FOUR CHOICES

WHEN HEARING A

MESSAGE "LESS THAN WONDERFUL"

Did you possibly hear something similar to: "You should have done a better job! We were really counting on you!"

What difficult message did you hear? (the trigger)

Depending on Hear Blame: What might be Judgmental the ears you are some thoughts (Jackal) Ears In Judge or blame yourself wearing, & the about yourself? thoughts in your "It's my fault." "I am stupid, lazy, bad, etc...." head "I should ..." "I have no choice..." "I can't..." →Blame oneself: "He's right. I'm a loser. I should Voice of Guilt, Shame and Depression have done a better iob. I'm Hear Blame: What might be Judgmental not pulling my some thoughts (Jackal) Ears weight in this Judge or blame the other person about the other? organization." "It's your fault." "You should" "You never"... **→**Blame other: "You always...", "You're being... "You ought..." "You're impossible to please. I did an Voice of Anger excellent job!" **→**Express Out myself: "I'm What am I Generative Connect to your internal experience of feeling confused feeling? (Giraffe) Ears feelings and needs and taking responsibility because I'm needing more In clarity about "I'm feeling because I what you What am I need/value expected from needing? me. Would you be willing to let Voice of Self-Empathy me know specifically what you would have liked done What might they Connect to the feelings and needs of the differently in this be feeling? other person case?" → Receive other "Are you feeling with compassion: because "Are you What might they you're valuing/needing frustrated be needing? Generative because your need for (Giraffe) Ears Voice of Empathy competence **OUT** wasn't met by my Hear only a 'Please' work?" message

NOTE: In NVC, the "beloved" jackal is a symbol of thoughts or language that serve as our "teachers" but may not serve connection. The giraffe is the symbol of awareness of NEEDS which aids connection. Chart inspired by Jim and Jori Manske, radicalcompassion@gmail.com.