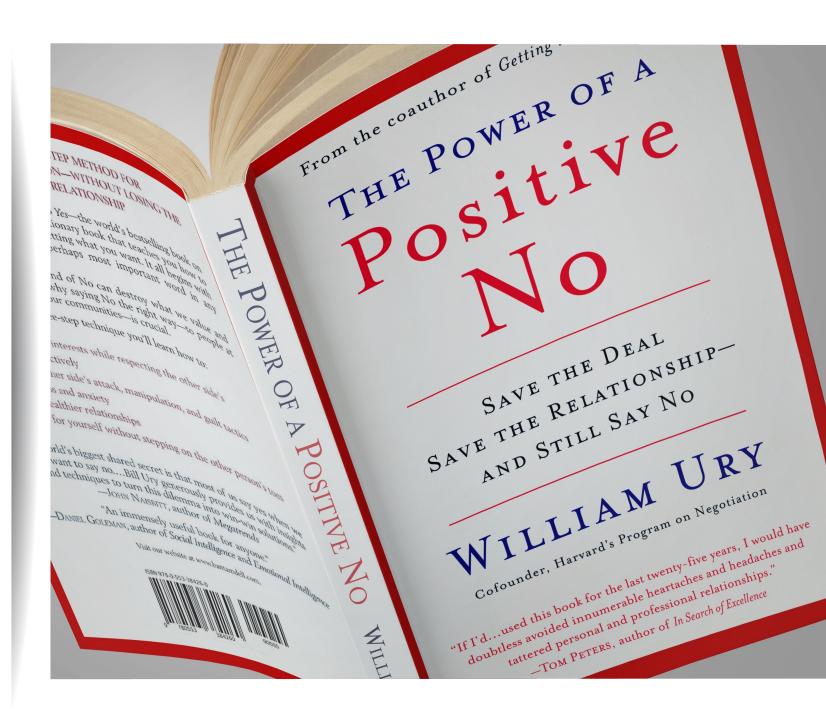
EPISODE 250

# The Power of A Positive No By William Ury Part 2: Prepare





#### **Essential Question**



How can we use William Ury's Power of A Positive No to prepare for conversations in which we need to say no, but still preserve the relationship?



# Ury's Tree Metaphor







#### The Book



#### **Prepare**

- 1. Uncover Your Yes
- 2. Empower Your No
- 3. Respect Your Way to Yes

#### **Deliver**

- 4. Express Your Yes
- 5. Assert Your No
- 6. Propose a Yes

#### Follow Through

- 7. Stay True To Your Yes
- 8. Underscore Your No
- 9. Negotiate to Yes



#### The Essence of a Positive No



"The essence of a Positive No is to assert without rejecting—to assert your interests without rejecting the other as a person. You stand on your feet not on their toes."

−P. 104



# Preparing To Say No



- Uncover Your Yes
- Empower Your No
- Respect Your Way To Yes



#### Interests vs. Positions



Interests: What I ultimately care about

Positions: What I want now



#### 1. Uncover Your Yes



- "Go to the balcony"—try to get some perspective
- Buy yourself time to prepare—don't answer immediately
- Identify your interests, needs, & values
- Get clear on what you must say "Yes!" to



## **Buying Yourself Time**



- "Give me some time to think about this, and I will get back to you on \_\_\_"
- "Let me look into this a bit further."
- "I will speak with \_\_ and get back to you."
- "This is getting a bit heated and unproductive. Let's take a pause, and we can continue our discussion \_\_\_."
- "I can see that we'll need to continue this discussion later."



#### Plan A & Plan B



Plan A:

Acceptance

Plan B: Backup

No



## 2. Empower Your No



- Identify your "positive power" to protect your interests—not power to control or punish the other
- Strive for agreement, but prepare a Plan B you can execute no matter what the other does
- BATNA: Best Alternative To Negotiated Agreement—your backup plan
- Consider coalitions & taking the wind out of their sails
- Final check: interest, power, & right to say no



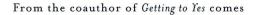
# 3. Respect Your Way To Yes



- Show genuine respect, rooted in respect for yourself
- Listen, clarify, paraphrase, and acknowledge
- Allow the other to save face
- Prepare your "Yes! No. Yes?" sandwich



# Stay Tuned



# The Power of A Positive No

SAVE THE DEAL
SAVE THE RELATIONSHIP—
AND STILL SAY NO

#### WILLIAM URY

Cofounder, Harvard's Program on Negotiation

"If I'd...used this book for the last twenty-five years, I would have doubtless avoided innumerable heartaches and headaches and tattered personal and professional relationships."

—TOM PETERS, author of In Search of Excellence



- Get the book
- Reach out: justin@principalcenter.com

