also see finding something accidentally when you are on the street such as money or fruit, you can find fruit fall from the tree or just take it from the tree in Indonesia and you are not considered as a thief as long as it is an ownerless tree, can also be seen as a free treat.

Actually there is nothing wrong with getting a free treat. I always see it as something that is given back to me for my previous good deeds. A struck of luck, of course, can happen to anybody. However, this free treat can be dreadful if there is no honesty and humility. Without honesty and humility, people will see that free treat is something they deserve even without a sweat.

Another that came to my mind regarding this phenomenon is how people know their place. The action a person wants others' belonging shows that person, to some extent, envies to other's possession or achievement. This envy will not come to a person whose life is full of happiness; that person feels content with what he has. On this that we need to bear in mind: we do not need to own everything in this world. Be content with what you have.

Again humility plays an important role in shaping such personal ideology. While many people tend to do anything to get richer and richer, we dare to have different belief. It is not easy to show humility since it is humane to show our achievement. However, being overly proud of our achievement is not something good to do. While humility exists so does envy. We cannot control how people see our achievement: as a result of

perseverance or just a free treat.

Going back to the fact that people question humanity, it looks like people see humanity as something majestic. Actually we can live up this value as simple as not doing harm to others. As Dalai Lama said *if you can, help others; if you cannot do that, at least do not harm them*. If one day we find people wearing glamorous clothes or jewellery who are passed out in the street, please call ambulance to take him in the hospital. We should try avoiding our thought to think what I can take from this man: his watch, his money, or his mobile phone. By doing so, we show that humanity still exists in life.

In short, compassion is the heart in having honesty and humility. People are supposed to see that something that comes easily should be perceived as something that we need to be grateful. It is a bad idea if we are living just for the sake of piling up the material thing without seeking the deeper meaning of blessing. When we are blessed with something good, it is better if we can share it to other people.

Looking at people are getting skeptical in humanity, we need to have a reflection on how we build our personal quality. Do we only expect to receive? Do we have willingness to share what we have? Do we have thought that someone out there is more in needed than us? If we have that kind of thought, we can believe that every person gets fair share. /AR/

Why did pirate wear earrings? Written by Remy Meliana. Published on March 8, 2011. Retrieved from <https://www.livescience.com/33099-why-did-pirates-wear-earrings-.html> accessed on July 28, 2021.
