

RE-ASSEMBLY REQUIRED

Instructions Not Included

Andy Stanley

Note: The following content is a raw transcript and has not been edited for grammar, punctuation, and word usage.

0:00:00.1 Andy Stanley: So 27... Yeah, 27 years ago, I'm sitting in my dad's office at his church, it's just my dad, and it's two of us and a counselor again, and we're meeting with our counselor every week trying to figure out how to fix our broken, damaged relationship. And the strange thing is, if you can kind of put yourself in our position for just a minute, we'd spent our whole careers telling people how to fix broken, damaged relationships, and now we had one and we're the experts, and we were stuck, and we were angry, and we were hurt, and here's why, because he saw things his way and I saw things the right way.

[laughter]

0:00:47.5 AS: And I could not understand for the life of me why we weren't making any progress, right? It was this simple, "Dad, if you will just see things my way, we'll be on our way." Right? Now you laugh, and the reason you laugh is, because I know what you're thinking, you're thinking, "Finally, someone understands me. Finally, someone understands the situation and the circumstances I'm in as I try to navigate difficult relationships." If you think about your current fractured relationship, a distant fractured relationship that's actually just... It's been broken for a long, long time. It could be recent, distant. It could be family, work, a good friend and there's just been this weird thing and now it's just awkward and you can tell you're drifting apart, or maybe it's a brother or sister, again, a family member, but isn't it true? I mean, isn't it true that if they would just see it your way, everything would be okay? So since we all have that in common, I thought for the next few weeks, we would address a question that I know that many of you have been asking, maybe for many, many years. And the question is, "What's wrong with these people?"

[laughter]

0:01:56.0 AS: So the title of our brand new series is, "How to Get People to See Things Your Way." The subtitle being, "Which is of Course the Right Way." Because until they see things your way, which is the right way, they're just holding up progress. They're just making it awkward for your family. Nobody can move forward. The family is in turmoil. It's ruined one Thanksgiving or two or three, it's about to ruin another one or perhaps Christmas. And again, if they would just see things your way, things would be okay, and so for the next few weeks, we're gonna talk about how to get them to see things your way. This is gonna work if you've got that ninth grader who just doesn't understand why biology is important, and you've explained to your ninth grade son or daughter, "Look, biology is important because if you'll make an A in biology, you'll keep your GPA up, which means you have more university options and more scholarship options, better job options, and then when you ultimately retire someday or even before that, you'll be able to take care of me." So ninth grade biology is a really, really, really big deal. Your future depends on it, and we're gonna talk about how to convince the ninth grader that ninth grade biology is important.

0:03:00.4 AS: It's also, it's that thing that some of you have where your mother or maybe your mother-in-law comes to visit you, and you just see her walking around your house judging, judging, judging, judging, judging, judging, judging. And we're gonna talk about how to convince her to knock it off so that you'll feel like you could invite her over more often. Or maybe it's that brother or maybe a brother-in-law, three years ago, you had that thing at Christmas where