

HOW TO SUCCEED IN LIFE

It is my privilege to compliment the faculty and you who are graduating for the degree of proficiency you have attained. For you commencement has been a goal; now, it is a starting point. You are just at the beginning of the journey. Opportunities and responsibilities of these four years are gone. None of you can live them over. You ought to make lives count for what is noblest and best. Make life tell for as much as possible. Everyone of you expects to be successful. You do not doubt but what you will be. Success can be achieved by you if you are only willing to pay the price for it. Success is a goal within the reach of any young person of average ability who has the determination to reach that goal. The following things are necessary if you are to succeed in life:

I. A commanding and worthy purpose. *Do not start out without an ultimate destination. Know where you want to go.*

There is power in a presiding purpose. When you have a worthy purpose hold on to it with fingers of steel, or you will go wabbling and wavering through life as unstable as water which adjusts itself to the bend and curvature of every shore. A life without a purpose is doomed to failure. There is not a department of human labor where definite purpose does not condition success. The power of purpose is seen:----

1. In the economy of energy
2. In the economy of time
3. It takes more time to run in a wavering, zig-zag line than it does to go straight for the mark.
3. In the promotion of activity

Purpose is life's motive power. Dissipation of it is dangerous.

II. An aim that is definite and high

your aims today will determine your lives tomorrow. your future rests largely with you. You must aim at something or you will never reach anything. Aim high and try to reach it. Know what you are after before you start out for it. Say to yourself, "My place is at the top." There is always room at the top for those who are honorable.

III. A wise choice of a vocation

Let the Lord guide you in this choice. you will succeed only when you get in the vocation He intended for you to be in. Find out for what you are best fitted and then stick to that vocation. Give all your attention, time and effort to your vocation. Stick to your job.

IV. A Thorough preparation

So that you will be ready for whatever opening comes your way. Try to be ready. you can get thoroughly prepared if you want to. All admire an iron determination and people will always help you the way you are going. If you are going up that will give you a lift, but if you are going down they will give you a kick. Education will widen your vision, teach you to think along independent lines, bring you into touch with great personalities, broaden your sympathies, enable you to do better and more efficiently whatever you undertake, furnish you with a high ideal of manhood and womanhood, and make you more useful to yourself and others.

V. A clean Life

Discipline yourself mentally and develop a vigorous, keen, clean mind. Clean bodies can be had only with clean hearts and clean morals.

Character is absolutely necessary for a successful career. Therefore, be sure to keep away from associates that are bad. So may fail and fail in life because they go with the wrong crowd.

VI.

VI. A happy marriage

Nothing helps one more than a happy marriage with one who is wholly in sympathy with your ideals and work. It is true that people do not have to marry because many careers are open to them. However, a happy married life is the greatest career of all.

Young ladies, if you anticipate a happy married life, marry one who is;

1. Morally clean
2. A real man
3. A man of real character----never marry a man to reform him
4. A Christian
5. Capable of providing for a wife
6. Truly in love with you

Young men, if you anticipate a happy married life, marry one who is;

1. A genuine lady
2. Good to her mother
3. Not quarrelsome and nagging
4. A girl of good character
5. A burden-sharer
6. A genuine Christian

VII. An anxiety to learn

Take advantage of every opportunity to learn something. Keep on absorbing new ideas as well as inhaling fresh air. Read as much of the world's best literature as possible. Listen to and carefully consider what others have to say.

VIII. A true philosophy of life

Let that be based on the Christian religion. For everything we do we get an equal reaction. If we boost others, others will boost us. If we knock others, others will knock us. If we help others, others will help us. I have a conviction that the world is, on the whole, ready and willing to give us about what we are really entitled to. I don't believe that there is an unrecognized talent or unappreciated genius.

IX. A multitude of friends

There is no substitute for good friends. One is rich just in proportion to the number of true friends he has.

X. An untiring energy

A good continuance is as necessary to a good ending as is a good beginning. Many young people believe that success comes from an inspiration or from one brilliant effort, and few can be made to realize that what really brings success is steady, untiring work. Work is found on every road to success. Anyone who is not willing to travel this road is simply doomed to failure. Nothing worthwhile is accomplished without work. Hard work and plenty of it are invaluable. Anything worth doing at all is worth doing well. The price of success is hard work. To succeed, effort must never end. Do your level best. Almost any degree of success is attainable, if one is willing to pay the price, which is hard and continuous application along one line of endeavor. Do your work better than others and will not have to be hunting a job.

XI. A burning desire to serve

you are here for something more than to have a good time or ornament society. It is by your life of service that you will be known. No one has the proper conception of life who fails to recognize the magnitude and moral dignity of service. Nothing so exalts one in the eyes of God or man as service. Only they who stoop to serve are truly great. The way to be great is to be great in service. Service is the glory of life and the touchstone of greatness. The service that you will render will tell the story of your lives. The doors of opportunity for service are always open.

XII. A complete dependence on God

It is impossible for you to succeed if you leave God out of your life and life's plans. If you ignore God you are doomed to defeat and failure. No man can climb to the heights of success without God.