



Success with Honor

“HUMILITY BEFORE HONOR”

We all seek success: money, power, possessions, and the ability to give our families a better life than the one we had growing up. But the only way to truly be successful is to achieve your life's goals and share that success through guidance to your fellow man. You must have distinct, comprehensible, and realistic goals and objectives. Then you need a plan in place to achieve your goals including the finances, wisdom, resources, and assistance. Once you have initiated your plan you must surround yourself with quality people who will devote themselves to the pursuit of the dream. You have to be able to adjust your plans to meet your ultimate goals. Finally, you must have the perseverance and depth of commitment to give quality service, and devotion to your final goal with honor. This is what drives us to succeed.



“There are three classes of men; lovers of wisdom, lovers of honor, and lovers of gain.”—Plato

Have you ever been humbled? Have you ever had your life stripped away from you, forcing you to start from scratch? Through the myriad of experiences in my life I have learned that humility is the cornerstone of true success and happiness. All of us desire to have success and happiness, but at what cost? To achieve success is to be humbled to your lowest level so that you can appreciate what you have been blessed with and hopefully learn from the life lessons that God has given you.



“You’ve got to learn to survive a defeat. That’s when you develop character.”—Richard Nixon

The Bible says that “pride goes before a fall” and “humility comes before honor” (Proverbs 15:33, 16:18 and 18:12). In other words, if you want to fail, be prideful; if you want to succeed, be humble. The bottom line is that too many people want the respect and esteem of others without laying the proper foundation. They want to take the path of least resistance—the shortcuts in life—and still wind up on top. I’ve found in my own experience that my greatest successes have come when I have laid aside ego and embraced a humble estimation of myself. You must never allow the current trial of your faith to dampen your spirit.

“The fiery trials through which we pass will light us down in honor or dishonor to the latest generation.”—Abraham Lincoln



What is humility? It is the knowledge that you are very imperfect, and feeble. It is the willingness to reject your own thoughts and opinions to be taught by God or people wiser than you. It is the ability to take correction, confess your faults, and change your methods based on the instruction of others. It is the discipline to keep your mouth closed, avoiding conflict with others, and forgiving their offences against you.

Humility is simply the absence of pride. Humility and modesty are the marks of

a genuine individual. However, practicing humility is often easier said than done. Unfortunately, our society and work world characterize humility as significantly antithetical to the impression of the gifted professional and competent leader. It is easy to succumb to the temptation to enhance our egos.

So when you have been humbled what did you do? Did you strike out at your enemies and blame others for your failure? Did you drink yourself into oblivion and hope the problem was gone when you awoke from your stupor? Or did you humble yourself and listen to God’s will, trying to determine the reason for the lesson? I have finally chosen to embrace my failures and fears knowing that I am wiser and better for having experienced them.

There will be suffering in this life and you will have setbacks. They are unavoidable. It is much better to mislay some of the battles in the toils for your dreams than to be overwhelmed without ever knowing what you are fighting for. Your success and greatest glory in life is not necessarily gauged by what you have achieved but by rising every time that you fall. It is not merely what you have accomplished in this life that you will be measured, but by the conflicts you have encountered and the valor with which you overcame the overpowering tribulations.

Go forth in an upright manner and follow the path laid out before you.

“The honor of the conquest is rated by the difficulty.”—Michel Eyquem De Montaigne

