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WHAT COUNTS

“Teaching kids to count is fine,
but teaching what counts is better.”

WISE THOUGHTS Johann von Goethe

“All truly wise thoughts have been
thought already thousands of times; but to make them
truly ours, we must think them over again honestly,
till they take root in our personal experience.”

SUCCESS HABIT

Bob Bowman

Bob Bowman, coach of Michael Phelps, who
won eight gold medals at the 2008 Beijing Olympics,
said in an interview: “Successful people make a habit
of doing things other people aren’t willing to do. And
that’s our game here.”

FRANCISCAN REVOLUTION Xavier Goulet, OFM, et al *The Basilica of St. Francis*, p. 22

“The genius of the Franciscan movement in the
early thirteenth century was that it reminded people
that God created the world good. In fact, the world
was so good that one could see the face of God in
God’s own creation; in the beauty of a
sunset, in trees and flowers...Francis’
great desire then, and what becomes the
‘Franciscan revolution,’ is this bold at-
tempt to REHUMANIZE God—the desire
to bring what was perceived as a distant
God back into the ordinary lives of ordi-
nary people. To accomplish this task
Francis sends his friars (from the Latin,
meaning ‘brothers’) into the busyness
and messiness of the marketplace...The friars
soon became known as the ‘Jugglers of God’ because
of the dramatic spectacle they create by dancing,
singing, performing acrobatics. Attracting large
crowds they preach the Gospel message in a new
way—a joyful way. All of a sudden God is in the
midst of ordinary people, sharing their joys and sor-
rows as are these poor mendicants, these wandering
troubadours of the Most High king.”

Anonymous

ON PERSISTENCE

Napoleon Hill

Think & Grow Rich, p. 172



“Lack of persistence is one of the major
causes of failure....It is a weakness which
may be overcome by effort. The ease with
which lack of persistence may be
conquered will depend entirely upon the intensity of
one’s desire. The starting point of all achievement is
desire.”

WISDOM SEEDS

William Arthur Ward

“Too often we look but do not see,
listen but do not hear, and
touch but do not feel.”

WHICH IS WHICH

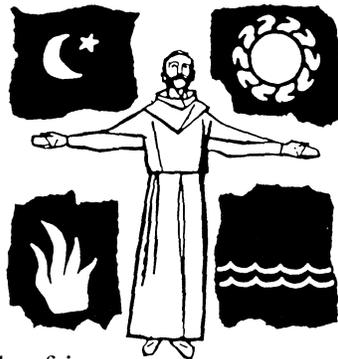
H. Jackson Brown, Jr.
Life’s Little Instruction Book

723: “Some things need doing better than they’ve
ever been done before. Some just need doing.
Others don’t need doing at all. Know which is
which.”

SUCCESS DEPENDS UPON

Ruth Scott

“Success depends above all, upon
people. Build relationships, teams, part-
nerships—and motivate people to contrib-
ute. Cultivate leadership, creativity, excel-
lence. Listen, seek new ideas and advice.”



GOOD TO GREAT Jim Collins, p. 160

“[T]hose who turn good into great are
motivated by a deep CREATIVE urge and an
INNER compulsion for sheer unadulterated
excellence *for its own sake*. Those who build and
perpetuate mediocrity, in contrast, are motivated more
by the fear of being left behind.”

2 REASONS FOR CHANGE

Jim Rohn

“We generally change ourselves for one of two
reasons: inspiration or desperation.”

THOUGHTS' EFFECT

Coach Frank Layden

“The one thought that I would try to get across to my players was that everything I do each day, everything I say, I must first think what effect it will have on everyone concerned.”

EXCELLENCE IS AN ART

Aristotle

www.positivepress.com

“Excellence is an art won by training and habituation. We do not act rightly because we have virtue or excellence, but rather we have those because we have acted rightly. We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit.”

LIVE FOR SOMETHING

Thomas Chalmers

“Live for something. Do good, and leave behind you a monument of virtue that the storms of time can never destroy. Write your name in kindness, love, and mercy on the hearts of thousands you come in contact with year by year, and you will never be forgotten. Your name and your good deeds will shine as the stars of heaven.”

IMPERFECTION COMPLAINS

Francois Fenélon

www.quoted-printable.com

“It is only imperfection that complains of what is imperfect. The more perfect we are, the more gentle and quiet we become toward the defects of others.”

PRAYER TO ILLUMINATE UNDERSTANDING

A convention was called in 1787 in the fledgling United States of America to revise the “Articles of Confederation.” For weeks delegates reviewed ancient history and analyzed governmental structures of Europe in search of insights. But nothing suited the circumstances of this infant nation.

Finally, one of the distinguished delegates, Benjamin Franklin, addressed the gathering. Referring to their meager progress, Franklin said, “In the situation of this assembly, groping as it were in the dark to find political truth and scarcely able to distinguish the same when it is presented to us, how has it happened that we have not hitherto once thought of humbling applying to the Father of Lights to illuminate our understandings?”

Those early leaders were not all Christians, yet many of them believed in a sovereign God and sought His wisdom in the affairs of state.

CHISEL CHARACTER

Johann von Goethe

“Life is a quarry, out of which we are to mold and chisel and complete a character.”

ON CRITICISM

Steve Goodier

LifeSupportSystem.com

“When it comes to receiving criticism, I believe it helps to remember first that not all criticism is invalid. Wisdom listens for the kernel of truth and saves it for future growth. But when criticism seems unfair, I believe it helps to remember the hawk. When attacked by crows, it does not counter-attack. Instead, the hawk soars higher and higher in ever-widening circles until the pests leave it alone.”

MAJORS—MINORS

Jim Rohn

www.JimRohn.com

“Learn how to separate the majors from the minors. A lot of people don’t do well simply because they major in minor things.”

EXPERIENCE THE MYSTERIOUS

Dr. Albert Einstein

“The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all art and science. He to whom this emotion is a stranger, who can no longer pause to wonder and stand rapt in awe, is as good as dead, his eyes are closed.”

THERE IS MORE BEYOND

Source Unknown

Before Christopher Columbus set sail from Spain into the unknown, it was believed that the world ended not far beyond Gibraltar. Indeed, this belief was expressed in the Spanish royal motto which read, “Ne Plus Ultra,” meaning “There is no more beyond here.” But when Columbus returned from the new World, he had actually discovered new horizons. This made the royal motto meaningless, until Queen Isabella simply eliminated the first word. Thus the motto became, “Plus Ultra,” meaning “There is plenty more beyond.”

We may think there are no more “new frontiers” left today. But one of the legacies left to us by Pres. John F. Kennedy is that he awakened us to the fact that “new frontiers” need not be geographical. They may be social, political or spiritual, wherever there is hatred, poverty, racism, indifference, despair or hopelessness. Yes, there is plenty more beyond!

