

Week 6 – Hardworking Day 1

Hardworking - Definition

Hard working is the quality of repeated persistent laboring in order to achieve an objective.

Hardworking - Quote

“The only time success comes before work is in the dictionary.” Will Rogers

Demonstration:

For each day of the week, give yourself either “+” if you demonstrate this quality or “-” if you do not.

M _____ T _____ W _____ Th _____ F _____ Sa _____ Su _____

My Goals for the Week:

+	

It has been said that immigrants to the United States are much more likely to become millionaires than U.S. citizens. Why do you think this is?

Why does hard work develop self-respect?

Week 6 – Hardworking

Day 2

The Butterfly

When he was a small boy, he had loved butterflies. Not to net and mount them, but to wonder at their designs and habits. Now a grown man with his first son to be born in a few weeks, he found himself once again fascinated with a cocoon. He had found it at the side of the park path. Somehow the fragile case had been knocked from the tree and the cocoon had survived undamaged and still woven to the branch.

As he had seen his mother do, he gently protected it by wrapping it in his handkerchief and carrying it home. The cocoon found a temporary home in a wide-top mason jar with holes in the lid. The jar was placed on the mantel for easy viewing and protected from their curious cat, which would delight in volleying the sticky silk between his paws.

The man watched his wife's interest, which lasted only a moment, but he studied the silky envelope. Almost imperceptibly at first, the cocoon moved. He watched more closely and soon the cocoon was trembling with activity. Nothing else happened. The cocoon remained tightly glued to the twig and no sign of wings existed.

Finally, the shaking became so intense that the man thought the butterfly would die from the struggle. He removed the lid on the jar, took a sharp penknife from his desk drawer, and carefully made a tiny slit in the side of the cocoon. Almost immediately, one wing appeared and then out-stretched the other. The butterfly was free. It seemed to enjoy its freedom and walked along the edge of the mantel. But it did not fly. At first the man thought the wings needed time to dry, but time passed and still the butterfly did not take off.

The man was worried and called his neighbor, who taught high school science. He told the neighbor how he found the cocoon, placed it in the mason jar, and the terrible trembling as the butterfly struggled to get out. When he discovered how the man had carefully made a slit in the cocoon, the teacher stopped him, "Oh that is the reason. You see, the struggle is what gives the butterfly the strength to fly."

And so, it is with people. Sometimes it is the struggles in life that strengthen you the most and give you the ability to fly. It is the adversity in life that strengthens you and gives you the ability to cope with problems.

We are the same as the butterfly. We will have fun, be happy, enjoy life once we learn to keep fighting.

Give a life example of the butterfly? What do you have to work hard at to "fly"? (be successful)

How can you rejoice in hard times?

How does overcoming difficulty develop character?

Week 6 – Hardworking Day 3

The Pump

Several years ago, Bernard Haygood and Jimmy Glenn were driving in the South Alabama foothills on a hot August day. They were thirsty, so Bernard pulled behind an old abandoned farmhouse with a water pump in the yard. He hopped out of the car, ran over to the pump, grabbed the handle and started pumping. After a moment or two of pumping, Bernard pointed to an old bucket and suggested to Jimmy that he get the bucket and dip some water out of a nearby stream in order to “prime” the pump. As all pumpers know, you must put a little water in the top of the pump to “prime” the pump and get the flow of water started.

In the game of life, before you can get anything out, you must put something in. Unfortunately, there are many people who stand in front of the stove of life and say, “Stove, give me some heat and then I’ll put some wood in you.”

But life doesn’t work that way. Just like the pump, you must first put something into life before you can expect to get anything out of it. Now, if you’ll just transfer this knowledge to the rest of your life, you can solve many of your problems.

The farmer must plant his seed in the spring or summer before he reaps the harvest in the fall. He also “puts in” lots of work before the crop reaches the harvest stage. The student puts in hundreds of hours of work before he acquires the knowledge and the graduation certificate. The secretary of today, who is the office manager of tomorrow, puts a considerable amount of extra effort into her job. The athlete of today, who becomes a champion of tomorrow, “puts in” a great deal of himself in the form of sweat and effort before he reaps the champion’s reward. The junior executive of today, who becomes the corporate president of tomorrow, is that individual who puts himself into the job. The salesman today, who becomes the sales manager of tomorrow, is the person who understands the principle of priming the pump. When you put something “in,” the law of compensation says you’ll get something “out.”

What must you put in to “prime the pump” in this class?

What about your other classes?

Week 6 – Hardworking Day 4

The Hog Hunter

A number of years ago, some hogs escaped in a remote area of the Smoky Mountains. Over a period of several generations, these hogs became wilder and wilder, until they were a menace to anyone who crossed their paths. A number of skilled hunters tried to locate and kill them, but the hogs were able to elude the efforts of the best hunters in the area.

One day an old man, leading a small donkey pulling a cart, came into the village closest to the habitat of these wild hogs. The cart was loaded with lumber and grain. The local citizens were curious about where the man was going and what he was going to do. He told them he had “come to catch them wild hogs.” They scoffed because no one believed the old man could accomplish what the local hunters were unable to do. But, two months later, the old man returned to the village and told the citizens the hogs were trapped in a pen near the top of the mountain.

Then he explained how he caught them. “First thing I done was find the spot where the hogs came to eat. Then I baited me a trap by puttin’ a little grain right in the middle of the clearin’. Them hogs was scared off at first, but curiosity finally got to ‘em and the old boar that led ‘em started sniffin’ around. When he took the first bite, the others joined in and I knew right then I had ‘em. Next day I put some more grain out there and laid one plank a few feet away. That plank kinda spooked ‘em for awhile, but the ‘free lunch’ had a powerful appeal, so it wasn’t long ‘fore they were back eatin’. Them hogs didn’t know it, but they was mine already. All I had to do was add a coupla’ boards each day by the grain they wanted until I had ever’thing I needed for my trap. Then I dug a hole and put up my first corner post. Ever’time I added somethin’, they’d stay away a spell, but finally they’d come back to git ‘somethin’ for nothing.’ When the pen was built and the trap door was ready, the habit of gittin’ what they wanted without working for it drove ‘em right into the pen and I sprung the trap. It was real easy after I got ‘em comin’ for the ‘free lunch.’”

The story is true and its point quite simple: When you create a dependence, you take away resourcefulness.

How is this story related to our welfare system?

What is the danger of being dependent?

Week 6 – Hardworking

Day 5

Evaluate Your Week

We've been focused on "Hardworking" this week, how did you do? For every goal not met, explain what happened and what you can do differently next week to have success.

If you completed goals, what did you learn?

Write down in complete sentences, something that you learned about "Hardworking" this week.

Of the three stories, "The Butterfly", "The Pump", "The Hog Hunter", which had the greatest impact on you? Why?

Demonstration:

For each day of the week, give yourself either "+" if you demonstrated this quality or "-" if you did not.

M_____ T_____ W_____ Th_____ F_____ Sa_____ Su_____