

MFT Fundraising Lines

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What was your fundraising line?

I would get bored very quickly with fundraising lines, and was often trying out new ones.

One time I said “Can you help? It’s very important.” That one worked for about a day and a half, but I got worn out being serious.

I heard of one brother who would go up to old ladies and say “Hi girls!”, so one day I came up to three old ladies on their front porch and said “Hi girls!”

“Girls!?! Who’s he callin girls?” one said. “Oh, he’s selling something, he’s just butterin us up” another said. I left them gumming a box of candy.

Another time, I got bored and started asking people “Well, would you like to donate your car instead?” That one didn’t last long, but I got some interesting reactions.

“It’s your lucky day today! Do you know why?” was another popular line. One day, I thought I’d try a variation and told people “It’s your lucky day today, cause we’re fundraising for our church and we’re only talking to people wearing blue shirts (or white shirts, or whatever they were wearing) My improvisation reached a climax when I told a couple of black guys “It’s your lucky day today! We’re

fundraising for our church and we're only talking to black people in white cars." The guy driving gave me a pretty dirty look, but the other guy was cracking up.

One brother was struggling pretty badly one morning, so he tried saying "Hi, I'm Chris, and I'm collecting rejections for our church today."

"I'm really not interested."

"Thank you!!"

And sometimes it wasn't so much what you said as how you said it. It was like I had a dial that went from hard to soft. I would sometimes talk like Kermit the Frog when fundraising with puppets or boombooms. But fundraising one small town in the Kentucky hills with roses, I was getting nowhere. I went into one auto parts place or something and said "Hi! How are youuuu! We're fundraising for our church todayyyy, and we're asking you to help out by getting some roses! Would you like to get one?" Five burly guys stood looking at me, impassive. Finally, one of them said "Ah don't think we'd be interested." "Okay! Have a nice day! God bless!" and as I left, I heard one of them say, in withering tones, "What a candyass!"

Well, on my way to the next place, I thought it over. Maybe I was way too far over on the soft side. Whatever it was, it sure wasn't working. So the next place I went into, I came on like Joe Lumberjack. "Ha! We fundraisin for our church today. Ya wanna get a rose?" "How much are they?"

"Two dollars, three for five!" "Gimme 3!" "There ya go!"

One of my favorites was when I was outside a disco, and someone asked me if I was a Moonie. "It's 3am, and I'm standing out here with a bucket of roses. What church do you think this is for?"

"You a Moonie?"

"Yeah!!"

"Ok, how much are they?" His friend starts up with "Joe! He's a Mooonie!" "Yeah, he believes in what he's doing. I'm gonna help him."

What was your fundraising line?

I am starting a collection of MFT stories so friends, family and future generations can know what it was like. If you are ok with making it part of a collection, let me know by starting your post with "you can use this one". Otherwise it'll stay private.