

# EARNEST SEEKER OR ATTENTION-GETTER?

At times everyone needs guidance, a listening ear, a voice of sound counsel, and a helpful prod that keeps them on the straight and narrow. Unfortunately, some people feel they need to voice their complaints, their questions, and their opinions to others, not in an effort to get the help they need but rather to make a statement. They want *sympathy*, but they don't want *help*, and when that's someone's attitude, they truly won't get the help they need.



Having questions, problems, opinions, frustrations, and feeling the urge to share these thoughts with someone is a natural human need. But *who* you go to for help and instruction determines the type of results it will bear in your life.

If you go to the wrong person for help, you're merely spreading your questions, issues, or problems around. Not only will you not receive the help you need, but also your wrong attitude and your issues can influence and harm others if you are only looking to voice your thoughts rather than looking for help.

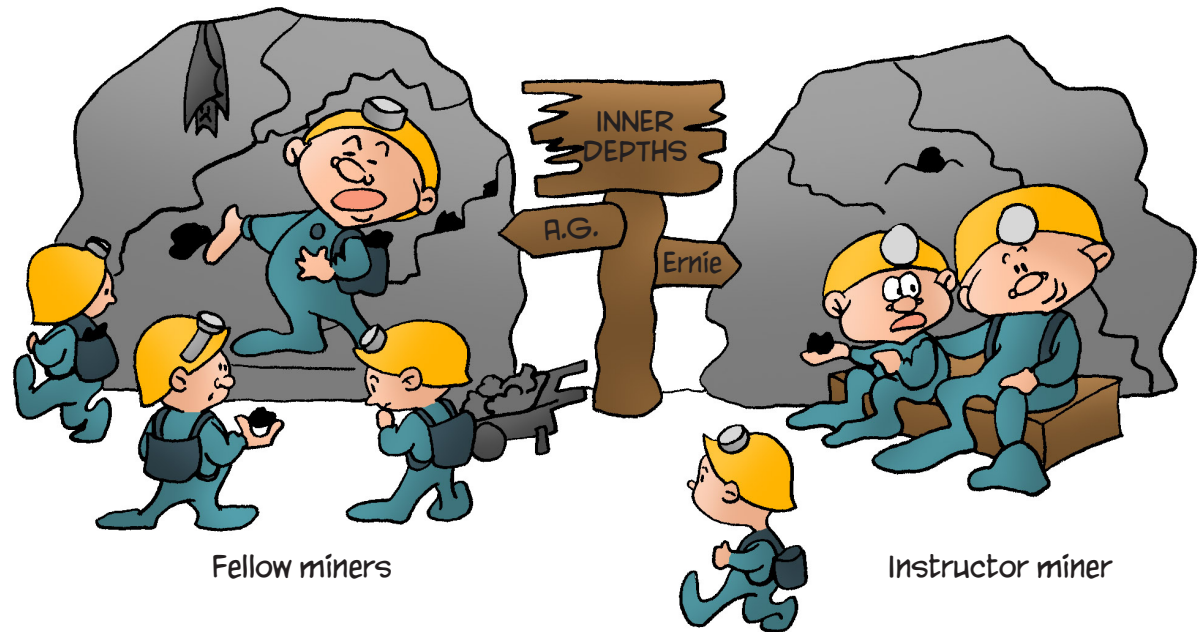
Going to the wrong people to voice concerns or issues is very often an attention-getter, which is a result of pride. Fear can also prevent you from going to the right people, because you worry you will be corrected for being in the wrong, but that fear is also pride. Perhaps you feel you will get sympathy or recognition or agreement from others by sharing these things with them, but if you are not careful, all you may be doing is pulling someone else down with you.

If you want to get past your issues or problems so you can move forward and make progress in your life, then you need to make the right choices in *how* and to *whom* you go to for help and guidance.



a.k.a.: A.G.

a.k.a.: Ernie



Fellow miners

Instructor miner

Go to the right people for help—those who are mature enough to offer you the guidance and counsel that you need. Look to your parents, teachers, counselors, coaches, or even older siblings. Resist the urge to run to your peers to talk about your issues or problems. By seeking out those who can offer you good counsel and guidance, you are making it possible to receive the help that will get you through the challenges, questions, or issues you are facing. Then you will be able to gain the most from your experiences. You will be able to look at what you are facing or the questions you have through the eyes of maturity—you will see what you can gain from the experience and how it can change and benefit your life.



Life's challenges and questions play a part in shaping your character, and how you deal with what you face will determine whether you are simply an attention-getter or a truly earnest seeker—someone who seeks the right answers and guidance to the challenges and issues that they face. Which will you be—an attention-getter or earnest seeker?