Worksheet for Tip "T.I." Harris | ExpediTlously Expressive (Episode 262)

T.I. (aka Tip Harris) has been a staple in the hip-hop and trap game for the past 15 years. He's an acclaimed innovator with millions of albums and more than 35 million singles sold, and he's won three Grammy Awards, 11 Billboard Awards, three BET Awards, two American Music Awards, and more over the years. He's worked with Drake, Beyoncé, Pharrell, Rihanna, Jay-Z, Lil Wayne, Robin Thicke, M.I.A., Lady Gaga, and other icons. He's also an author, an actor, and now a podcaster with his own show, expediTlously, at PodcastOne.

On this episode we explore the tension between setting a good example for kids and community, and staying on top of the rap game. We also dive into T.I.'s past as a drug dealer and his uneasy relationship with the authorities, and now his focus on community service and activism.

Shameless Survival Skills

T.I. went from selling candy to selling crack to selling award-winning records. It obviously wasn't an ideal path, but surviving the hard times gave him the skills he needed to become the success he is today.

"I'm not proud of it, but a lot of the principles and values and morals and code of conduct that I'm praised for today came from those times and those experiences."

We all have moments in our lives we wish we could take back. But instead of cringing at these memories, try to reflect on the ones that were instrumental in making you who you are today. What valuable skills have you picked up by doing things of which you're not particularly proud?

Invested Teamwork

On probation with a kid on the way, T.I. considered dealing drugs for a quick fix of cash until his musical career could be self-sustaining. But T.I. had a "team" of friends — each with specific roles — supporting his musical ambitions. When they found out, T.I. says: "They called me into somewhat of an intervention and they said, 'Hey, listen, we're investing our time, effort, energy, and resources into you and you are jeopardizing that investment by taking the risk that you're taking.'

"I said, 'Yes, but I have a child on the way and a child ain't going to look up and see my efforts. He's going to see what we have or what we don't have. So if you could take me somewhere right now where I can have an opportunity to present myself to somebody that can actually give me a record deal, then I'll stop." That's when team member Jason Geter stepped in and said he knew just the people at just the place — and, against all odds, it worked out.

On his own, T.I. would have made a bad decision that could have led to a life in prison. But with each member of his team throwing their skills into supporting his music career, he became an award-winning superstar. If you don't already belong to such a team, how might you cultivate one to achieve goals beyond your reach as a lone operator? Who would you invite into your inner circle?

100% of Nothing

At the venue where we did this interview, I noticed the staff was doting over T.I. and his entourage with snacks and a high-end tequila spread. When I mentioned that I didn't get snacks and tequila, T.I. wisely pointed out that I probably hadn't asked for it.

"You get 100% of nothing that you ask for," he said.

Just because you're not getting something you feel you deserve doesn't mean someone else — or the universe at large — is at fault for neglecting your needs. Through your own efforts, how are you "asking" for the things you hope to get out of life?

Full show notes and resources for this episode <u>can be found here</u>.

About



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We deconstruct the playbooks of the most successful people on earth – and learn new strategies, perspectives, and insights you can't find anywhere else. Then, take these valuable insights into your own life and live what you listen.

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