

Part 1 - It's All About Me

There once lived a boy named Sherman. His father was the owner of The Toy Factory. It was the largest in the country. It had 20 different floors packed full of toys and a giant elevator to carry you up and down. Even the elevator had shelves of toys in it!

Sherman always got everything he wanted. When the newest toy came out, he got it. When the newest video game was available, he would send out one of his father's employees to go buy it for him. It didn't matter how expensive it was or how far they had to go. Sherman always got exactly what he wanted. He treated his father's employees and friends as if their feelings didn't matter. When he wanted something, he would shout at them, and if it was not to his exact liking, he turned red and became so angry he was scary to be around!

Sherman's dad noticed how selfish Sherman had become and it concerned him. He was supposed to take over The Toy Factory when he was old enough. Sherman's dad knew that in order to be a great leader and boss of a large company you had to be a great servant and be very selfLESS. He decided he needed to do something to change Sherman's selfishness. He called him into his office and said, "Sherman, I have a very important job for you. I am taking you to the town of Peer. When we get there you will receive further instruction." Sherman was very excited! He immediately began yelling at his dad's employees to pack up his things. "Hurry up! I shouldn't have to wait this long!" Sherman grumbled impatiently as they frantically gathered up his things.

When it was time for Sherman to leave, he and his dad got into their car and drove off. They drove for three days before finally arriving at the town of Peer. Sherman was terribly disappointed when he saw the town. It was old, run down, and dreary. "This is the town I have to stay at?" said Sherman. "This place is not fit for an important person like me!" Sherman's father sighed and looked at him saying, "Sherman, you are going to have to stay here for a while. There is something very important here that I need you to discover. You cannot return home until you find it. I have a house set up for you to stay in." Sherman's dad handed him an envelope of money and added, "This is enough money for your time here. Do not spend it rashly. You need to make it last." Sherman was angry and screamed, "I am too good to be left here! You should just make one of your dumb employees look for whatever it is you need!" Sherman's dad was sad to see his son's attitude. "I have one final thing for you, Sherman." He opened up a letter and read it to him. "*Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves. Everyone should look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.*" If you consider this advice, you will discover the item I need you to find."

Sherman got out of the car with his bags and walked to the door of the house he would be staying in. His dad then turned and drove off. "Whatever that means....," said Sherman smartly. "I can't wait to find this idiotic item and get out of here!"

1. How big was The Toy Factory? [*biggest in the country with 20 floors of toys*]
2. How did Sherman treat his father's workers? [*yelled at them; called them dumb; made them drive far to get what he wanted*]
3. Why was Sherman's father worried about his son? [*he knew he was too selfish to be the owner of The Toy Factory one day and that he needed to learn to serve*]
4. What was the important job Sherman's dad had for him? [*to go to Peer and find a special item*]
5. Do you think Sherman is selfish? Why?