

GRAMMY an' GRANDPA'S STUFF:



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Advice from my wife, Margaret, and me after 53 years of marriage and much prayer. We still feel each other is the apple of our eyes and we especially write this to all children and grandchildren who are starting out in life; and, to the adults who never had good advice or to anyone who needs help in making good life discussions.

It is absolutely useless for people to know many things if they do not live according to what they know. The point of knowing is that a person may become good through it. When a person becomes good, he has much more than someone who knows countless things and yet is not good. For what the latter seeks by much knowledge, the former already has. Arcana Coelestia 1100AD

Please read this in spurts, studying each segment in your heart and mind and soul until you grasp the full meaning of each area before moving on to the next. If you pour over it in its entirety you will miss important aspects. Please keep it in a safe place where you can refer back to it when you need to. Not to say it is a hand book but it is from our pouring out our heart. We love you and have faith in you and we have faith that God will see you through everything you come against, allowing you to direct your life according to His plans. We love you and honor your name and know God has known you since before you were born and has great and powerful things in mind for you. He will always be there and so will we and we know your whole family will always be there also. Nothing can separate our love from you in the same manner which God promises He will hold fast to you also. You were and will always remain a child of God, however your pathways will take you to higher ground than you know as of now. What we are trying to impart are things we wish we had been told at the start rather than learning them after the hard knocks came.

For 73 years I have been learning from: people, mistakes, and Life; 40 years or so ago I began asking daily for God's input to the mess I often made of things. I still make mistakes, but usually they are of a lessor problem than before.

Both Margaret and I came from dysfunctional families with different causes. In all probability, according to statistics, our marriage should have been a disaster; but somehow we both early on established God as a beacon in our life and He is faithful to us even when we are not faithful to him. Without the right knowledge of how to live a good and proper life we talked a lot before we were married. I am amazed at the depth and conclusions we came to back then.

The number one marker we seized upon was that we would always think about what we said before we said it with respect to how the other would perceive or understand what we were about to say; or if we said it without thinking it out properly, ask for forgiveness immediately, never going to bed mad at each other. I wish we could say we were always successful at doing this; but time draws out many happenstances and we sometimes fall down. We can, however, profess to doing so more than 90% of the time, with 100% on forgiveness.

The second item was that we should always have each others best interest at heart even before our own. This only works when both parties agree and adhere to this concept. The same goes for your children, although do not expect reciprocal action from them, it will not work. Place your spouse first then each child, *you are always last*.

The third thing was to learn how to handle money. Both our families made good money and both parents worked; however at the same time, they never had any money. Before we got married we sat down to take stock of our finances and made a budget. Almost immediately our first financial mistake was made. Shortly after we were married, we could not figure out why we ran out of money so quickly. We had failed to subtract the taxes, etc. before we figured a budget. Were it not for my brand-new yellow hardtop 57 Chevy V8 Bel-Air's transmission going bad twice, under warranty, and the subsequent swapping to a new green 4-door sedan 6Cyl 57 Bel-Air and a year's worth of pre-paid payments, we would have lost everything.

So, *only realistic budgets are worth anything*. I would not let this happen again, us being in debt too high for comfort. Then they invented credit cards. It was great to get what you wanted when you wanted it, except we soon found ourselves in debt at over \$2,000 to a large store similar to what Wal-mart is now. That was big bucks back then. We recognized the problem and cut up the card saying we would have nothing to do with another credit card until we could control our spending better. I will say this, we were financially fit even during that time. Still, it was the debt that worried me, we could make the payments okay.

When Margaret became pregnant with our first baby I made a dreadful mistake. When she had a miscarriage, I consoled her properly, but, I did not realize what she was truly going through. You see, men and women are truly different in many ways, more than we often care to admit. I will always regret that I did not understand how great the loss of the baby was to her. I knew my mother still grieved and would not talk about the loss of her first baby; still, I was consumed by other matters.

Ignorance is a type of excuse, but it is a flimsy one which can send you to prison and cause a divorce or all manner of problems in a marriage. In some ways, I suppose, coming from a dysfunctional family helped, because we did not really know how we should react to many things, consequently after a few weeks Margaret accepted my indifference to losing the baby. Women can still feel the pain no matter if it was 70

years ago, like Mother felt the pain of losing her first baby. It cannot go away and scars remain inside as well as outside.

Be always cognizant of each others pain, console each other, knowing sometimes you are effected differently. Remember what 1 Corinthians 13 says: ***Love is patient. Love is kind. Love is not jealous, or boastful or proud ,or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged. It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.***

Why am I saying these things, because you must try to put yourself in other people's position on a regular basis before you can truly live a successful life and you must learn to be responsible for what happens before and after the wake you cause when you move about in this pin-ball game called life.

Because both my wife and I were lacking in the area of guidance, as to how to do and be most anything in life, we talked more, pondered more, and prayed more; I believe God answered us in many many ways, and has blessed us immensely. The first house we bought was less than 600sq feet and we were proud to have it. I can still feel the deep, deep anguish as the husband who could not provide the dream house that we went to see when we were still renting. I thought we had the world by the tail, the world instead showed us the reality of our lacking. Since then God has given us more than what that house was many times over; but we had to wait.

Our second financial mistake was in budgeting for two paychecks. Mother was keeping Theresa and we still had the green 57 Chevy that was my pride and joy. We ordered a brand new Volkswagen from Germany, no less. We went to the boat and drove it off having to take off the shipping films before we could drive it on the streets. Brenda came along and Margaret had to quit work. The two paycheck family went to one. I had to sell my 57 Chevy and bought an old 53 Chevy to drive back and forth.

However, once seeing how to live better on less we were always able to adjust and do well enough because of many of the afore mentioned aspects, and when you can control your spending you can always see better times ahead. I will never forget the time I bought an air conditioner for our little white picket fenced house because Margaret was having a hard time with the summer heat during her pregnancy with Brenda. After working 144 hours in two weeks, for over-time, I paid cash \$450 and the a/c installed. Feeling rather smug with myself I cranked it full force while I went to get her from where she was visiting her mother in Fort Walton Beach, FL. There were almost icicles in the house when I brought her home. All of the windows were fogged up and we had to open the doors to get rid of the cold to make it liveable.

Sometimes it is not easy to find the time or gumption to talk about things that are important and should be said. Time is such a precious thing, never forget its importance; allow yourself an ample supply for making good memories along the way, for without them growing old serves no delight, only bringing on pain and misery.

It seems so long ago when we were young parents ourselves, give your children the gift of time. Memories often fail, but love never does; we cherish the moments we can recall, such as seeing each of you toddling impishly across the floor, learning to be

sure not to fall, but ready to get back up when you did. The time on the beach when you kids picked up the peaceful seagull, who simply allowed you to hold it until you held it aloft to fly away, we were all amazed, a nice memory.

We have known you throughout your whole life, watching you, from babe in arms, to the delights you now are. Never stop laughing and trusting others even though they sometimes hurt, but just as you did when you fell, get up and have another go at it. Always take what you learn and grow; growing is very important to God and yourself, for without growth there is nothing but dormancy and eventual death.

BE CAREFUL, with prayer and much consternation think things through before you leap, often things end up not being what they seemed in the beginning; and as Sir Francis Bacon (A.K.A. Shakespeare) once said, "to thine own self be true," or, **BE WHO YOU ARE -- YOU ARE UNIQUE AND FEARFULLY MADE!** God only made one of each of you. Accept yourself as those who love you do, the good and yes even the occasional bad -- we love you that way!

Always remember the a little formula God gave me when we needed it the most. We have applied it in many ways throughout our lives since then, I hope you can do the same. Especially in your family. However it takes a lot of luck to accomplish it. That's luck spelled LUCK, "L" meaning love, "U" is understanding, and "C" as compassion and "K." for knowledge of God. If you apply everything you do for your kids and yourself through the filters of LOVE, UNDERSTANDING, COMPASSION, and KNOWLEDGE of God, then there's hope.

LOVE IS DEPENDABLE in all situations real or imagined. This is not simply a cliché but definitely building blocks for a happy and fulfilling life and a loving and understanding relationship. The object of any husband/wife relationship should be to become as close as Christ is to God. This is not to say we should become God and Christ but we should try to establish the same constant Communication.

Forgiveness, Trust, and finally Sacrifice. These elements give you a deep and lasting relationship of an ever broadening depth to that of wanting the best for each other even to the extent of personal sacrifices, not as Christ on the cross but as only you can live it, such as "taking out the garbage" and loving it because it gives satisfaction in doing for each other. Things like this say, I know above all else I can count on you, you are always there when I need you; and, as long as you put God first in your life you will always come out on top!

I know it is easy to barricade yourself away or run from problems, using all manner of escapisms; however, to do such is not productive, only hard work , facing the adversity, along with seeking advice from those you trust, and knowing God is always on your side, if you are on His, will you survive intact.

Many times we each sat wondering what do and who to turn to. Both of us came from situations where such wisdom was not available nor offered. I wanted to be a pilot Margaret was not sure of anything. When I lost the being a pilot option I had no idea what to do. I had plans for that but they were dashed. You have many, many options for your future life and any direction you decide on will be good if you follow some of the things we have included here. Granted we have a lot for you to assimilate; but you will be miles ahead of the game if you read the whole of it all and apply what you will as you will. Nevertheless, you are the one who must decide what direction to take to sail your boat into the unknown. Yet, always remember the worse decision you can make is

none at all.

Okay so you finally walked across a stage in a commencement ceremony... what does this mean? It simply means you are commencing (starting) educating yourself for the rest of your life. You will never, hopefully, master your life, profession, nor craft. Some mistakenly believe they have and often make bone-headed mistakes which have dire consequences, such as losing a finger or a bridge falling down. Beware ye stand least ye fall the scripture tells us. Hence forth you will have no one to blame for where you are in your life plan but yourself. Though your family will always be around to give you advice it is now only your responsibility, act like it. Lose your baby fat from your body and between your ears. For true wisdom always turn to the scriptures. Although you are the master of your ship God, Jesus Christ, and Holy Spirit promise to always be there when you need them; also rest assured there are many angels which can and will be placed at your side when needed.

Within one's self lies the whole world, if you know how to look and learn. The door of life appears and the key is in your hand; nobody on earth can give you the key, or make the door open except yourself. Never quit seeking knowledge, study everything God places before you with all earnestness. If you are starting a project in life or professionally and do not have all the knowledge you feel you need, seek out at least three who do and talk to them about what you are wanting to do asking them first to help you. I have found if you ask just about anyone for help they are willing to do so. Then take what you learned from them and apply your own ideas to make it work and it will if dedicated to God.

Never, never, never go into any situation feeling that you know everything and try to tell other people how much you know; they may act impressed but usually are not, quite the contrary they will often call you a "know it all" or a "foghorn". Don't even say you are an expert at anything, if you are, other people will be only too happy to introduce you as such, however if some one does, be aware the person who hears you are an expert will often try to shoot you down, that is the nature of humans. The same holds true about anything, let others toot your horn. Never brag about what you have done in the past for it is the future you live in.

Furthermore, never, never, never, let yourself be pulled into "one-up-manship" conversations; they usually end up like talking parrots speaking into a mirror. Never get caught up in trying to impress someone failing to listen to what is being said simply because you are so intent on adding an important thing you want to say. Listen... no one ever learned anything by speaking anyway. There are many educated fools and good old boys who will get in your way and hinder your success. Stick with people like glue who build you up and believe in what you do and say. Do not allow yourself to be drawn aside for any sake other than for the Lord. Let Holy Spirit who is your helper and guide through life, lead you when to speak and when to shut up. Additionally let Him guide you as to what to say.

Do not change so you will be liked or loved unless you feel God is saying you have this problem and you must face it. Many people will try to take you down to make themselves look better, ignore them when possible. When you work for a man give an honest days work, making sure you have their best interests at heart. If you find you cannot do this, seek the Lord and find another place to work. Above all do not allow yourself to be drawn into a conversation which tears down either the boss or the company, such talk is very popular among both losers and back-climbers which you will

work with and for. Be your own man.

The next twenty years of your life are very important, please do not fritter them away concerned about things which only hinder your future. Such distractions as killer trucks, fishing boats, and jet skis are of little importance to your future and should be virtually ignored for the next twenty years of your life. Your whole life, your future, is built on these next twenty years, they will make or break you for many years to come, so choose wisely what you do during this time.

Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth. Walk in the ways of your heart and the sight of your eyes. But know that for all these things God will bring you into judgment. Eccles. 11:9

So what does that mean? Everything you say or do should be considered as seeds in life. Sort of like if you jump off a tall building to kill yourself and ask God to save you because you changed your mind, He might but most likely you will prove what gravity is all about. In-other-words, everything has consequences and they will come back on you whether or not you ask God to forgive you. No where in the scripture does it say He will very often take away the results or consequences of your good or bad actions. And, remember it may not be you who gets the whack against the head. Eli was cursed by God to be eternally saddled with His misdeeds and that of his sons, not only that but his entire family carry the curse forever.

The person who wrote the book of Ecclesiastes was the richest most powerful and the smartest man who ever lived as recorded in the Bible. He was King Solomon. At the end of the book he simply says no matter what you say or do or accomplish in this life nothing is important or worthwhile unless it is God ordained or God breathed. My suggestion to you is to seek God's plan (more on that later) for your life and stick with it, doing the best you can to do His will in your life. If you do this you will do Him proud.

Your family as it presently is, and however it becomes as you move into such plans, will be your most important prize. Hold fast especially to your mother and father for God promises you that if you do, all will go well with you and you will enjoy a healthy life. Friends will come and go and although they are important in your life, and should be, they are fleeting in nature. Your family are with you forever.

Sooner or later you will find a wife to live your life with (more on that later). It will happen in due time if you allow God to guide you. Please do not allow your emotions to guide you into an unequally yoked life of misery. God has someone already in the plans for you. Allow Him to guide you and most especially allow the time frame to be His not yours. Love whom you love and hold fast to them as best you can. Although your friends will come and go try to keep up with them creating a network that you might depend on when needed.

When God guides you to someone for a lifetime keep their best interest at heart above yours, always applying the wisdom of the scriptures concerning both you and her and your future children; to do anything less is nonsense. I truly believe when you are face to face with Jesus, He will ask you what you did with the blessings He gave you, and many will respond by telling Him how they bought this and that to increase their

wealth. Jesus will stop them and say, no. I am talking about your family, especially your children.

Please rest assured now is not the time for devoting yourself to fun. Your childhood is gone and you are a man, expected to do manly things and make manly decisions. Nevertheless, keep the parts of you that keeps you exuberant for life. Adulthood is serious but it is fun too and in that fun there needs to be some of the child in you to remain.

Now is the time for seeking the Lord and His will for your life and of you setting your course strong and fast to see that it becomes complete. It is hard for you to see it but these next twenty years will be over with before you know it and you will reap the rewards of your efforts, whether good or bad were your seeds. Always remember there are permanent consequences to all of your actions. What you do effects many people now and in the future. Yet, when you make bone-head decisions, and you will, always learn from them and move on forgiving yourself as God does.

Above all **PUT GOD FIRST!** He is always watching you. Through the help of Holy Spirit, in as much as you can, in everything you do, *allow Holy Spirit to become your best friend*; ask for His help in everything. Yield your entire life, your body, your being to God.

Establish Holy Spirit as your constant companion, *the Breath of God*, in humble supplication and prayer without ceasing. Holy Spirit will help you, Jesus promised you as much. When you decide what it is that God would have you involved in do it diligently without fail, against all obstacles. Many people fail just at the point of success. It used to be there were hand pumps to draw the water out of the ground wells. In those days there were no such things as “check valves” so you had to prime them, often several times to create a suction to pull up the water. Often people would give up when only one more push of the pump handle would produce good cold water for whatever the need was. Do not give up if God wants you to persist. If I am anything I am for God persistent and He can depend on it. It is important for God to be able to depend on you. Be who you say you are and be no less.

Nevertheless, do not become hard headed, always be willing to walk away when God tells you it is enough, not to do so is folly. If you lack wisdom for such ask God, He promises He will give wisdom to those who ask for it. And for heavens sake call your Dad or Mom to ask them when you feel you should, and of course myself and Grammy.

Determination is hallmark in a successful career. Desire alone is nothing but an impulse. Without sheer determination nothing would be accomplished. When the time comes serve God well, giving Him not only the customary tithe but whatever you feel He tells you. In like manner save and invest equal amounts for your future retirement needs. Over the years such saving or investments will reward you well. However do not spend your retirement funds, create what I call escrow savings for expenses that you know you will have along the way such as: Taxes, Car repairs, appliances, houses and house repairs, anything that takes planning to purchase. Whoa you say, that means I have to put a big chunk of what I earn away and I want to have fun. You will have plenty of fun with what is left and God will bless you at being disciplined with your wealth so you may have plenty to bless others. Above all when possible do not fall into debt, especially concerning credit cards, it is a trap that many fall into. Credit is good

when needed and establish yours early, keeping your good name. A good name is one of the most important things for you to pursue; guard it for much comes to you when you do.

We feel we should be successful every time we attempt anything, viciously condemning and chastising ourselves when we fail. Lions, as kings of the beasts, hunt in packs with great precision, yet, they are unsuccessful seventy percent of the time. We do not see lions angry and depressed from a lost opportunity, instead they seem bent on relaxing; and I suspect they consider each time out as a learning experience. Sometimes they succeed, sometimes they fail, yet always they learn and look forward to the next time, seeing themselves succeeding.

Would we succeed more often if we followed nature's examples? Most likely, yet in fact, we too actually should form packs for hunting our prey. By forming networks with companies and alliances, both professionally and socially, we continually increase our advantages for success. In doing so we increase the odds by helping one another, like the lions. Still, seventy percent correct or successful is not good enough for us; and, often in today's environment any agreement is only worth the paper it is written on. Unfortunately this nation supports a larger population of lawyers inside Washington D.C. than exists in the entire world because of our mistrust of others and a past history of self preservation when the chips are down. No Shakespeare was not right when he said, "Kill all the lawyers". They truly are sometimes needed, yet try your best to steer away from the need of them.

To form a good network one must look for those who are honest and forthright with similar likes and concerns to that of our own; ones with similar beliefs and goals, that we can trust. However, can we trust someone who seems like us? That question has concerned humanity since Cain and Abel. Then too remember a crook is not going to walk up to you and say, "I'm going to steal all you have". No, he will say, "I am your friend and you can trust me with your life". Be wary the lions seek to devour all you desire to do for yourself and the Lord. Seek God's guidance especially for all major decisions.

STILL, ALWAYS REMEMBER, TOGETHER we can change the world... *if but first, we change **OURSELVES**.* That is where God comes in. He alone knows our hearts, knowing beforehand when we will triumph and when we will fail.

As we know Jesus better, His divine power gives us everything we need for living a godly life. He has called us to receive His own glory and goodness! And by that same mighty power, He has given us all of His rich and wonderful promises. He has promised that you will escape the decadence all around you caused by evil desires and that you will share in His divine nature.

So make every effort to apply the benefits of these promises to your life. Then your faith will produce a life of moral excellence. A life of moral excellence leads to knowing God better. Knowing God leads to self-control. Self-control leads to patient endurance, and patient endurance leads to godliness. Godliness leads to love for other Christians, and finally you will grow to have genuine love for everyone. The more you grow like this, the more you will become productive and useful in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But

those who fail to develop these virtues are blind or, at least, very shortsighted. They have already forgotten that God has cleansed them from their old life of sin.

So, dear brothers and sisters, work hard to prove that you really are among those God has called and chosen. Doing this, you will never stumble or fall away. And God will open wide the gates of heaven for you to enter into the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1:3-11

SEVEN INGREDIENTS FOR A SUCCESSFUL LIFE: We decided there were some definite ingredients for a successful life, take them for what they are worth. When you consider what it might have cost us not to know them they may be worth a lot to you.

1. Strong belief in GOD, (Seek ye the kingdom of God 1st)
2. Disciplined approach to life, (seek God's direction and go to it)
3. Eagerness to change, (always growing, accepting help from others)
4. Willingness for hard work, (to serve)
5. Willingness to risk high, trusting in God, (not manna)
6. Be Idealistic in actions, (noble in simplistic and visionary ways)
7. ADMIT IT SOMETIMES YOU REALLY DO NEEEEEED HELP!

Ask for His help... for Him to intervene! He wants to. Too often we are woeful children, like the ones we hear in the supermarket or discount store screaming up and down the aisle. The frantic mother pushes a buggy full of items and a screaming child who wants its way through the check out lane trying to cope.

I heard a man describe a situation he encountered while he and his family were on an outing in a local park. His wife and he were seated on the ground watching their son play on the equipment. This made the mother nervous, and if the truth be known, the daddy too. Nevertheless the youngster, perfectly capable of making up his own mind romped on everything he could see. There were three slides, each one higher, and the youngster tried each successive one. The mother was beside herself with worry, but the father would not let her rescue him from his adventuresome ways. Suddenly the man ran to his son's side as he yelled, "Daddy come help me, I am afraid."

God told me to call out for help but I in my machismo said, "I don't want to bother them." It's like we are afraid it means we are a failure... to need help. This is one of those things I hope you don't teach your kids. Many times I said to ours, "Always seek out help before you start something if you know you will need help in order to finish it."

"The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you. Do not be like a senseless horse or mule that needs a bit and bridle to keep it under control."
Psalm 32:8-9

Me, I am too often the mule with a bit and bridle, plus blinders and more in order to obey His simple leading. This is especially difficult for the Christian business man. There are too many areas that present difficulty and doing it all by yourself becomes a way of life. You don't have time to call in others much less rely on somebody else.

One year during an especially hard time, money was not coming in like we needed. We were desperate, and our daughter, your mother, needed a prom dress. Back then there were no second-hand stores. My heart was crushed from anguish. Her dress was in lay-away, the prom was two days away. I could not scrape up the money and the business was not coming in. Landlords do not take kindly to rent not being paid and the overhead was constant no matter what the business was bringing in.

A Christian friend who did not know our circumstances, money wise, called me outside the store and gave me a check for the exact amount needed for the dress. I wanted to refuse and started to; never before had I taken money from someone when I had a need. I could support my family, after all I was "Self-sufficient." Then He said GOD told him to do it and he knew how it felt to have a need that he could not see how it could be met and who was I to refuse God. I was never so humbled, but the remembrance of the situation still brings tears to my eyes 35 years later. God wants to teach us, to help us; we are His kids. Too often we refuse His help.

"My child, never forget the things I have taught you. Store my commands in your heart, for they will give you a long and satisfying life. Never let loyalty and kindness get away from you! Wear them like a necklace; write them deep within your heart. Then you will find favor with both God and people, and you will gain a good reputation. Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will direct your paths. Don't be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the Lord and turn your back on evil. Then you will gain renewed health and vitality." Proverb 3:1-8

He knows our needs, just like we know our own children's needs. He feels our pain like it was His. Just like we do our own. We are His children; He has accepted us as heirs to His throne; we are adopted and a brother and sister to Christ! He loves us more than we love our children. He will not leave us alone and will discipline us in His way. We must learn our lessons, taking our lumps if required. We must ask for help, and He is ready and willing when we do.

"So I tell you, don't worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food, drink, and clothes. Doesn't life consist of more than food and clothing? Look at the birds. They don't need to plant or harvest or put food in barns because your heavenly Father feeds them. And you are far more valuable to Him than they are. Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? Of course not. And why worry about your clothes? Look at the lilies and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. And if God cares so wonderfully for

flowers that are here today and gone tomorrow, won't He more surely care for you? You have so little faith! So don't worry about having enough food or drink or clothing. Why be like the pagans who are so deeply concerned about these things? Your heavenly Father already knows all your needs, and he will give you all you need from day to day if you live for him and make the Kingdom of God your primary concern. So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today."

Matthew 6:25-34

GOD WANTS YOU TO SUCCEED Picture yourself succeeding! God has this in mind when he asks you to do a particular task! If a negative thought prevails cancel it with a successful happening! Do not allow those things to build up in your mind that are wrong in God's sight. Build up the good things, that is God's way! Compare yourself to Christ not of others that have succeeded in the ways of the world, for Christ succeeded in the ways of the Godly. Genuine success comes only through the will of God, act accordingly!

If God be for me... who is against me? If you admire anyone and wish to copy some aspect of their personality copy only from those who display righteous traits; those who do the will of God! Ask God to strengthen you! Know that it is He that has made you and not you! Seek God in all things and you will succeed! God is the measure of your rising and your falling! Develop a healthy self image of yourself though God! Look to God for your needs! Your self respect! ATTACH YOURSELF TO THE POSITIVE ATTRIBUTES OF PRAYER! Believe that God is with you! DON'T TELL YOURSELF OF THINGS THAT COULD OR SHOULD HAVE BEEN, FOR THE PAST IS PAST; TELL YOURSELF OF THINGS THAT WILL BE!

"The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them." Matthew 13:11

Your place in the vineyards is where God calls you, whether in the church, whether in the wilds of the missionary field, or being the parent of a rebellious teenager.

Whether comforting the sick, visiting the jails, serving in ministry, or tending a garden in your yard dedicate your actions to Him. Do His work, placing Him first, always knowing someday He will come expecting to find you where He placed you as He did with Adam and Eve, expecting to find them and see an increase. Did you use the talents, the gifts, He gave you as a tool to further the vineyards, putting yourself on the line, risking it all trusting you heard His words correctly, all the while listening to the helper whom He sent? If you did, then you will hear, "Well done, my good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Master."

ESTABLISH A BURNING DESIRE OF YOUR HEART. Set Godly goals, strive after the Lord, institute a strong daily prayer and Bible reading. Truly seek the Lord, thereby laying treasures in heaven while enjoying them on earth. Jesus went away so we might have a helper in all things, the Holy Spirit (John 16). If you do not have a heart's desire, ask Him in prayer for help in finding what you ought to be about.

Destroy that part of you that follows Satan's voice, tearing you down; cast out negative thoughts and destructive criticism. Truly seek the Lord, persevering in faith always! *Ask for help in destroying the part of you that He dislikes; learning to love yourself.*

When a mother saw a thunderstorm forming in mid-afternoon, she worried about her seven year old daughter who would be walking the three blocks from school to home. Deciding to meet her, the mother saw her walking nonchalantly along, stopping to smile whenever lightning flashed. Seeing her mother, the little girl ran to her, explaining happily, "All the way home, God's been taking my picture!"

Reaffirm goals *you believe came from God*, then go for it, allowing Holy Spirit to become your best and constant companion; ask God to help you through Holy Spirit in everything, creating prayer without ceasing. Not wanting or doing your will but God's will, living everything in faith, John 6: 38. *Realize and believe with all your heart that GOD has a continuing plan that includes your best interests!*

Make sure you are strong enough in God to complete the task, and allow God to direct your feet whether to the right or the left. *Write out your goals, planning backwards for success, allowing for problems along the way. Make sure you are strong enough in God to complete the task, allow God to direct your feet.*

"...make my joy complete being of the same mind... intent on one purpose... regard one another as more important than himself.. Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the Word of life." Phil 2:1-7; 14-16.

We all agree, if God wants something done, it must be done, even if that creates some division. If in God's will it is done, and some division is created, it will heal. Rebellion however it should be said, is not doing God's will. If left unchecked rebellion will kill the church. Still, nothing that happens to the Church is without purpose. When adversity strikes, Oswald Chambers said to say, "Speak Lord." To this I add, "*Thy servant awaits.*"

If God wants you to deal with something in your life, He will not allow you to walk away from it until you do. *Do what you have to do; but, do it now, and don't lay it down!* He takes into account your repentance yet, He may give you enough of what you want until you see for yourself, it's bad for you.

Especially deal with the obvious things. Many have lost the anointing by procrastination. *Respect the natural order of things, for nothing lasts forever, not even a calling.* GOD KNOWS YOUR SITUATION, and how much you can stand.

"No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it." Corinthians 10:13.

EDUCATE YOURSELF in all aspects of what God has led you to; become an

expert, never allow yourself to be lacking; especially do not fear the adversary you face, because you have been prepared for the battle, and have faith He has sent you, not yourself. Read the scriptures, increasing your understanding.

BE PERSISTENT, KEEPING A GRATITUDE ATTITUDE Be persistent in what God has in store for you to do, like carbon is to steel! Do not be blown as the grass in the fields; rebuke Satan when he tries to defeat your efforts. *Stick to your goals, knowing you will not be defeated if your efforts are yielded unto Him!* Life is its fullest when we are serving and doing the will of the Father! *There is no greater happiness than in the joy of your Master!* Be thankful that you have such a loving God, even when things don't go exactly according to your plans, continue steadfast in your purposes, unless God directs you different.

Have you ever thought about the many gifts God gives to you? Each Christian knows fully well, God's greatest gift was given through the death of Jesus Christ, that of forgiveness and eternal life. Numerous things can prevent us from hearing the truth. Without the gift of understanding, we would not be Christians. Many seeds are planted throughout our lifetime, God is the grower of seeds, not us. Please cherish the gift of understanding, it is the only thing that stands between you and those who hear but have no understanding. Without understanding we would perish.

Always pray for God's wisdom and true understanding when reading or hearing His word taught, in doing so God will reveal things both great and simple. It is the latter, the simple things, that sometimes mean so much in our hurried world. We often have a tendency for making simple matters complex. Especially when reading God's word we tend to see the difficulty in living according to His unbending principles; in-other-words, not seeing the green pastures on the other side of the forest, for the trees. Through His revelation and understanding, we can see and understand what we are supposed to. Ask for it, expect it, act on it, therein lies life abundantly.

In that same vein, what I call, Four Keys For Living a Successful Christian Life were brought to my attention. Although they are nothing new, don't look for them in your concordance or study helps, you won't find them, still they are part of everything we are taught in the scriptures. They are simply gifts from God; I offer them to you, freely as He gave them to me. Please use these *Four Christian Keys* prayerfully. If you faithfully apply them, they will help you in your travails to obtain a successful Godly living.

You must: 1) Realize and believe with *all your heart* that God has a continuing plan that includes your best interests! 2) Put God first in everything you do, establishing the Holy Spirit as your constant companion. 3) Yield to God, in humble supplication and pray without ceasing, by way of Holy Spirit, and through Christ, persevering in faith always! 4) "Follow Christ, seeking the Godly desires of your heart, thereby doing His will, sharing the good news in love to all whom God places before you!"

Please try to remember these Four Keys as you go through life, they lead to all the scriptures if applied properly and most certainly will improve your chances of

success in God's eyes.

"I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Matthew 16:19

Finances: As far as finances, most have more wisdom about such than I, yet here is a small spattering of what we have learned over the years. Most people lose it due to lack of planning, no goals, procrastination and failure to put off self gratification, *which by-the-way applies to most all situations in our lives.* Seek God's guidance, then when you feel you have it, go for it! Read: Rom 8::28-31; 12:1-3; 1 Tim 6:9-19.

1. Set up a prayerful budget and a financial goal, a plan, stick to it, living less than your means, never more! The average wage earner will earn over \$500,000 in forty years, but will have to rely on Social Security for retirement. *Ask God to help you set up your budget so you can be a good responsible steward of what you have, so according to His word you may have more!* Don't be the foolish one who buried his chance at receiving God's blessing and the chance for more. Read: Psalm 37:4-5; Prov 8:20,21; 10:22.

2. Give God His due first! *Develop a winning attitude, for if God is with you how can you fail?* Unless directed by God to do otherwise, more than 10% tithe is better, less and you run the risk of being classified as stealing from God. The same applies to whether you base your 10% upon gross or net pay -- what ever God leads you to do in that respect is scripturally correct. Read: Psalm 24:1; 1 Cor 2:14-16; 1 Cron 29:14; Matt 6:19,20,30-32; Jam 4:6-10; Deut 8:18; Mala 3:8-12.

3. Pay yourself second! *Adjust your priorities, manage your finances rather than reacting to them.* Place at least 10% into **pure** savings if possible. Escrow another amount into extra savings, according to certain annual and probable expenses (repairs, doctors, vacations, gifts, education, etc). Draw a cash allowance for items such as groceries, gasoline, entertainment, and other miscellaneous weekly expenses. Get life insurance for at least the level of your indebtedness, don't leave a burden for someone else! *Compound interest will either work against or for you.* You will be surprised how much a 10% investment and savings accounts will grow in 30-40 years! A \$1,000 lump sum deposit at 10% will pay you back \$45,000 in 40 years; leave it in twenty more years and you'll have \$304,000! What's your savings goal, set it up! *You can never attain anything worthwhile unless you first develop a plan, counting the cost, keeping your eyes set on it through Christ.* Look at your savings goal and figure backwards. Its easy to see how much you will need to put aside to make it. *Remember only use your savings, whether escrow or not, for what it was intended -- except in a dire emergency (directed by God!).* Consider that money as money already spent; for it is if you follow your plan!

4. Get control of your spending; *pay cash (or check), financing only necessities.* Adjust your life-style to fit your new budget, get an extra job to payoff high interest items, especially credit cards, or refinance if necessary to lower payments to

within your new budgetary constraints. Cut up your credit cards if you are having a problem. Don't be fooled by the minimum payment scam. If you miss a payment or two, paying the penalties, and keep on paying the minimum **IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PAY THEM OFF! IF YOU CAN'T USE THEM PROPERLY... CUT THEM UP!** Don't attempt to buy a Cadillac on a Volkswagen income. If you can't payoff credit card balances each month or at least within a few months -- **pay them off then get rid of them!** Read: Eccles 5:10; Prov 3:5,6; Matt 6:24; Jam 4:13-17; Luke 16:10-13.

And, finally five things with which if adopted, along with the things above, will serve you well in your daily life: In as much as you can, and as best you can **daily:** 1) Pray; 2) Exercise; 3) A place for everything; 4) Everything in its place; 5) **Do it now.**

Least you get a false impression and think we think or have it all down perfectly we do not. As I said earlier, we are learning daily how to be better at being who we ought to be. One last fleeting bit of advice: If you lack discipline (who doesn't), but feel you are impossible at it then maybe you should consider joining the service. It is very advantageous in the long run especially if you join with the stipulation of becoming an officer; chose a field that is important for both yourself and the branch of service plus industry when you get out. As I said previously the next twenty years will pass by quickly. To retire before you are forty and move into private industry with a great education paid for by the government is something worth suffering a little for. Then you can move into a great paying job in the private sector, able to retire again in twenty more years with a double whammy retirement. Something to think about!

CONCERNING LOVE: LOVE is a many faceted emotion, made from ifs, because, and in spite of's. Love is kin to hate, and a brother of like. Love is not mysterious in spite of the popular belief that it is. Love is not blind to faults but rather it is the vehicle for which forgiveness travels. In reality it is based on sound principles of a mutual participatory relationship. In other words you can't love a rock very long, you can only like it a lot. If you confuse "like" with love you might think you love a rock, but if it falls on your toe you might detest it. Unless you receive love in return it is almost impossible to forgive. You begin to detest because it never gave you what you needed in return for what you gave to it. If it did you could begin to forgive the broken relationship.

God loves us IN SPITE OF all that we are. He sees our faults but He sees us beyond them, there is a much deeper level of love that we can't attain. It is through our Father and because of Him that we are able to know true love and therein find understanding. It is impossible to love as God loves. He sees us as we will be and as our potential will make us. He will love us forever even though we do have a bad side He can't stand. We must try to learn to love as Jesus loves us. He sees all of our good and bad and loves us through it all - no matter if we are full of wrong doings He will love us through it all, even to the point of giving His life for that love.

What is love? Is it an abstract mood, a concrete mood, or a stable emotion? How do I love thee, let me count the ways-love, is not an emotion that is based on logic but rather feelings and the action of that feeling when displayed by you or to you from someone who feels a similar emotion.

There is a physical attraction, "Admiration", in the FIRST order of love, it is this precise love that you must spend the most of the time examining in your life. First, she looks great to me, her smile, her laugh, the way she walks, her hair, she's so pretty when she does that, and her hands, they are so soft, and she's warm all over. There is a mental attitude, "Because", in the SECOND emotional order. She's nice, I like to talk to her, she laughs at my jokes, and thinks I'm witty, she understands me, she seems to want to be near me.

So then the first requirement for a development of emotion, with respect to love must be on the "Admiration" level. I have noticed that you do something that attracts my attention. Do I do something to you? If so then we have a possible basis to build on. If not, very little will result other than a distant acquaintance. You see there must be a "Because" element before you can go on to other levels. I seem to love you. I guess it's "Because" you seem to really care for me and you listen to what I say.

The THIRD element is the "Commitment" element; it is by all means the hardest to completely achieve, however it is effectively the most important. Without the "Commitment" element a lasting relationship cannot be established beyond the first two areas. As an example many people in this world are betrothed, without prior knowledge of one another. The bond that develops starts from the "Because" area due to the deep belief in tradition, brought about by the family teachings.

Therefore a form of deep "Commitment" is established along with the ingrained "Because" element, which gives enough emotional levels to begin a relationship. However it is the THIRD element that is carrying the greatest load and if that level of emotion is not backed up quickly by the first two elements a deepening split could occur, which most probably was caused from a failure to "Communicate" feelings, something you need establish, for it may be equal to if not the most important aspect in a continuing relationship.

The FOURTH element I call "If", it is established normally after the other areas have been in play in the relationship. If you take out the garbage I'll love you, which implies if you don't, I won't. This "If" element usually is based on a negative aspect of a relationship, meaning there is an area that is not under discussion, "This is the way I say it is going to be and I mean it". As you continue you will gain new insights which will enable you to discover where you are in your relationships and how to solidify them or at least know how to evaluate them to see if you want to continue on as you have been.

Again I say, the object of any husband/wife relationship should be to become as close to each other as Christ is to God. This is not to say we should become God and Christ but we should try to establish the same constant "Communication".

The FIFTH element, "Forgiveness", the SIXTH element, "Trust", and finally the SEVENTH element is, "Sacrifice". These elements will give you a beginning knowledge of how to form and keep a lasting relationship from the deep infatuated level of admiration to the ever broadening depth of wanting she best for each other even to the extent of personal sacrifices, not as Christ on the cross but as only you and they can live it: taking out the garbage and loving it because it gives us satisfaction in doing for each other in a strongly committed loving relationship.

LOVE IS A NATURAL EMOTION, just as tears come to our eyes when we hurt from a physical pain we hurt as deeply and sometimes deeper with emotional pain. Some people are endowed with a greater depth of emotion than others. Those who weep inside at the sight of a hurt animal or child have a giant step forward in love. You are however born with a level of emotional capacity to love, it is only through environment that this can be expanded, destroyed or reduced. A loving relationship without having a base on which to begin is a difficult thing. You however do not have that hurdle to overcome. Your chosen one might.

Anyone wishing to love and be loved must however make a POSITIVE ACTION towards another person and themselves. There must be a sincere effort to communicate that action to the other person. A DEMONSTRATIVE attitude must be developed, or rather simply show your feelings towards the other person in ways that they might notice and decide that you might care for them. Do not become over solicitous as this can quickly turn away almost any good relationship because it is false. A person in love must show their love or they feel they will burst. They sometimes act like foolish children giggling or taking each other to special places or doing special things. They buy each other special things: I saw this thing and I just had to buy it for you because it just looked like you ought to have it. I just can't seem to pass you without at least touching your hair. I love you and can't seem to find enough words to say it, but I wrote this poem.

Love is doing for each other what you want someone to do for you, unselfishly responding to the natural emotion in a way to demonstrate feelings of love. You must become SINCERE in your dealings with the people you wish to love and be loved by. Without sincerity there can only be falseness and deceit. We often sign sincerely yours at the bottom of our letters but how many of us really demonstrate it to each other. Any person can tell when you are being sincere or not - do not forget this for as I said before falseness will begin to tear down a relationship or it will build a wall between that is difficult to overcome and sometimes impossible to tear down.

LOVE IS DEPENDABLE in all situations real or imagined. These are not simply cliché's but definitely building blocks for a happy and fulfilling life and a loving and understanding relationship: I know above all else I can count on you. You are always there when I need you. I can always count on her to be RESPONSIVE to my needs - even when I don't deserve it. She always understands me. I knew all I had to do was to get to you and it would be all better. You say she treats you like a doormat, beware! You should be able to take for granted the responsive attitude of your true love. Do not be offended when you are taken for granted for it is a compliment to know that she knows you will always care, it means you are dependable in the relationship and you can be trusted with all of her secrets and you won't laugh at her, but instead you will understand the hurt she feels and will hurt with her.

Love is REFLECTIVE in that it shows to the world how you feel about the one you love. You can not hide true love for it will lift your whole countenance. If you look into the mirror you will see a difference in your appearance, as if you have gotten a new haircut. Love should do the same to your heart and your personality. This is why people frequently are able to tell when you have just "fallen in love".

Love is "SUCCESSFUL", in that it creates an attitude that you feel better about yourself, and you are able to do things better, because your attitude is positive. Any

professional will tell you of the difference that is made due to attitude. Love gives you a better outlook on life which will help you become more successful. However love will not make you successful, it will only help enhance your chances to it. We are not talking about sexual affairs, we are talking about good honest fulfilling love, if you haven't tried it don't knock it, but try it, you will see a difference.

Love is "HEALING", again any doctor will tell you that a loving person is more healthy. There is something that permeates a person that is truly in love. There are many sick persons who are in perfect love, but love is proven to give a more healthy aspect to most people. Love produces a "LONG LIFE", as attested to by many experts, also this is not to say that a dying person need only to find love. We are talking changes in your life, enhanced by loving another person; that is for everyone, not just a few.

Remember that you are just around the corner from true love. You must begin to find out in your heart what it is and what you should expect from the one you are going to find. Love should give you a POSITIVE outlook on life, your career should be enhanced by being loved and loving in return. However don't try to kid yourself into expecting everything in return for your nothing output. Remember you can't love a rock, neither can the one whom you want to love you. Please do not forget this aspect of love. If you gained nothing else but you realize this, you will have learned a lot.

You must begin to realize the potential you have locked up inside of you. You need to LOVE and you need to *BE LOVED*; the actual essence of who you are, depends upon how well you are able to accept this premise. Love fits all categories of success, this is not to say that it does not also put obstacles into some areas of your life. However if worked through, love provides a fulfilling aspect to all areas of endeavor including, areas of intense career efforts or expanding your creative ability. You can not ignore the HAPPINESS of receiving and showing to your loved ones the accolades of your life. Have you ever felt the disappointment of rushing home to tell someone you love about a great thing that has happened to you, only to find them not at home. If there is no one, the feeling of "Who cares any way," creeps into your life and you begin to suffer the decline from it. Notice a similarity here between the feeling of elation that you feel and disappointment as you were not able to share your happiness? It is this difference that you are going to be gaining in your life. Think about it, isn't it worth training for, "lover-in-training"? Put yourself in a proper perspective to accomplish this feat. Earnestly DESIRE TO GAIN LOVE and you will.

FORGIVENESS, as I said previously, paves the rocky road of love. Do not be misled into believing that love is a fairy tale. "Love means never having to say you are sorry" is a fairy tale though for true love means you have to or want to say it more often. Love in itself is a natural emotion, but the fulfilling nature of love that you are after is not necessarily natural. Quite the contrary to many who grew up self-centered, egotistical, and generally hard to get along with, it is not natural, or at least is does not seem so. When you have done something wrong, it is hard to ask for forgiveness, it takes developing a taste for it, although for most of us the taste is never very good. In my case I find it the hardest, I seem to equate it to admitting that I was a failure. Not that I am, but it is the admitting to my sweet wife who believes in me to the fullest that,

"Honey, I'm sorry, I really was stupid in saying that, will you please forgive me?". Somehow, I seem to feel less of a man, when admitting I am wrong to my wife, in reality I am proving to her I am much more than just a man, I prove to her I LOVE her. You see I get something and she gets something every time, we, one or the other, asks for forgiveness.

This is one of the most important learned traits of character we can develop. God gave His only begotten Son that we might learn this quality. We must accept FORGIVENESS in the manner for which it is given, sometimes it is simply the willingness to forgive that provides the building blocks to rebuild a relationship which has fallen apart. We must try very hard not to say "I'll think about it!" or "You should have thought about that before you did it, not now!". Life is too short to hold grudges against our friends, much less our loved ones. Remember it is through FORGIVENESS that we are closer to God, for it is His best trait too, it also paves our rocky road to RIGHTEOUSNESS, which is in reality LOVE.

Again I say, Love is a many faceted jewel that one seeks to find, then sells all to possess it, to bask in it's beauty? Except, we do not want to possess it, we really want to be a part of it, be immersed in it. We want to become like it is, a thing of beauty that speaks its own song. Love is its own melody, as obviously love songs have tried to capture its essence for all time. "Love is the greatest thing, the oldest but the latest thing", a singer once sang. Truer words were never written, however, if this is true why is it that so many of us are confused about love?

God gave us all an unsatisfied ability to love; yet, we through living in the world and dodging the hurts we have inflicted upon one another often cause a diminishing of this ability. The world says, do it to others before they can do it to you. What do we expect when we adopt this attitude? WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN AN UNENDING SUPPLY OF LOVE, BUILT WITHIN EACH ONE OF US, AND A DESIRE TO BE LOVED THAT EQUATES IT! GOD is love and He gave us the gift of loving to the fullest, most all things are to be loved...and especially everybody.

Do you remember when you first realized you loved something or someone? The first hug?...the last hug? Have you lost something in between? Love is not ice-cream and apple pie, love is an emotion based on a participatory relationship. Remember we can only like something that doesn't give us love in return. Surly you can love/like someone until your heart has worn out the welcome of that emotion. There are exceptions to every rule and all rules are broken in love, however we are speaking of a healthy relationship and generally speaking a one-sided love affair is not. You see love is that part that is dealing with the harsh realities of life, it provides a sort of soothing ointment over the wounds. You can't like someone who deals in your life that way, love is the emotion that transcends those ministrations of emotions. Remember these things when you say I love that sweater you have on, you are a person in love training and therefore should say to yourself, no I only admire or like that sweater and I am going to find out what the meaning of love is by an emotional involvement with a real person who can provide my needs when I am up or down, one that will need me as I need them.

Let me say something about a POSITIVE attitude about yourself, if you do not feel good about yourself who will? Many books are written on the subject and if you do

have a problem with the mental attitude of feeling positive I recommend reading and listening to the noted authors involved in that area. There is however a certain time in all our lives that we are to feel moody and despondent toward our life, our careers and generally any thing that directs our lives. These are natural times if they are infrequent and do not dominate our lives.

Love is ALL CONCLUSIVE, meaning that it will cover all things after it is established for a length of time. You can not deny love as it saturates your whole being. You can never deny true love, it gushes forth like a wild cat oil strike. You are taken to driving down the street where she lives just in the hope that you may see her, this time you may even stop the car to talk to her.

Obviously there is a deepening aspect of love, just as there is a beginning point of admiration. Love deepens with the mutual respect that we've talked about previously. *Trials and tribulations do not drive people out-of-love, it is a lack of understanding that does.* Modern man has failed to keep the most fundamental element of civilization established in his life, communication. We fail to reach out to each other in the most basic ways, in friendship, in marriage and in daily life with one another. The diplomat who thinks he knows what the opponent is agreeing too can cause a cataclysmic mistake. So can we in our relationships with the one we love, or want to love.

Television and electronic communication is a blessing and a curse in that it has taken away our ability to listen attentively to those who are really trying to communicate with us. Even if you really try to listen to what is being said to you an error can be made by assuming you know what the other person thinks before you ask the question. Being taken for granted gives many of us severe problems; however, being taken for granted in many ways is the highest complement in a relationship, if we are speaking of trust, and the things that are implied when we say "I trust you".

Love is truly NO DENYING when we develop a loving relationship to the point of real trusting. This is not to say a little bit of jealousy may not be wedged in sideways. *Jealousy is, simply put, insecurity;* we all have it, some more than others. A little bit of jealousy can fit into a lasting relationship but the green-eyed-monster cannot survive or if it does it will destroy what might have grown beautiful. The same holds true for insecurity, you may have deeply established this short coming in your life but it is not something you need to hang onto.

When finally you meet that person, wanting to be near her, laughing at all the silly things she says, feeling like you never want to leave her side, you have grown beyond admiration and attraction. I want to be near you to absorb all of the little things you say and do, sickening you say? Don't knock it till you've tried it. I pray all people in their lifetime can find at least one relationship that they can honestly say, "I want to be near you all the time, I count the time as worthless till I can be with you". Earnestly desire this feeling and it will come to pass if you are free to work at it as a runner trains for the race.

SINCERE love is the goal we all seek not just a passing fancy that is gone as the wind blows the seasons from view. Are you sincere towards your desire for her? Is your desire based on love or mere satisfying sexual urges. Question your motives, decide for yourself and don't kid yourself or her. Desire is a wonderful sensation, it is a fulfilling feeling that can culminate a deepening relationship or re-establish a broken

one. However please examine those impulsive motives they could damage your future chances of finding real love when you have crushed the chances of a good relationship on a stupid moment. In God's eyes, and even from the statistical viewpoint of successful relationships, marriage should always come first. Almost never should you listen to either the world point of view or emotions of the moment.

Is what you are feeling real love and will it last? I remember very plainly the first time I saw Margaret. Was it love at first sight, no, yet I saw something and felt something in watching her walk down the hall toward me that I never saw or felt for anyone else. Did my heart race and my palms get sweaty? Yes, but that happened all the time around girls, and even when I had to get up and say something in class. Though this is a signal that your body is telling you, that you are excited, in itself it is not a sign of real love.

How do you know when what you feel for her is real? Some say real love comes in three stages: The 1) "infatuation stage: is the wanting to be around her all the time, yet, that can be the case for your friends too. This stage is when you can't wait to be with her. You are romantically infatuated. Usually this stage only last a short time. However, some mistakenly jump to the conclusion during this stage that this is the "real" thing and plunge headlong into a wrong relationship fraught with pain and suffering, ending in separation and divorce. The 2) "bonding stage" is when more than being just a friend is felt; you can hardly stand being apart. Oftentimes you even plan future events in your life together. It too can mislead you to jump into a false relationship thinking she is your life long companion. Next come the 3) "familiar stage" or where you want to know all there is about her, even why she is happy and sad; what makes her tick? Your whole existence seems to depend on her. You talk about everything and disclose even your most secret thoughts and hopes and dreams. Your life becomes totally involved in hers. Suddenly every plan or thought involves her and you together. You realize you must look at life with long term goals as you and she grow closer, you chose wisely those events that come next.

Is that it? Is that all there is to knowing? Hardly. This is only the beginning of "real love". "Love means you never have to say you are sorry" is so far away from the truth that it is not even a myth. Our secret principle is in having our best interests centered on the other one; and to that of thinking about what you are going to say in a heated moment before you say it as to how the other will perceive it. True love cares about her health and happiness more than you do your own. You and she gives each other unconditional support through thick and thin. When you hold her in your arms both you and her feel safe and secure.

Ways to feel your love is real: You feel good about yourself and her. You don't need to be with other people or be alone; you want to be with her. Quality time is often quiet time. You often feel the need to brag about her, talking about her to others more than about yourself. You know what each other thinks even being able to complete each others sentences occasionally. Still it is okay if you disagree about things, but arguing about them is unimportant and seldom happens. You and she has funny little quirks that don't matter, they only endear her to you. If you are irritated about such things maybe you need to look closely at the relationship before you leap. With her you are able to work through relationship problems. It is natural to have

disagreements yet see them as an opportunity to grow closer rather than apart. If you are creating problems to irritate the other on purpose you need to look at the relationship more closely. *If you feel you are likely to lose her you probably will.* Both you and her need to feel safe in the relationship as far as it lasting. You are together because you truly want to be, not held together because of circumstances beyond your control. Don't compare her with others. There are always more beautiful or smarter people yet make sure she sees you for what you are, warts and all, and loves you just the same.

Staying young and healthy: Don't smoke, it hastens the degenerative processes in your body. In fact do nothing excessively no matter what it is, excesses sooner or later become destroyers of a healthy lifestyle. Be active never staying sedentary without brief breaks, it keeps the mind and body working better. Eat foods rich in antioxidants. Oxygen is needed but keep it moving through exercise. Eat lots of fiber it helps the cholesterol factors. Keep you total cholesterol around 200. Keep a healthy weight, it can eliminate up to 35-55% of illnesses and diseases. Do weight bearing exercises it keeps up your metabolism and muscles keep you body in proper alignment. Get enough sleep it is the natural way to stay healthy. When you sleep you body repairs itself. Not getting the proper amount cause immune system problems. Take care of your back lifting all things properly, not just heavy items. Keep you spine strong and flexible by exercise. Watch out for undue levels of stress it is linked to many problems associated with diseases and degenerative conditions. Learn to look at problems as challenges and accept the things you cannot change. Stay in close relationships having a good circle of support helps you to cope and deal with inevitable problems of life. Above all be nice. Get rid of hostile relationships. Look for ways to help others, what goes around comes around and as a result you may live longer.

Sayings

All of the following sayings whether wise to you are not were either absorbed into my head from hearing or originated by myself during my long lifetime of discovery concerning both professional and personal experiences. If some end up being from others it is purely unintentional and certainly not an attempt to plagiarize or copy anyone else. It is always possible because I believe in seeking knowledge wherever it may be found. God taught me a long time ago, "Even listen to the barking dogs".

Note: As with all inventions and free thinking thoughts none are created without the past with which to build on. As such I can never be presumptuous in having a thought that did not come through the same past thinking from the vast array of people simply just expressing their feelings in various ways. I offer this collection not to boast nor make any claim to an original thought, instead I only offer them as they came through my filter, my mind. If you find some fodder to chew on I am grateful. Also there is a danger in having read something in the past and as it rattles around inside my mind I may barf it out thinking at that time it was from me. If you feel there are any such item in this writing that should be listed as belonging so someone else please let me know and I will remove it.

Not being satisfied is an evil twin brother to envy; one held onto the heel of the other during the birth of original sin.

Man I wish I was like I was!!?

Why was the world once flat... then round... and now crooked?

Man was meant to change the ecology! Lest we forget it.

I've made a fool out of myself so many times I ought to be a population center.

What goes around will get you quicker the second time... even quicker each successive times that follow.

Life is not about perfect, it is about livable acceptance.

The worst of all is living in low expectations, because you never will reach your full potential.

In making a decision, if I have time, I come up with three alternatives and chose the one which seems best; it works for me.

Scripture says my people perish without a vision, however, without discipline and implementation a vision is worthless,

Evil knows no boundaries.

Programmers should attempt to think like god, not be god.

Art is in listening, watching, waiting and then doing.

Two plus two is an absolute in math, yet in human relationship it is often a wrong conclusion.

Art is a fickle word.

Don't strive for importance, strive to be diligent in what is before you, doing the best you can, in so doing those around you will deem you important.

Desire is destructive without discipline.

The quickest way is hardly ever the best way, it is simply the quickest way.

The best tool for a novice of anything is a form of an eraser.

Generally speaking there is no difference between a general and a janitor except in experiences and education.

Editing is like combing your tousled hair; eventually you get rid of the tangles and snares and realize your hair looks pretty good after all.

When trying something new, do not compare it with the old stuff except briefly; look at the benefits of changing from old to new; sure the taste may be different, more unique, but if the benefits outweigh the difference, never say I wish I could use the old ways, instead say, how wonderful the new is and look what it is doing to me and my life.

Forget the old ways when they are useless and accept changes that are good, soundly rejecting any change that makes no sense or has no redeeming quality.

God is not your sugar daddy.

Research often mesmerizes, like the dog chasing his tail, its hard to stop, when you do it clouds your vision for reality.

Murphy read Confucius backwards.

No matter how many DC converters you have squirreled away in a drawer you will not have one that fits the needs of the new device you just bought.

Most people deserve each other.

It is easy to fall in a pit when you walk too close, stay away from temptation.

All the good ones, no matter what it is, are taken.

The one who snores will fall asleep first.

The length of a marriage is inversely proportional to the amount of money spent on the wedding.

If you help a relative in need, he/she will remember you the next time they are in need.

Toothaches always start on Friday night when the Dental Office will be closed for the weekend.

The problem with the liberal agenda, though it is somewhat honorable, it must rob someone of what they worked hard to get in order to provide for the purposes it supports.

Help! The U.S. has fallen and can't get up!

Slogans are meaningless unless backed by actions.

Running is good for you, helps you relax. My problem, I want to run faster than I've ever ran... faster than any human... `til my lungs give out and I scream a primeval scream... then maybe I'll be able to relax.

Bourbon doesn't do it... I've tried other things but they don't work either, nothing will, except dying... but then that's too final.

I am a creature of habit, unless I forget.

We each play a role... some are good... some are bad... only in the end can we be judged.

Seek forgiveness today and you won't have to run from it tomorrow.

Inside each of us is a treasure waiting to be found.

Photography is like opportunity, the ones you failed to take that were the best.

A sweet, unamusing, humble and loving person is godly as opposed to a gregarious, loud, sinful nature person, they are popular.

Laying awake at night to examine a problem will often solve it; laying awake in worry will only increase it

An ignoramus is a person surrounded by knowledge but refuses to see it.

Dreams don't die, reality sucks the life out of them.

Born leaders are also born manipulators, in order to become a great leader one must cease being a manipulator.

Life is just a series of catastrophes glued together by bitter disappointments, but it beats the alternative.

Man was meant to change the ecology! Lest we forget it.

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Life is just a series of catastrophes glued together by bitter disappointments, but it beats the alternative.

You are the sum total of your thoughts.

Fear is the antithesis of faith.

War is just a symptom of the turmoil inside every man.

Being opinionated doesn't mean you are smart, in fact it can mean you are the closest thing to a human foghorn.

Home is where when you get there after 15 minutes you feel you never left.

Fifty-fifty chance of getting it right equals a ninety percent chance of getting it wrong.

Unlike temptation, opportunity usually only stumbles in once.

There is no time other than now!

Life is lived in 20 years segments: 1) Maturing 2) Family 3) Self 4) Old 5) Dying

Getting old is a learning experience.

Some people do, some people don't, some people will, some people won't... let's face it we are all different.

Six phases of life: 1) infant 2) Youth 3) Maturing 4) Old age 5) Death 6) Eternity

Everybody is not like you; you are not like everybody; if you can, everybody can't; if you do everybody won't; If you won't someone will. You cannot govern nor determine anyone's will or destiny, only yours.

You don't own anything... you either take care of it or not, but you never owned it.

Rule 1) Take it as it comes. Rule 2) Nothing is perfect. Rule 3) deal with it.

An unexamined soul knows no rest.

Spin: a lie masquerading as the truth.

Knowledge begins with a realization, grows with acceptance, and matures with discipline.

Once you get wrapped around the axle it's hard to stop the train.

Not to long ago we waited for a price to go down, now we buy before the price goes up.

Inflation is what makes what you bought on time worth more than what you owe, creating a fools equity.

Don't pretend the problem doesn't exist, face it square on.

Only victory, never ignorance makes a winner

Courage out of ignorance is false courage; courage out of faith is truth and life.

The whole world is crazy... but I'm having fun.

Flowers grow in mere steps of destruction.

Sometimes you just want to jump out of your skin... but then where else would you go?

You can't push a rope up a hill, but everybody tries.

In listening lays the key to understanding.

Storm and disaster are doom by the rainbow.

Without dreams, mankind would have no place to go.

Men do not stumble over mountains, rather they do over molehills.

Now I know what a sailboat feels... dead in the water, looking for a even a breeze.

The pessimist is most often right.

People go through greater lengths to disguise their weaknesses than they ever thought of to develop their abilities.

No one ever worked their passage through a calm dead sea.

No man finds out what he believes until he instructs his children.

When growth is absent, death becomes a natural lady in waiting.

Money may not be everything, but it's better than being broke.

A thousand thorns in the flesh is better than a single thorn of mind, for the mind hides rather than overcomes.

In oneself lies the whole world, if you know how to look and learn, then the door is there and the key in your hand; nobody on earth can give you the key, or make the door open for you, except yourself.

We double and triple bolt our doors at night. Natives in the darkest jungles sleep in open huts, who is civilized?

Those who try to whittle you down are only trying to reduce you to their size.

If you think you're confused, consider Columbus, he didn't know where he was, and when he got back, he didn't know where he'd been.

Junk is something you keep for years, throwing away two weeks before you need it.

The trouble with being a leader, you can't be sure whether people are following... or chasing.

We are confronted with insurmountable opportunities.

On the plains of hesitation lie the bones of those who chose to die standing still.

After daily beatings and only water to drink, life is brighter when the beating stops, and you get bread and water again. Sometimes it's easy to become satisfied.

We each play the role life gives us... some good, some bad... in the end we are judged for what we become, or rather leave behind... a testament of what we really were.

He who hesitates is not lost, just tied to the dock.

Laughter is music to the soul.

A busy person is like a sixteen tailed dog chasing his tails, only to find out he had three more stuck in the door.

In understanding people, recognize two things, people are not always like you, and people are often like you.

When struggling for an answer the easy way out is generally the wrong answer.

No race is worthy of winning that does not require stringent effort, thereby ensuring the competitors who win that the goal was worth their effort.

Sex at best is only a temporary fix in a marriage or relationship, yet it is often the glue that lastingly holds it together.

It's okay to have a problem believing... it's the not trying that's the problem.

It ain't fair... life that is! It never was. God made it that way... it's a struggle.

Those in position to minister are in position to receive the most pain.

Life's not fair folks! If you see a living breathing thing and it won't kill you... give it a hug... it needs it!

It is the falling and the getting up that we do our learning, not the riding.

Together we can change the world, but only if we change our self.

To give the "weaker" rights over the "strong" does not constitute nor create freedom, rather it makes a strange oppression.

Leadership is just a reflection of those being led.

No other goal is so worthy as honesty, integrity, and fairness.

No goal is attained simply with the desire to attain it.

Trust requires a badge of honor.

No man is in charge of his own destiny.

Real love does not demand, it accepts, gives room to change, helps to deal with innermost secrets, and does not use things found against, but strives to heal wounds and hurtful memories.

Success breeds success. Failure... well you figure it out.

Success ought to be accomplished without justification.

Success is not free, rather it springs from an expensive procession of failure and hurts.

Tomorrow is without hope unless change is pursued today.

Tomorrow is only a replacement of yesterday, without growth from today.

The lazy look for easy money, the crafty the easy mark, the honest hard work.

To give positions of strength to the under-serving is sheer folly.

Once you begin justification, you are either guilty of wrongdoing or on the road to it.

Wisdom sometimes comes wrapped in strange packages.

Unless you quit smoking, your problem is not smoking, but rather staying alive.

Today company relies on planned obsolescence instead of increased market potential.

Many companies are only interested in money, not the product, losing sight of the customer and soon the company.

In taking our eyes off development, seeds of destruction are sown.

Wrong attitudes are the destructive problems that face our corporations of today.

We are blind sided by corporate takeovers and money people, rather than listening to designers of products and the customers.

Power itself does not corrupt... instead fools in strategic positions corrupt power.

Yes all men are created equal, yet all do not assert their rights equally.

America has grown into a kept society of doddering old men and women. We cry for food and shelter rather than discovery and dreams.

If our society is to become strong again, we must fly against the wind, unencumbered from preconceived ideas.

Never has there been such a promising generation; but we must teach what we have learned to our young or continue to endure despair.

A government's place is to insure freedom, not the rewards of it.

The name of the game in this nation today is access, the selling of it, the buying of it, in the form of bribery, espionage, and insider information... all professing to be patriots.

If an obstacle we face overcomes us... we gain nothing; yet by overcoming that same obstacle we become strong. In such a light, it may turn out that our weaknesses are potential strong points... a hidden array of talents... if we overcome.

There can never be true equality until each has the chance to discover their full potential.

Many are those who practice losing than those who are willing to try; they struggle trying to see an ending, choosing instead, to never begin.

Success is based on the inevitable fruition of hard work and dreams hand and hand, as a feather in ones cap, not to rest on, but to build on, for tomorrow.

Many young men dream dreams only to become old men of despair, living victims to reality, witnesses to the destruction of the hope they thought would be there.

We can claim no rights to winning if we can't first discipline ourselves to the pace of practice.

Well established discipline is the first order of achievement.

If you see, but choose not right, who is blind?

A life with no meaning is a sound with no hearing. But if you hear, choosing not the truth, then who is deaf? Or if you find knowledge, but do not speak to wrongs, then who is dumb?

Flawed thinking often decapitates good programs.

Once you graduate from high school you have no one to blame but yourself.

I noticed something concerning God's creation. It will turn into a brambled weed choked almost impenetrable mess if we, the ones God gave dominion to, don't do our part and bring a simple form of organization to it. This applies to our lives also, without discipline and organization our lives will fill up with useless activity and eventually be nothing left for God but an almost useless life; and as scriptures say, it is almost impossible to turn back to where you have or could have been.

Beware of actions without thinking, sometimes the most insignificant decisions become stumbling blocks for future successes.

Concerning Lance Armstrong, etc: The question I always have to ask: who among us don't take drugs or substances to enhance our abilities anyway, vitamins or whatever? Furthermore all athletes have superstitious things they do or wear in fear of losing or to keep a winning streak going. Many, many people take performance enhancing substances, from vitamins to Redbull, drank during times when they are sleepy. We all want good health and an increased capacity to perform whatever it is we do. What is natural is trying to get an edge on the competition. High School football players now exceed the performances that used to be college and pro levels. They bench press 600 pounds and have sizes that make us amazed. Why are we expecting them, any of us for that matter, not to do what they can do in order to succeed? Why is the government involved? They can do nothing right. They are more corrupt than any part of our

society. There I said it. Leave them alone. If you have known any great athlete you know when they get to be about 45 they can hardly put one foot in front of the other they are so worn out from all the competition. What's wrong with the third cup of coffee I just drank?

Give a damn... **VOTE!**

Empathetic statements generally are not true, so you can take this one as a grain of salt.

Here is a fact: The bad will always choke out the good if you let it- we must fight against the bad our whole life, never giving up, never giving in.

How many words can a word processor chuck if a word processor could chuck words?

Why is it that we resurrect hurts rather than renewed salvation?

You cannot learn anything by talking, only by listening and doing.

In order to succeed you must often fail many times.

Perfection is in trouble before it starts, for perfection is impossible, only failure is it's result when compared to truth.

There isn't any way to be right, much less with reality.

I am not afraid of dying because I know where I am going, to a better place... no contrary, I am afraid of living, I can't seem to ever get it right.

A woman's job is to criticize man in everything he does; a man's is to stay out of her way.

Commentpost: Pile of decomposing words that feeds the new generation who are hooked on texting and tweeting. LOL2MBF

Twitter is simply a replacement of the CB radio with it's own brand of jargon.

Without the 'rinitis, 'sitis and virus families of diseases, the medical profession would have little to do.

Creative people bleed inwardly... never in public.

People who create anything and show it to the public are like a nudist walking around with their clothes on backwards and wrong side out... everybody sees what you are made off, it's unnervingly stupid.

I say, "I'll never let the public read or view what I've done again, but I do... I've got to much in me that has to come out or I'll smother."

All things created are in fact performances of those who created them.

Tourists are God's punishment for mere mortal who live in paradise.

Desire, Discipline and Determination, all three must be in force to accomplish most worthy goals.

Disappointments are but stepping stones to success unless you sit upon them, then they become discouragements which turns into depression.

Set you mind on God not a goal.

In the midst of pain and suffering we find God at work.

You are supposed to be on a Joy-ride... enjoy it!

War is just a symptom of the turmoil in every man.

There are three choices in life: 1) to change what needs changed 2) Accept what is deemed unchangeable 3) Worry and complain about life. Happiness lies somewhere in between #1 Major illness and destruction results in adopting #3.

Old is relative to how old you are until the pain catches up with you.

You can't be forgiven unless you ask for it.

Yours is not to criticize, it is to pray and stand in faith.

We're so easily consumed by daily nothingness that we often have nothing to give.

This applies to almost all aspects of life: When trying something new, do not compare it with the old stuff except briefly; look at the benefits of changing from old to new; sure the taste may be different, more unique, but if the benefits out weigh the difference, never say I wish I could use the old ways, instead say, how wonderful the new is and look what it is doing to me and my life.

Forget the old ways when they are useless and accept changes that are good, soundly rejecting any change that makes no sense or has no redeeming quality.

Why is it we resurrect hurts rather than choosing to renew salvation?

Love is not blind to faults but rather it is the vehicle for which forgiveness travels.

If you ignore it, it won't go away.

Serendipity is spelled spring.

Every lunatic believes he is the only one sane man in the world.

Everything in moderation within reason otherwise you will eventually live in torment.

They say it takes 30 days of doing the same thing over and over to form a good habit; while that may be true, I say it only takes one day to break a good habit and yet a lifetime to break a bad habit.

It's interesting how a seemingly insurmountable task gets worse everyday if you put it off and how easy it becomes when you deal with it instead.

It's an absolute: People will not rise to your expectations, mainly because we all have unrealistic expectations of each other.

All types of wounds never heal, scars simply replace them, the worst are not physical but emotional; sometimes the trauma of emotional scaring hides deep and grows until for no seemingly reason explodes and a severe emotional episode results or worse it lies seething effecting the entire body physically and emotionally.

I have a bad attitude which breeds a bad attitude which drives friends away creating a bad attitude.

I am a righteous man in need of constant forgiveness because of my many short comings.

It's easy to be in-charge, not so much a leader for others must be willing to follow.

Love is not a romance novel.

A desk is a waste paper basket with drawers.

The rich get richer, the poor get babies.

Never cross a bridge til you come to it.

If it's broken it stinks.

The receiver of the benefits is as bad as the thief.

Man moralizes among his ruins.

Worry about something long enough and it becomes your friend.

Even a spark is a fire.

Speak little; do much.

Special persons believe in spring.

Don't let your yesterdays use up you todays.

Blessed are the brief.

Yes, you can fly but you must first leave your comfort, your cocoon behind.

Forget your opponent, play against the par.

Courage is fear that said its prayer.

Happiness is a sheep secure in its flock, loved by its Shepard.

What's worse than standing knee deep in alligators, being drug to their den?

Short pleasures of sin are far overshadowed by the agonizing the long-lasting pains of remorse.

The more you disassociate, the more reason you find to disassociate, soon you feel right at home in a crowded room feeling lonely.

Don't set a fox to watch chickens because he has a lot of experience in the hen house.

If you are not confused you are not thinking clearly.

When you break something you care about, you try to fix it; however the crack is always there waiting, a scar, a memory, a hurt; sooner or later it will become evident again giving you a second time to do what is right, or as many times as it takes until God is satisfied you have learned what He intended you to.

The longer we stay married the closer we grow, yet further apart at the same time.

I have this bad attitude, I try to change; yet things keep happening putting me back.

The only thing I always do is that I don't *always* do anything.

If you ignore the elephant it will grow bigger until you can't ignore it any longer.

Basic physics states that everything set in motion eventually tends to run down or fall into a deteriorating cycle until it either stops or something energizes it again, right much like our rising and falling of political interests.

The number one best advice: Be Happy, This applies to all things, in spite of everything you can find something to be joyful about even amidst a storm.

The only thing I am truly consistent about is my inconsistency.

Family, friends and boats have a lot in common, you are glad to see them arrive and glad to see them go.

Don't get hung up on details when understanding is right around the corner.

I never was in the in even when I was in the in.

Historically speaking, art is supposed to kick ass not kiss ass as it presently does.

People say I have a green thumb, but I have killed more than I have grown, sort of like life, the mistakes out weigh the successes but we keep in trying to do it right.

I used to think well grounded ideas not acted on were thoughts of fools; now I am older and am guilty of many such thoughts, what am I to do?

Decisions: 1) Consider where it will lead you. 2) Is God directing you to make this change? 3) How will it effect your family?

Wild animals should be killed or at least scared enough to never come back where humans are; it is not healthy for neither one to be in close proximity of the other.

If you were always perfect what would be the point in success?

I once was lost but now am found but confused.

Don't miss out on your one big chance.

Bad things happen to those who seek God too.

There is no prayer Rx except thank you.

Work as if God were working beside you.

It's your choice follow God or wallow.

With the wrong attitude nothing works.

The world will not accommodate you.

Don't worry be happy prayerful.

Meditation or medication, which is it?

Even with nothing to do a busy person will always be “too busy”, they accomplish little.

Worry is worthless.

Don't nag, influence by example.

Don't blame God when you made all the decisions.

Accept the lesson, reject the experience.

In learning is a type of suffering; from all suffering comes wisdom.

You don't have to be perfect, just your best.

There is no time other than now.

There is no triumph without the umph.

Listen carefully wisdom come wrapped in strange packages.

We are confronted with insurmountable opportunities.
Do as you would as if Jesus were coming back today.

Courage out of ignorance is false courage, courage out of faith is truth aand life.

Be a companion not a *compainion*.

He sits a tation? Hesitation, any way you look at it, it's probably wrong.

Worry is infidelity toward God, showing a lack of trust.

It is impossible to become a disciple of Christ with out receiving discipline from God.

Hate what you did, love you.

Never put duty on a throne.

Happy are those who dream dreams and are willing to pay the price.

 ''''''
 (o o)
____oOOo_()_oOOo_____ Grandpa