

A Journey of Inspiration & Motivation



Hello friends, my name is Josh Hinds. The following is a collection of my commentaries from my daily "Inspiration a Day!" e-zine. It is sent out for FREE to anyone who wishes to be inspired. I also offer another e-mail newsletter called "Let's Talk Motivation! If you'd like to join it either newsletter you may do so by [clicking here](#) (note: you need to actually be online at the time that you click the links in this ebook for them to work).

Each day I get a number of requests asking how "The Inspiration a Day!" began, so for all of you I will go ahead and tell you how it was started.

I first became interested in Motivational thinking around about the age of 16. You see the summer before I turned 16, I started working for my father. He was an entrepreneur in the truest sense of the word and was in the process of growing a Mortgage Brokerage business.

Needless to say not too many people would take a kid seriously, so I was placed in the tele-marketing dept. To everyone's surprise I managed to set an appointment on my very first night! Later this one conversation resulted in me making more money than I had ever seen in my life up to that point! It is safe to say that I was enthralled in the world of business from that very moment.

It wasn't until about 2 ½ months later that one of the sales people at the office turned me onto a motivational author by the name of *Zig Ziglar*. The book was *Over the Top!* And from that very moment my life would never be the same! Believe me friends I know that might sound a bit **extreme** but I assure you that is exactly the way it happened.

Throughout the coming months I simply absorbed just about any motivational or inspirational book that I could find! To say that this way of thinking became my life would be an understatement. Along the same time the thought of becoming a motivational speaker grew into a full blown obsession! I tried and tried to find an in road into the Motivational Speaking arena, but found out rather quickly that just as anything it is a business! And as such can be a bit difficult to break into.

All along I had been very interested in the Internet and the many possibilities that it afforded someone with limited resources. Then the idea hit me like a Wabash cannonball! I could use the Internet to give me my needed window of opportunity into the Motivational industry.

At first I sent out various e-mails to members of the motivational community. All were quite supportive but very few offered any real helpful

ideas. Then I decided to start an e-mail daily newsletter called "*The Inspiration a Day!*" Wow! Here would be my opportunity to share my message with anyone who was interested in subscribing and best of all I could offer it for FREE while at the same time not breaking my own bank! Since then I am happy to report that the list has grown into a wonderful community of like minded motivational thinkers! Complete with a web site called [The Motivation Point!](http://TheMotivationPoint.com) (aka GetMotivation.com)

What follows is an archive of several of the Inspiration a Day! Lists. I have also added several other inspiring stories and commentaries for your enjoyment.

May each of your days be blessed with more success each day than the last!

To Your Success, Josh Hinds

(Note: Rather than charge for this ebook, I've decided to include a few sponsor links instead. Please take a minute to show your support by visiting these links.. Thanks :-)

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--- **End Sponsor Links** – Thanks for your support and enjoy the rest of the book :-)

1/8/98

"My success just evolved from working hard at the business at hand each day." -- Johnny Carson (TV Personality, Businessman)

"The person who goes farthest is generally the one who is willing to do and dare. The sure-thing boat never gets far from shore." -- Dale Carnegie (Lecturer On Public Speaking, Author)

"Never lose sight of the fact that the most important yardstick of your success will be how you treat other people -- your family, friends, and coworkers, and even strangers you meet along the way." -- Barbara Bush (American First Lady)

"Success is going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm." -- Winston Churchill (British Prime Minister)

"Success doesn't come to you... you go to it." -- Marva Collins (Educator)

"I can't imagine a person becoming a success who doesn't give this game of life everything he's got." -- Walter Cronkite (Broadcast Journalist)

Daily Commentary

Accomplishing your dreams is a process, not something that happens over night. Often we get discouraged because we don't think we are making progress, and the next thing we know we have veered away from that goal. The key is to plan a course for how we want to achieve our goals. And each and every day, take a few steps closer towards our goal...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/9/98

"You've got to get to the stage in life where going for it is more important than winning or losing." -- Arthur Ashe (Tennis Player)

"A winner is someone who recognizes his God-given talents, works his tail off to develop them into skills, and uses these skills to accomplish his goals." -- Larry Bird (Basketball Player, Coach)

"There are winners, there are losers and there are people who have not yet learned how to win." -- Les Brown (Speaker, Author, Trainer, Motivator Lecturer)

"It's not the will to win, but the will to prepare to win that makes the difference." -- Paul "Bear" Bryant (University of Alabama Football Coach)

"I can tell you one thing. I've done this my way. I don't have anybody to blame for this win but me, and I love it." -- John Daly (Pro Golfer)

"Winners have simply formed the habit of doing things losers don't like to do." -- Albert Gray

Daily Commentary

One of the easiest ways to succeed is to watch what other successful people are doing, and then take it a step further! I enjoy reading the biographies of these folks, not so much for the literary value as what I may learn about the person.

History, if studied can reveal many secrets and may ensure that we don't make the same mistakes that the others before us did!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/10/98

"Having once decided to achieve a certain task, achieve it at all costs of tedium and distaste. The gain in self confidence of having accomplished a tiresome labor is immense." – Thomas A. Bennett

"Somehow I can't believe that there are any heights that can't be scaled by a man who knows the secrets of making dreams come true. This special secret, it seems to me, can be summarized in four C s. They are curiosity, confidence, courage, and constancy, and the greatest of all is confidence. When you believe in a thing, believe in it all the way, implicitly and unquestionable." -- Walt Disney (Artist, Film Producer)

"The greater the difficulty the more glory in surmounting it. Skillful pilots gain their reputation from storms and tempests." – Epictetus (Phrygian Philosopher)

"I want to put a ding in the universe." -- Steve Jobs (Founder APPLE Computer, Entrepreneur)

"Failures are finger posts on the road to achievement." -- Charles F. Kettering (Engineer, Inventor)

Daily Commentary

One of the surest roads I have found that leads to personal success is in doing something that you would do even if you didn't get paid for it! I have found that there are things that I just enjoy doing more than others. From time to time I like to look at these things and see how I could make it produce an income for me.

Please understand that when I say it's the easiest way to success what I mean is that since you enjoy doing it you won't mind putting the hard work into it necessary to succeed. A perfect example of me doing something that I would do for free anyway is that I enjoy working with computers, so it only seemed natural that I would offer computer tutoring services and Internet consulting. Another example is what I am doing with the Motivational Mecca!

it takes lots of time to keep it up and running, but I genuinely believe in the power of motivational thinking, so I don't count the hours involved.

Recently the site has evolved into working towards getting paying sponsors. The IAD List is something that I truly enjoy and as a direct result of the time I have spent to develop it, it is now growing beyond what I could have imagined possible. Friends, if you do not do but one thing in your life, I hope that it will be to do something that you enjoy...Your friend in cyberspace,
Josh Hinds

1/11/98

"For what is the best choice, for each individual is the highest it is possible for him to achieve." -- Aristotle

"Death comes to all But great achievements build a monument which shall endure until the sun grows cold." -- George Fabricius (Irish Dramatist)

"Life affords no higher pleasure than that of surmounting difficulties, passing from one step of success to another, forming new wishes and seeing them gratified." -- Samuel Johnson

"One of the secrets of getting more done is to make a TO DO List every day, keep it visible, and use it as a guide to action as you go through the day." -- Alan Lakein (Time Management Expert, Author, Trainer)

"Success is not measured by what you accomplish, but by the opposition you have encountered, and the courage with which you have maintained the struggle against overwhelming odds." -- Orison Swett Marden (Founder of Success Magazine)

Daily Commentary

Tell the people closest to you how much you care -- This seems such a simple task, yet for whatever reason we all neglect to do this at times. I have found that when I make a conscious effort to tell someone how much I appreciate them, I am not only making their day brighter, I am also inadvertently brightening the day of the next person they come into contact with!

It really does have an amazing snowballing effect. To say that by practicing this technique you could eventually make the world a brighter place might be overdoing it a bit, but hey, we have to start somewhere don't we? :-)

The truth is that what the eventual outcome is really doesn't matter as much as the immediate effect it has on that person.

Take the time to notice those that are important to you, and most importantly don't hold back your feelings! Tell them why they are important

to you. You'll feel a lot better and you will certainly have done your part to make their day a bit brighter!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/12/98

"I figured that if I said it enough, I would convince the world that I really was the greatest." -- Muhammad Ali (Champion Boxer)

"It's the repetition of affirmations that leads to belief. And once that belief becomes a deep conviction, things begin to happen." -- Claude M. Bristol (Author of "The Magic of Believing")

"One comes to believe whatever one repeats to oneself sufficiently often, whether the statement be true or false. It comes to be a dominating thought in one's mind." -- Robert Collier (Writer, Publisher)

"First say to yourself what you would be; and then do what you have to do." -- Epictetus (Phrygian Philosopher)

"You must begin to think of yourself as becoming the person you want to be." -- David Viscott (Author, Speaker, Trainer)

"The men who succeed are the efficient few. They are the few who have the ambition and will power to develop themselves." -- Herbert N. Casson (Author)

Daily Commentary

Surround yourself with people who support you -- This is more commonly referred to as mentoring. Call it whatever you like, but the more people you can network with the better off you will be.

However, when you are developing your network make sure to choose your members wisely. One of the most disruptive things that can keep us from our success is to allow someone who is either too cynical or just plain doesn't believe you can accomplish what you set out to do! Often it's not that these folks are being mean, it is that for whatever reason over the years their experiences have given them this outlook on life. Perhaps they listened to those who said they couldn't do it.

At any rate the most important thing to do is to choose only the highly motivated people you come into contact with. I am not saying that you should avoid the negative folks, but I am saying that they definitely should not be the ones you consult with before pursuing your next goal! Friends, encourage them to the best of your ability, but don't let them steal your dreams from you in the process...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/13/98

"Show class, have pride, and display character. If you do, winning takes care of itself." – Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant

"Winners never quit, and quitters never win." -- Vince Lombardi

"It's only through change that we grow." -- Unknown

"Great minds must be ready not only to take opportunities, but to make them." -- Colton

"It is well to think well; it is divine to act well." -- Horace Mann

"Failure should be our teacher, not our undertaker." -- Unknown

"The greatest calamity is not to have failed, but to have failed to try." -- Unknown

Daily Commentary

Failure is not the end of the world -- At some point in our lives we have all been face to face with failure. Simply put, anyone who has been successful has also experienced failure in their lives.

The key to success is not in how many times we fail at something. Rather it is in our ability to identify what went wrong, what we will do differently next time, and above all else our ability to get right back to the act of achieving our goals.

Failure is life's greatest teacher, embrace your failures, it is through facing them that takes us each one step farther towards our dreams!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/14/98

"I worked very hard. I felt I could play the game. The only thing that could stop me was myself." -- Jim Abbott (Pro Baseball Player)

"Losing doesn't eat at me the way it used to. I just get ready for the next play, the next game, the next season." -- Troy Aikman (Pro Football Player)

"It doesn't matter what we do until we accept ourselves. Once we accept ourselves, it doesn't matter what we do." -- Charly Heavenrich

"Self-acceptance comes from meeting life's challenges vigorously. Don't numb yourself to your trials and difficulties, nor build mental walls to exclude pain from your life. You will find peace not by trying to escape your

problems, but by confronting them courageously. You will find peace not in denial, but in victory." -- J. Donald Walters (Author, Lecturer, Playwright)

"It's your aptitude, not just your attitude that determines your ultimate altitude." -- Zig Ziglar (Sales Trainer, Author, Motivational Speaker)

Daily Commentary

Practice filling your mind with positive thoughts -- I have found that one of the most wonderful techniques to assure myself of a wonderful day is to fill my mind with positive aspirations! It really works, think about it, rarely do we start our day feeling bad.

What happens instead is that as the day progresses one unpleasant situation leads to another and before we know it we have written the day off as a bad day. What I propose is to simply head those feelings off at the pass. Start out by noticing the wonderful things in your life, what will happen is that instead of the negatives compounding you can actually reverse the process and get those positive feelings flowing!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/15/98

"Do not be desirous of having things done quickly. Do not look at small advantages. Desire to have things done quickly prevents their being done thoroughly. Looking at small advantages prevents great affairs from being accomplished." -- Confucius

"Empty pockets never held anyone back. Only empty heads and empty hearts can do that." -- Norman Vincent Peale (American Christian Reformed Pastor, Speaker, Author)

"I am always doing things I can't do, that's how I get to do them." -- Pablo Picasso (Artist)

"The truth of the matter is that there's nothing you can't accomplish if: (1) You clearly decide what it is that you're absolutely committed to achieving, (2) You're willing to take massive action, (3) You notice what's working or not, and (4) You continue to change your approach until you achieve what you want, using whatever life gives you along the way." -- Anthony Robbins (Author, Speaker, Peak Performance Expert / Consultant)

"The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential... these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence." -- Eddie Robinson (College Football Coach)

"Look at a day when you are supremely satisfied at the end. It's not a day when you lounge around doing nothing; it's when you've had everything to do, and you've done it." -- Margaret Thatcher (Prime Minister)

"Disciplining yourself to do what you know is right and importance, although difficult, is the highroad to pride, self-esteem, and personal satisfaction." -- Brian Tracy (Trainer, Speaker, Author, Businessman)

Daily Commentary

When you look for a thing to follow towards your success, make it a thing that will better mankind as a whole. If you can do this you will have the double satisfaction of first knowing that you are making a impact on others, and secondly that the monetary rewards you receive are as a result of the effort you are putting into it. I am not saying that it will be any easier, but what I am saying is that your success will be twice as sweet!....Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/16/98

"You can't do anything about the length of your life, but you can do something about its width and depth." -- Unknown

"Confidence is: Going after Moby Dick in a rowboat, And taking the tarter sauce with you. A Bullfighter who goes in the ring with mustard on his sword." -- Zig Zigler

"The greatest pleasure in life, is doing the things people say we cannot do." -
- Walter Bagehot

"Build a dream and the dream will build you." -- Robert Schuller

"If you have made mistakes... there is always another chance for you... you may have a fresh start any moment you choose, for this thing we call failure is not the falling down, but the staying down." -- Mary Pickford

"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams." -- Henry David Thoreau

"Every adversity contains within itself the seed of an equivalent or greater benefit." -- W. Clement Stone

Daily Commentary

Just tell'em you care! -- This is one of the easiest, yet most often overlooked things we can do. Realizing that all to often I inadvertently overlook those I care about, I began the practice of writing or calling (better yet, e-mailing) at least three of my friends or colleagues a week.

While each of us comes into contact with so many people on a day to day basis it is far too easy to lose touch with folks. By practicing this technique I not only build friendships, I also strengthen existing ones.

It's easy, I am not saying that you have to spend thirty minutes each with these folks, as a matter of fact the content isn't half as important as you making the effort to say "hello"! It will be appreciated more than you will ever know. As we get older I find that the overall quality of our relationships with our friends tends to deteriorate. This doesn't have to be the case! By taking the time to stay in contact and developing these friendships we will all be the better off!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/17/98

"The minute you settle for less than you deserve, you get even less than you settled for." -- Maureen Dowd

"Accept everything about yourself -- I mean everything, You are you and that is the beginning and the end -- no apologies, no regrets." – Clark Moustakas (Humanistic Psychologist)

"We must accept life for what it actually is -- a challenge to our quality without which we should never know of what stuff we are made, or grow to our full stature." -- Ida R. Wylie

"For purposes of action nothing is more useful than narrowness of thought combined with energy of will." -- Henri Frederic Amiel (Philosopher, Poet, Critic)

"Are you in earnest? Seize this very minute! Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it. Only engage, and then the mind grows heated. Begin, and then the work will be completed." – John Anster

"Well begun is half done." -- Aristotle (Greek Philosopher)

Daily Commentary

Whether we are aware of it or not, we are all blessed with any number of wonderful ideas in any given week. What happens far too often however is that we ponder for a bit about the idea. We even plan a bit about what it would take to make it work, and for whatever reason we never take the most important step. The step that makes it all happen, that is we don't *act* on it! In every case I have studied there is one common factor that allows one person to reach their goals and another just reaching. That is that the successful person allowed themselves to be "lead" by the idea!

Friends, if something is good enough to cross your mind, there is a wonderful chance that you will be successful in it! However, one thing is for certain, if you never act you will never reach your goal!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/18/98

"Be smart, be intelligent and be informed." -- Tony Alessandra (Businessman, Author, Speaker)

"Very few people are ambitious in the sense of having a specific image of what they want to achieve. Most people's sights are only toward the next run, the next increment of money." -- Judith M. Bardwick (Academic)

"Big results require big ambitions." -- James Champy (Author and International Management Consultant)

"I want to work with the top people, because only they have the courage and the confidence and the risk-seeking profile that you need." -- Laurel Cutler (Business Executive)

"Without ambition one starts nothing. Without work one finishes nothing. The prize will not be sent to you. You have to win it. The man who knows how will always have a job. The man who also knows why will always be his boss. As to methods there may be a million and then some, but principles are few. The man who grasps principles can successfully select his own methods. The man who tries methods, ignoring principles, is sure to have trouble." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson (Poet, Essayist)

"Ambition is the germ from which all growth of nobleness proceeds." -- Thomas Dunn English (Physician, Lawyer)

Daily Commentary

For those of you who are new to the list, and have not heard me speak of the importance that I place on developing my "network" or "mentors", then get ready because I am on my soap box now :-). Today, I was reminded again of the value of having success driven people in your group.

You see, recently I have begun trying to grow the "Inspiration a Day!" by looking for avenues to have it syndicated in print newspapers, in addition to offering it through this list. I feel strongly about its mission, and don't want someone to miss out just because they aren't on-line yet. At any rate, while the e-mail list is growing rapidly, the effort towards getting it in print was getting to be a bit discouraging (see friends, even I get frustrated sometimes :-)) Well, while I was sending out a follow up letter to an editor, I received an unexpected letter from a friend named Steve Eads (He is a Financial

Planner, and one of my personal mentors) The note he sent came at such a needed point that I have decided to include it for you to read. The important thing here is to remember that he had no idea that I was even pursuing this goal, much less feeling discouraged, but by an amazing coincidence I got this e-mail today!

Hope you can use:

No, there is no failure for the man (woman) who realizes his (her) power, who never knows when he (she) is beaten; there is no failure for the determined endeavor, the unconquerable will. There is no failure for the man (woman) who gets up every time he falls, who rebounds like a rubber ball, who persists when everyone else gives up, who pushes on when everyone else turns back. --Orison Swett Marden

From Steve Eads.

To say that this got me fired up again would be an understatement! :-) You see by developing our "networks" they will in turn motivate us even when they aren't aware that we need it!...Friends, develop your networks and your life will inevitably be better for it!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/19/98

"Picture in your mind a sense of personal destiny." -- Wayne Oates

"Take time-out 1/2 way through your day to ask "what have I done today?" Then act on your thoughts! Chances are if it was enough for you to ponder it, success is not far behind!" -- Josh S. Hinds

"To have the harvest, we must sow the seed." -- Bailey

"Man never made any material as resilient as the human spirit." – Bern Williams

"He who is afraid to do too much, always does too little." -- German Proverb

"There is no medicine like hope, no incentive so great, and no tonic so powerful as expectation of something better tomorrow." -- Orison Swett Marden

"Every significant discovery that history records can be traced to somebody's search for excellence." -- John H. Jeffers

"The road to success is always under construction." -- Unknown

Daily Commentary

The most wonderful, yet at the same time frustrating things in life is that we can't predict our success in something. Sure we can plan and do the necessary research to raise our chances of success. However, when it's all said and done it tends to be the person with the most persistence that gets the prize of success!

When you find yourselves in trying times as we all do, remind yourself of the blessing that you will receive as result of your persistence. My friends, it's a fact that while you don't have to be the smartest to succeed, you do have to be the most persistent.. May all your goals be fulfilled...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/21/98

"Motivation is an external, temporary high that PUSHES you forward. Inspiration is a sustainable internal glow that PULLS you forward." -- Unknown

"Seekers look into the crises that most people shun, because from hurt or failure or disaster, one can seize the deepest truth." -- Deepak Chopra

"As you believe, so you become. As you become, so you believe." -- Unknown

"Be daring, be different, be impractical, be anything that will assert integrity of purpose and imaginative vision against the play-it-safers, the creatures of the commonplace, the slaves of the ordinary." -- Sir Cecil Beaton

"For those that have the courage to believe and the strength to run their own race victory is certain!" -- Gertrude Johnson

"I destroy my enemy when I make him my friend." -- Lincoln

Daily Commentary

Sometimes in our busy lives we inadvertently cut off those that are closest to us. As much as I try to be available to the people I care about I must admit that at times I become distant. It's not that it is something that we mean to do, it is as though we are programmed to move ninety to nothin' and in our effort to do as much as possible we sometimes neglect those that really are important to us.

Recently I have had such a situation happen to me. You see I have a dear friend (who I won't name) that I have lost touch with. Upon reflection I am realizing that the cause was do to the fact that I was letting my busy schedule run my life. As of today I am making a conscious effort to recognize those that I have been blessed to know. While my time is limited I still must

make an effort to be my own master rather than letting my efforts control me.

How can we do this you ask? What I suggest is that we first post a list of those we want to stay in regular contact with (put it in a place that's handy, I will set it by my computer). Each and everyday, contact these people, even if it's just to say "hi". Second, I plan to be a better manager of my time. Each day I several projects that I know I have to do, so I am going to allot myself a dedicated time to get these things done.

I hope that if you are having the same scenario in your life that you will consider these tips. Also, please if you have any ideas you'd like to share with me, please let me know...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/22/98

"When angry, count to ten before you speak; if very angry, a hundred." -- Thomas Jefferson

"WHEREVER YOU'RE GOING, BEGIN WHERE YOU ARE." -- Nehru

"Without faith, a man can do nothing." -- Amiel

"The probability that we may fail in the struggle, ought not to deter us from the support of a cause we believe to be just." -- Abraham Lincoln

"In the presence of trouble, some people grow wings; others buy crutches." - Harold Ruopp

"The men who try to do something and fail are infinitely better than those who try to do nothing and succeed." -- Lloyd Jones

"The best thing about the future is that it comes only one day at a time." -- Unknown

"If we do not watch, we lose opportunities." -- Seneca

Daily Commentary

The only thing that determines where we wind up with regards to our goals are the steps that we take towards them. Ever since I became interested in motivational thinking, I have wanted to play a part in it. I used to dream of being a motivational speaker. However, for whatever reason I never acted on my dream.

Then about a year or so I finally realized that it wasn't just miraculously going to happen. If I truly wanted to put my goal into action I had to start! So I made a plan, I started by placing some motivational quotes on my main

web page. Shortly after I began offering the "Inspiration a Day!" at the time the list was anything but a regular occurrence.

You see I knew what I wanted, but I hadn't been giving it my full attention. Then I decided that I owed it to myself as well as the list's members, to give it more effort. As a result the "Inspiration a Day!" has grown ever since.

Now that little page of quotes has grown into the "Motivational Mecca!" we have experienced a wonderful amount of traffic on the site. It has truly been a blessing. And most recently we have had the opportunity to expand into "print newspaper".

I cringe to think what would've happened had I not taken those first awkward steps. Friends, when I began this journey I had no idea what the end result would be, I still don't. However, because I was willing to take that leap of faith I have been extremely fortunate to date. I encourage you to follow your dreams, you will never know where your roads will lead you unless you first try!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/23/98

"A minute's success pays the failure of the years." -- Browning

"Begin at the beginning ... and go on till you come to the end: then stop." -- Lewis Carroll

"Genius is ONE PERCENT INSPIRATION and NINETY-NINE PERCENT PERSPIRATION." -- Thomas Edison

"It is amazing what a human being can achieve in life when he has a GOAL and keeps every step in a straight line toward it." -- A. C. Palmer

"Talent is God given; be thankful. Praise is man given; be thankful. Conceit is self-given, be careful." -- Unknown

"I seen my opportunities and I took 'em." -- George Washington

"There comes a time in a man's life when to get where he has to go...if there are no doors or windows...he walks through a wall." -- Bernard Malamud

Daily Commentary

Out of all the e-mail I receive from my on-line friends, particularly members of this list. The most common question tends to be "Josh, how do you keep up your attitude?" First, I have to say that like most of you, I do have times in my life that are overwhelming.

That's just a simple fact of life. Now to answer the question, posed to me. I have developed a simple plan to aid me in keeping up my positive attitude. Some time ago I heard a very interesting quote, "a person is just about as happy as they make up their mind to be". I have to tell you that the first time I heard this I was anything ,but impressed. I thought, what a foolish thing to think. How could someone say that I wasn't trying to be happy?

Luckily this quote had gotten into my subconscious, I pondered it and began to wonder what it's author had meant by it. I found the idea interesting that if maybe this person was right, I could somehow take an active role in my own happiness. The thought of this was simply overwhelming. Upon thinking about it's meaning I realized that it wasn't so much that I could say "shazam! now I am happy" as much as I could put simple things into place that would help me to develop my own happiness.

One of the things I do on a daily basis is to feed my brain with positive affirmations. Another thing I do is to read stories about people who have overcome adversities to achieve what they desired. I find it a constant journey in developing ways to keep my attitude up. By far one of the best ways I have found to keep myself going is to help others up and to discover the power of motivational thinking. There is simply nothing as rewarding as giving freely of ourselves...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/24/98

"If you don't know where you are going, you will probably end up somewhere else." -- Lawrence J. Peter

"Do not turn back when you are just at the goal." -- Syrus

"When the going gets tough, the tough get going." -- Unknown

"You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You are able to say to yourself, 'I lived through this horror. I can take the next thing that comes along'... you must do the thing you think you cannot do." -- Eleanor Roosevelt

"There are two things to aim at in life: First, to get what you want; and after that, to enjoy it. Only the wisest of mankind achieve the second." -- Logan Smith

"Do all the good you can By all the means you can In all the ways you can In all the places you can At all the times you can To all the people you can As long as ever you can." -- John Wesley

"Ideas won't work unless you do." -- Unknown

Daily Commentary

When you want something go after it with all that is inside you! Don't hold back, when you think you have done enough, do a bit more. There is one rule I have found to be true, the most persistent person always wins! It may not be automatic, but in time this person always achieves that which they seek!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/25/98

"There's no thrill in easy sailing, When the sky is clear and blue; There's no joy in merely doing Things which anyone can do. But there is some satisfaction That is mighty sweet to take, When you've reached a destination That you thought you couldn't make." -- Author Unknown

"Some men are made bigger, faster, stronger, and smarter than others. But not a single one ever has a corner on dreams, desire, or ambition." -- Duffy Daugherty

"Motivation The MEDIOCRE TEACHER tells. The GOOD TEACHER explains. The SUPERIOR TEACHER demonstrates. The GREAT TEACHER inspires." – William Arthur Ward

"You cannot become a howling success merely by howling." -- Saying of a Sage

"It's true that the willing horse gets the heaviest load. It is also true that he develops the strongest muscles and gets the most corn.." -- Unknown

"PRAISE is the only criticism that is constructive." -- Dr. Louis Bledsoe

"Think not on yesterday, nor trouble borrow On what may be in store for you tomorrow, But let today be your incessant care-- The past is past, tomorrow's in the air. Who gives today the best that in him lies Will find the road that leads to clearer skies." -- John K. Bangs

Daily Commentary

Sometimes we all feel as though we are not getting as much as we would like done. I used to feel this way quite often, until I came to realize that success is a journey that's road is built one step at a time. Upon realizing this I pondered how I might go about laying more "success bricks" faster.

I came up with a plan where each day I tell myself that I will learn at least one thing about a subject that I didn't know about before. I have found that this allows me the daily feeling of having accomplished a particular thing each day. The most important step in this exercise, is that at the end of each day I remind myself of what I have learned. As a result I go to sleep feeling a

sense of accomplishment, and more importantly I wake up with this same feeling! Friends, it all starts with that first little step!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/26/98

"Show class, have pride, and display character. If you do, winning takes care of itself." -- Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant

"Keys to success... Research your idea, Plan for success, Expect success, & just plain do it! It amazes me how many people skip the last step! Practice being a "doer" and success will follow you every step of the way!" – Josh S. Hinds

"There are no fragments so precious as those of time, and none are so heedlessly lost by people who cannot make a moment, and yet can waste years." -- Unknown

"Ben Franklin's secret of success; "I will speak ill of no man, and speak all the good I know of everyone."

"Shallow men believe in luck, believe in circumstances: it was somebody's name, or he happened to be there at the right time, or it was so then, and another day it would have been otherwise. Strong men believe in cause and effect." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Somewhere in the world there is defeat for everyone. Some are destroyed by defeat, and some made small, and mean by victory. Greatness lives in one who triumphs equally over defeat and victory." -- John Steinbeck

"The difference between the impossible and the possible lies in a person's determination." -- Tommy Lasorda

Daily Commentary

Quite possibly one of the strongest human traits is our ability to "will" our way to our goals! One has only to read the countless stories of individuals who against the odds reached their dreams. Contraire to what some might lead us to believe these folks are all around us.

I am not saying that they all have made a million dollars or own their own businesses. What I am saying is that to have succeed one only has to be able to set their sites on what they want to achieve and have the perseverance to see their goal through! Be aware of your individual successes, but don't allow yourself to become stagnant! Be ever reaching towards new dreams. It is in doing this that we will be able to look back in happiness on our lives...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

1/27/98

"You don't have to have the lead if you have the courage to come from behind." – Unknown

"All men dream; But not equally." -- Lawrence of Arabia

"The talent to be a great runner is a gift to you from God; utilizing that talent is a gift to you from yourself!" -- source unknown

"There are admirable potentialities in every human being. Believe in your strength and your youth. Learn to repeat endlessly to yourself, 'It all depends on me.'" -- Andre Gide

"If you have lemon, make lemonade." -- Howard Gossage

"Success doesn't come the way you think it does, it comes from the way you think." – Robert Schuller

"People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and, if they can't find them, make them." -- George Bernard Shaw

"Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out." -- James B. Conant

Daily Commentary

Each of us has the ability to make a difference in someone else's life! Often times with something as simple as a smile or a friendly hello. I have found that since I began to give freely of my positive attitude I have been blessed in many way's, areas of my life have been enriched in ways that couldn't have been done otherwise.

For example the other day I received a referral to do some Internet consulting. It seemed that a member of this list, felt they could feel comfortable enough to refer me to a business associate of theirs. Please don't misunderstand me, this is **not** the reason I offer the "Inspiration a Day!". I offer it simply because I believe in the benefits of motivational thinking.

You see when we give freely of ourselves we are making a positive impact on others in ways that we could never imagine. While the referral was wonderful, I still have to say that the most rewarding thing that I get are all the thank you letters from all of you on the list. May you achieve all that you desire!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

2/28/98

"LIFE IS A GRINDSTONE. But whether it grinds us down or polishes us up depends on us." -- L. Thomas Holdcraft

"Two men look out through the same bars; one sees the mud and one the stars." – Frederick Langbridge

"The problem with opportunity is that it comes disguised as hard work." -- Pope John Paul II

"If you BELIEVE IN YOURSELF and HAVE DEDICATION AND PRIDE -- and NEVER QUIT, you'll BE A WINNER. The price of victory is high -- but so are the rewards." -- Paul "Bear" Bryant

"Nothing is achieved before it is attempted." -- Unknown

"Give to the world the best you have and the best will come back to you." -- Unknown

"Put your job in your heart and your heart into the job." -- Tom Watson

"BE POSITIVE in everything you do. Some people see the sun go down and think of it as the end of the day. Others see the sun go down and think of it as the beginning of the evening." -- Unknown

Daily Commentary

Treat each day as if it were your last! Leave no stone unturned, no words left unsaid. Do all the things you want to achieve! Take all those first awkward steps as if today were your last chance!

The sooner you can embrace this attitude the sooner you will see miraculous things happen in your life!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/1/98

"YESTERDAY is not yours to recover. But, TOMORROW is yours to win or lose." -- Unknown

"Everyone who has taken a shower has had ideas. It's the person who gets out of that shower, dries off and does something with that idea who makes the difference." -- Nolan Bushwell

"Motivation is what gets you started. Habit is what keeps you going." -- Jim Rayn

"Progress is not created by contented people." -- Frank Tyger

"Most of us look at success in the same positive way. It's how we deal with our failures that determines what we get out of life." -- Daniel G. Amen

"Build all the human bridges you can during your life." -- Unknown

"When nothing seems to help, I go and look at a stonecutter hammering away at his rock, perhaps a hundred times without as much as a crack showing in it. Yet, at the hundred and first blow, it will split in two; and I know it was not that blow that did it, but all that had gone before." -- Jacob Riis

"We can do anything we want to do if we stick to it long enough." – Helen Keller

Daily Commentary

Whether we realize it or not each of us is blessed with a special gift. That is that we all can do something better than the next person can. For some this comes in the form of athletic ability, for others it might be a wonderful business sense, or perhaps the ability to be an excellent people person.

Whatever, your talent is the surest way to success is to identify your natural gifts, practice them and focus your energies on them!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/2/98

"I really don't have a goal to be the greatest coach in the business. I just try to achieve the best with the talent God has given me. If I do that, I'm satisfied." -- Tom Landry

"SET GOALS. They give you direction, hope, and great satisfaction when you achieve them." -- Unknown

"Too much caution is bad for you. By avoiding things you fear, you may let yourself in for unhappy consequences. It is usually wiser to stand up to a scary-seeming experience and walk right into it, risking the bruises as hard knocks. You are likely to find it is not as tough as you had thought. Or you may find it plenty tough, but also discover you have what it takes to handle it." -- Norman Vincent Peale

"Take time to deliberate, but when the time for action arrives, stop thinking and go in." -- Andrew Jackson

"People show what they are by what they do with what they have. We are all manufacturers -- making good, making trouble, or making excuses." -- Unknown

"ENTHUSIASM is one of the most powerful engines of success. When you do a thing, do it with your might. Put your whole soul into it. Stamp it with your own personality. Be active, be energetic, be enthusiastic and faithful, and you will accomplish your objective. Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Daily Commentary

Two of the most important ingredients of success are: 1) Raw, blind ambition and 2) The carefully laid out planning of our goals. Unfortunately, too much of either one will keep us from achieving that which we strive for!

The solution you ask? Each day we must spend finding that secret mix of both of these. Success is a journey, that's prize almost always goes to the most persistent people! May you be blessed in all your endeavors!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/3/98

"A winning attitude is everybody's secret of playing golf. When you have it, the ball bounces right for you and you can control that elusive thing called luck." -- Cary Middlecoff

"You can inspire a group only if you yourself are filled with confidence and hope of success." -- Floyd V. Filson

"If the power to do hard work is not talent, it is the best possible substitute for it. Ambition by itself never gets anywhere until it forms a partnership with work." -- James Garfield

"Don't be fooled by the calendar. There are only as many days in the year as we make use of. One man gets only a week's value out of a year while another man gets a full year's value out of the week." -- Charles Richards

"The only time you mustn't fail is the last time you try." -- Charles F. Kettering

"People who don't make mistakes always end up working for those who do."
-- Unknown

"The way to develop the best that is in a man is by appreciation and encouragement." -- Charles Schwab
Daily Commentary

Treat each day for what it is, a chance to start a new day. No matter what happened the day before today is a chance to leave yesterday behind and

begin a new! Another opportunity to reach for our goals!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/4/98

"People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and, if they can't find them, make them." -- George Bernard Shaw

"If you are not afraid to face the music, you may someday lead the band." -- Spuk Tiding

"Don't find fault, find a remedy." -- Henry Ford

"Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice; it is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved." -- Willaim J Bryan

"Difficulties are stepping stones to success." -- Anonymous

"Yesterday is but today's memory and tomorrow is today's dream." – Kahlil Gibran

"Some men see things as they are and say why? I dream things that never were and say 'Why not?'" -- George Bernard Shaw

"You draw nothing out of the bank of life except what you deposit in it." -- Anonymous

Daily Commentary

Make Goals! -- If there's one thing I can't stress enough, it is the importance of making goals! However, having goals is not enough to assure you of success. You have to have regular sessions with yourself to review whether or not you are on your way towards achieving that which you want.

Personally I try to take about 15 minutes every three days to review my goal sheet, and yes I do have my goals on paper. I find that having such a short time between reviewing keeps me more grounded in what I want. If upon reviewing I find that I don't like the pace that I am moving I can then re-plan. I hope that you will all take the time each week to review your goals! Have a wonderful week, and may all your dreams come true!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/5/98

"If you aren't fired with enthusiasm, you will be fired with enthusiasm." -- Vince Lombardi

"An activity becomes creative when the doer cares about doing it right, or better." -- John Updike

"Never let a problem to be solved become more important than a person to be loved." -- Barbara Johnson

"The light of friendship is like the light of phosphorous, seen plainest when all is dark." -- Robert Crowell

"If you do what you've always done, you'll get what you've always gotten." -- Unknown

"The meeting of preparation with opportunity generates the offspring we call luck." -- Anthony Robbins

"We become what we think about." -- Earl Nightengale

"Winning is not everything, but the effort to win is." -- Zig Ziglar

Daily Commentary

Here's a rule I try to practice in my daily life. "Don't ever say anything about another that you wouldn't be willing to tell them to their face". This sounds simple, but how many of us are guilty of talking bad about others? This is something I have to constantly remind myself to practice.

I am convinced that it is because of this that I have become known as someone who rarely talks ill of anyone. Many of my friends who choose to gossip among themselves consider me to be a bit boring :-). I have to say that under these circumstances I am happy to have this label.

Friends the fact is that many things happen in our lives. People we might consider friends will turn on us, and those we think of as enemies will suddenly be transformed into friends. The bottom line is that we will all be in better shape both mentally and friendship wise if we can adopt this technique!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/6/98

"Adversity has the effect of eliciting talents which in prosperous circumstances would have lain dormant." -- Horace

"Cut not the wings of your dreams for they are the heartbeat and the freedom of your soul" -- Flavia

"You will recognize your own path when you come upon it, because you will suddenly have all the energy and imagination you will ever need." – Jerry Gillies

"Enthusiasm is the mother of effort, and without it nothing great was ever achieved." -- Emerson

"The circumstances of your life have uniquely qualified you to make a contribution. And if you don't make that contribution, nobody else can make it." -- Rabbi Harold S. Kushner

"The biggest mistake people make in life is not trying to make a living at doing what they most enjoy." -- Malcomb Forbes

"Few wishes come true by themselves." -- June Smith

"A smooth sea never made a skilled mariner." -- English Proverb

Daily Commentary

Yesterday I had a funny experience happen to me. I went into a convenience store, the same store that I always do. And as I was checking out I dropped off a few business cards by the register. As I was leaving the check out girl said to me as she was looking at my card "Josh, how is that every time you come in here you are always so happy?"

I have to admit that this was a pretty awkward question to be asked. Without even thinking I said "I guess because it just beats the alternative" and smiled. Then as I was driving on the way home I began to ponder this event a bit more. I now realize that whether we know it or not we are in a constant state of impression making. I would hate to think that someone might consider me as grumpy, or even worse unhappy!

However, inevitably throughout my life at some point I must have left another with this impression. I personally believe that by sharing the happiness we feel about ourselves, we have a unique opportunity to impact those around us. It kinda' reminds me of that song "let your little light shine :-). Well, I hope that you will try to make a conscious effort to impact those around you positively!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/7/98

"As you believe, so you become. As you become, so you believe." – Author Unknown

"Be daring, be different, be impractical, be anything that will assert integrity of purpose and imaginative vision against the play-it-safers, the creatures of the commonplace, the slaves of the ordinary." -- Sir Cecil Beaton

"For those that have the courage to believe and the strength to run their own race victory is certain!" -- Gertrude Johnson

"Difficulties increase the nearer we approach our goal." -- Goethe

"Chance is always powerful. - Let your hook be always cast; in the pool where you least expect it, there will be a fish." -- Ovid

"We are meant to ride nature's waves, not to fight against them." – Deepak Chopra

"We can do no great things; only small things with great love." – Mother Teresa

"Deep within man dwell those slumbering powers; powers that would astonish him, that he never dreamed of possessing; forces that would revolutionize his life if aroused and put into action." -- Orison Swett Marden

Daily Commentary

I have found that everything that leads to success involves us taking on at least some degree of risk! Please don't misunderstand me I am not suggesting that we should quit our job and take our savings and play the lotto (or something of that nature :-). That my friends would not be risk in the truest sense.

You see we have to be able to combine risk with careful goal planning! So, you still don't believe in the power that "risk" plays in our journey to success? Ok, I would challenge you to find one person who you would consider successful that didn't take at least some risk to get their (People born into wealth are not included :-).

The fact is that it is impossible! In most cases you will find that they were even ridiculed because of their ideas. However, because of their determination, or in some cases their stubbornness not to give up they have achieved that which we would call success! Friends, dare to live your dreams! Not only will you be on the way to your own success, you will also have a much happier journey! ...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/9/98

"Very few people are ambitious in the sense of having a specific image of what they want to achieve. Most people's sights are only toward the next run, the next increment of money." -- Judith M. Bardwick (Academic)

"Ambition can creep as well as soar." -- Edmund Burke (Political Writer, Statesman)

"The men who succeed are the efficient few. They are the few who have the ambition and will power to develop themselves." -- Herbert N. Casson (Author)

"Without ambition one starts nothing. Without work one finishes nothing. The prize will not be sent to you. You have to win it. The man who knows how will always have a job. The man who also knows why will always be his boss. As to methods there may be a million and then some, but principles are few. The man who grasps principles can successfully select his own methods. The man who tries methods, ignoring principles, is sure to have trouble." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson (Poet, Essayist)

"I've got a great ambition to die of exhaustion rather than boredom." -- Angus Grossart (Business Executive)

"We grow small trying to be great." -- Eli Stanley Jones (Missionary)

"When you go in search of honey you must expect to be stung by bees." -- Kenneth Kaunda (Zambian Politician, President)

Daily Commentary

I have found one thing to be true, that is that a day will never be any more or less than we make of it! Each day we are all faced with many opportunities. Often times these opportunities are disguised to us. However, if we can take the time to ponder these thoughts and work out a plan for how we can achieve them we will be successful!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/10/98

"I believe a little bit of success lies in everyone! Will you be the one to deny that? Or rather be the one who chooses to be guided by it? I hope you choose as I to do the latter!" -- Josh S. Hinds

"Success is the prize for those who stand true to their ideas!" -- Josh S. Hinds

"The journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step." -- Lao-tzu

"Don't be afraid to give your best to what seemingly are small jobs. Every time you conquer one it makes you that much stronger. If you do the little jobs well, the big ones will tend to take care of themselves." – Dale Carnegie

"Always be nice to people on the way up; because you'll meet the same people on the way down." -- Wilson Mizner

"There is no security on this earth; there is only opportunity." – General Douglas MacArthur

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless." -- Mother Theresa

"And when it rains on your parade, look up rather than down. Without the rain, there would be no rainbow." -- Jerry Chin

"The future belongs to those who dare." -- Anonymous

Daily Commentary

Take the Three year test! What is the three year test you ask? It works like this, every month I write down my goals, particularly where I want to be in three years. Then I review this goals list, I ask myself what am I doing that will lead me to success. As well as ask myself what I need to be doing harder to achieve my goals. When I am finished I rewrite the goals. I have found that this allows me to stay focused on what I desire...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/11/98

"Sometimes you gotta create what you want to be a part of." -- Geri Weitzman

"The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man." -- George Bernard Shaw

"Imagination is more important than knowledge." -- Albert Einstein

"What does not kill me makes me stronger." -- Goethe

"Remember, the greatest gift is not found in a store nor under a tree, but in the hearts of true friends." -- Cindy Lew

"Life is made up of marble and mud." -- Nathaniel Hawthorne

"Good people are good because they've come to wisdom through failure." -- William Saroyan

Daily Commentary

It is an indisputable truth that in order to achieve our goals we must first be willing to move past our failures! A persons persistence will in many cases be the deciding factor as to whether or not they can reach their dreams!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/12/98

"You win some, you lose some, you wreck some." -- Dale Earnhardt

" If you have a lemon, make lemonade." -- Howard Gossage

"If you are not afraid to face the music, you may someday lead the band." -- Spuk Tiding

"Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice; it is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved." -- Willaim J Bryan

"Sow a thought and you reap an act; Sow an act and you reap a habit; Sow a habit and you reap a character; Sow a character and you reap a destiny." -
- Ralph W Emerson

"Difficulties are stepping stones to success." -- Anonymous

"No horse gets anywhere till he is harnessed. No steam or gas ever drives anything until it is confined. No Niagara is ever turned into light and power until it is tunneled. No life ever grows great until it is focussed, dedicated, disciplined." -- Harry E Fosdick

Daily Commentary

While it is true that we can not control where we begin our life's journey, At the same time it is a wonderful truth that no matter where that is? The end can be totally controlled by us! I also find it intriguing that life affords us so many opportunities each day. While we may not notice them rest assured that they are there. Often they come in the form of difficulties. Rarely have I found that upon tackling a particular problem I didn't find a bit of a rainbow at its end!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/16/98

"If you could only love enough, you could be the most powerful person in the world." -- Emmett Fox

"The meeting of preparation with opportunity generates the offspring we call luck." -- Anthony Robbins

"The true measure of a man is not how he behaves in moments of comfort and convenience but how he stands at times of controversy and challenge." -
- Martin Luther King Jr.

"Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work." -- Thomas Edison

"The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather in a lack of will." -- Vincent T. Lombardi

"The road to success is dotted with many tempting parking spaces." -- Unknown

"Everything that is done in the world is done by hope." --Martin Luther

Daily Commentary

Friends, do you ever get the feeling that you aren't quite where you want to be in relation to your goals? If so believe me you are not alone. The fact is that at some point everyone of us feels this way. The funny thing is that in many cases it is those who are viewed as being successful that share this feeling!

There is an awesome saying that I heard that best relates this point. Once a persons brain has been stretched by opportunity it can never revert back to its original state.

While it is funny that we are never truly content with our own successes I believe that it is because of this very reason that our world is on a constant state of improvement and change. May you all have a wonderful week!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/17/98

"Dare to risk public criticism." -- Mary Kay Ash

"Don't give up at half time. Concentrate on winning the second half." -- Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant

"Keys to success... Research your idea, Plan for success, Expect success, & just plain do it! It amazes me how many people skip the last step! Practice being a "doer" and success will follow you every step of the way!" – Josh S. Hinds

"As a general rule, you have to accept that no matter where you work, you are not an employee; you are in a business with one employee - yourself." -- Andrew Grove (CEO of INTEL)

"Difficulties strengthen the mind, as labor does the body." -- Seneca

"Man's mind, stretched to a new idea, never goes back to its original dimension." -- Oliver Wendell Holmes

*** My Commentary ***

All things happen for a reason -- I think that if I had .50 cents for every time someone said this to me I might be able to buy the whole world a Coke (or Pepsi :-)). I know we have all heard this, it tends to surface in times of trouble or sorrow. I don't know if it is that saying this makes us believe that everything will be better or not.

I do know that I used to have a real hard time with this saying, particularly when it was used in the context of a loved one that I had lost. I mean how could losing someone possibly have been for the better? Then as time passed I began to realize that it isn't that the "loss" is for the better, rather it is what we ourselves manifest from the loss.

You see, at the moment we lose our loved one they are in a better place. It is us that are left to deal with things in our own way. It is through such trying times that we develop into the people that we are to become. Unfortunately the loss of those closest to us is as much a part of our life's journey as the experiencing of a new birth. I have found that while it never gets any easier to lose those that are closest to us, as time goes by we are healed! Each time a bit stronger and it is through this process that we ultimately become ready to deal with our own mortality.

All I can suggest is that we should try our best to find fulfillment in our lives. If you want something be willing to make it happen. While our lives take many winding roads they are still **ours** to command!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/18/98

"If they can make penicillin out of moldy bread, they can sure make something out of you." -- Muhammad Ali

"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single footstep." -- Unknown

"There is no substitute for hard work." -- Thomas Jefferson

"All men dream; but not equally." -- Lawrence of Arabia

"The prime function of a leader is to keep hope alive." -- John Gardner

"Leadership is action, not position." -- Donald McGannon

""Leadership is the activity of influencing people to cooperate toward some goal which they come to find desirable." -- Ordway Tead

Daily Commentary

Whether or not we realize it each of us has within us the ability to set some kind of example for people. Knowing this would you rather be the one known for being the one who encouraged others, or the one who inadvertently discouraged those around you? I hope that you will choose to go after that which you deem worthwhile, and pursue your dreams. Because it is through this that we pave the road for the leaders of tomorrow...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/19/98

"You have to expect things of yourself before you can do them." – Michael Jordan

"Sweat plus sacrifice equals success." -- Charlie Finley

"There's no substitute for guts." -- Paul "Bear" Bryant

"My motto was always to keep swinging. Whether I was in a slump or feeling badly or having trouble off the field, the only thing to do was keep swinging" -- Hank Aaron

"The will to win is important, but the will to prepare is vital." – Joe Paterno

"Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity." -- Coach Darrel Royal

"I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more I have of it." -- Thomas Jefferson

Daily Commentary

I have found a simple technique that helps to better prepare me for the challenges of the upcoming day. I would like to share it with all of you. The idea is simple, but I assure you if you will practice it without fail it will make an impact in your day to day life.

Every night before I go to sleep I congratulate myself on the days events, if nothing else I say "good job Josh, you got through the day!" Then I tell myself that no matter what is thrown at me tomorrow I am built strong enough to face it and overcome it. Then upon awakening I remind myself that I am strong enough to make it through another day and that I will keep my eyes open for any new opportunities that might come my way!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/21/98

"The minute you settle for less than you deserve, you get even less than you settled for." -- Maureen Dowd

"What I do today is important because I am paying a day of my life for it. What I accomplish must be worthwhile because the price is high." -- Unknown

"Achievement is largely the product of steadily raising one's levels of aspiration and expectation." -- Jack Nicklaus

"Some see things and say, "Why?" but I dream things that never were and say, "Why not?" -- George Bernard Shaw

"You can have it all. You just can't have it all at once." -- Opra Winfrey

Daily Commentary

"When you do a thing act as if the whole world were watching!" This is by far one of my favorite sayings. For me it really sums up the way I try to live my life. It is a constant reminder that everything I do is another step I am taking on the journey towards my own success! The way I act towards someone goes much farther than I may realize at the time. For example, if I am friendly towards a person they will undoubtedly build this as an impression of me; however, if I am unkind I will negatively impact them. Far worse is the fact that this could negatively impact my image. I try to keep this saying in mind "do a good deed and it will spread three people wide, do someone wrong and it will go six times wide". Have a wonderful weekend!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/23/98

"There is no security on this earth. There is only opportunity." -- Unknown

"Success is the prize for those who stand true to their ideas!" -- Josh S. Hinds

"Plenty of people miss their share of happiness, not because they never found it, but because they didn't stop to enjoy it." -- William Feather

"Although the world is full of suffering...It is also full of overcoming it." -- Helen Keller

"Dream as if you'll live forever and live as if you'll die tomorrow." -- James Dean

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless." -- Mother Teresa

Daily Commentary

Congratulations it's a new day! - That's right friends, not only is it a new day, it is also, a new week! So treat it that way. The bad day you had on Friday is behind you.

The argument that you might have had with your loved ones, the test you might have failed! All these things are in the past! In other words no matter how much we might ponder them or wish they hadn't occurred there is simply nothing we can do about it!

However, viewed in the right light this can be a blessing. After all, now that we know we can't change the past we can realize that at this very moment we have the wonderful opportunity to begin a new! If you want something there is simply *no* better time than right now to pursue it!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/23/98

"You win some, you lose some, you wreck some." -- Dale Earnhardt
(Champion Nascar Driver)

"Life's like a boom-a-rang. The more good you throw out, the more you receive in return." -- Josh S. Hinds

"There's no substitute for guts." -- Paul "Bear" Bryant

"To succeed...You need to find something to hold on to, something to motivate you, something to inspire you." -- Tony Dorsett

"You can become a winner only if you are willing to walk over the edge." --
Damon Runyon

Daily Commentary

Practice being an encourager! I have found that by adopting this attitude the overall quality of my life has improved for the better! How you might ask? Well aside from the wonderful feelings I get when I am able to encourage someone towards their goals. I have also been fortunate enough to receive referrals simply on the basis that someone thought that they could feel comfortable sending a friend or associate my way.

Friends it is a natural fact that with so many out there that are pessimistic if you can honestly implement this attitude into your daily life many blessings will naturally come your way! In a nutshell everyone wants to be lifted up! I assure you in your lifting up you will be lifted up in the process! May you find your dreams in everything you do...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/25/98

"I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving: To reach the port of heaven, we must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it, but we must sail, and not drift, nor lie at anchor." -- Oliver Wendell Holmes

"The highest reward for a person's toil is not what they get for it, but what they become by it." -- John Ruskin

"I think we too often make choices based on the safety of cynicism, and what we're lead to is a life not fully lived. Cynicism is fear, and it's worse than fear - it's active disengagement." -- Ken Burns, Historian

"The interesting thing is that there are so few important decisions. You don't have to go in the "right" direction. You don't have to enter the "right" business. What you have to do is have made a decision as to what you're going to do and then you just have to figure out how to succeed at it." -- Ken Oshman

"Once you've done the mental work, there comes a point you have to throw yourself into the action and put your heart on the line. That means not only being brave, but being compassionate towards yourself, your teammates and your opponents." -- Phil Jackson

Daily Commentary

Practice being a leader in everything that you do! -- It doesn't matter whether you are the CEO of a fortune five hundred company or the custodian at the local high school. Your job is extremely important!

And each day you are given the chance to be a unique example to someone that you will come into contact with. It is for this reason that we should practice certain characteristics. Always share a smile with those around you. When you walk into a room and everyone is keeping to themselves, be the first to introduce yourself, believe me everyone else wants to do the same and you will be appreciated by the group for having such qualities! Last but certainly not least, practice praising others for things they do well.

I can assure you that while you might not be in a leadership position now, these are just the qualities that will get you into one! ...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/26/98

"Courage is the capacity to confront what can be imagined." -- Leo Rosten

"Although the world is full of suffering...It is also full of overcoming it." -- Helen Keller

"Most people give up just when they're about to achieve success. They quit on the one yard line. They give up at the last minute of the game, one foot from a winning touchdown." -- H. Ross Perot

"Always do your best. What you plant now, you will harvest later." – Og Mandino

"If you occasionally fall, (and we all do) just be sure to fall forward." -- Unknown

Daily Commentary

Mimic the successful! -- No I am not claiming that you do the same thing someone else has done. We all know that we have to come up with our own path toward success. However, what I am suggesting is that we can study the qualities that these successful people have in common!

Believe me one thing you will notice as you follow the successful is that they might have all taken different paths, but they share many of the same qualities! So here are a few ways that I keep an eye on these folks. First I read many business related periodicals, as well as reading auto-biographies, I find that many times the "biography" written by an outsider can tilt the story the way they want you to perceive the person. I also, watch a channel called A&E particularly a show called "Biography"!

And last but not least I spend *a lot* of time on the World Wide Web doing research! Please don't misunderstand me, upon following these peoples lives you will undoubtedly find qualities that you will find undesirable, the important thing is to identify their strong suits and try to implement those qualities into your daily life. Have a wonderful day!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/27/98

"Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm." -- Eleanor Roosevelt

"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift. That's why it is called the present. Seize the day!" -- Jay Skeldon

"We realize that what we are accomplishing is a drop in the ocean. But if that drop were not in the ocean, it would be missed." -- Mother Theresa

"Life is ten percent what happens to you and ninety percent how you react to it." -- Charles Swindell

"If you don't ride the waves of change, you will get pulled under by the current." -- Unknown

Daily Commentary

When you want something take the careful time to plan for its achievement. However, don't fall victim as so many do by over planning! It amazes me how many people tell me of this wonderful idea they have and yet later when I ask how they did with it they have yet to act upon it. I would urge you all that if you want something bad enough your going to have to get out of your comfort zone!

I assure you the awkwardness you feel has been shared by many before you, but the good news is that the success has been as well! ...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

3/31/98

"The way to develop the best that is in a man is by appreciation and encouragement." -- Charles Schwab

"Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your mind off your goals." -- Unknown

"No one knows what he can do till he tries." -- Syrus

"Do the very best you can with what you have." -- Theodore Roosevelt

"There is a big difference in wanting to and willing to." -- Paul "Bear" Bryant

"People who stay on top, who are winners year after year, have one thing in common --- a winning attitude. They know that complacency breeds mediocracy -- so they give 100 percent. They always are the best they can be, and they never spend time thinking about what they have done, because it steals from what they've yet to do." -- A. J. Foyt

Daily Commentary

Use the power of Yes or No -- The other night I was chatting with a member of this list on ICQ (ICQ is a free program that lets you chat in real time. And yes, I do have a very open door policy w/ everyone on this list :-) My ICQ # is: 2940261).

It seems that the person was getting ready to go on a big sales appointment the following day and wanted to discuss it a bit. He was telling me all about the client, and the product he offered. Since he knew that I had previous experience in both sales and Management. He asked if I were him what sales

speech would I go with? I have to tell you that I think my answer surprised him a bit.

I told him that since he obviously knew his product to a tee that the best thing to do was to simply review the benefits of his product and then ask the prospect point blank "Based on what I have told you about this do you think it is something that would be of benefit? Believe me I know that this might go against what many of you have heard about sales.

However, in my own experience I have found that *nothing* is more effective than reducing it down to a yes or no question. I told my friend that while he may get a no answer at least then he could have a chance to address the concerns of the prospect. You see using this technique you can avoid the possibility of a long drawn out decision making period.

As a worst case scenario the person will not want your product or service even after you counter their concerns. At least then you can begin to better focus your efforts on the next person. Remember success is a journey that is forged one step after another!

A similar situation happened with a friend that was concerned about a grade she had gotten on a test. It seemed that the test counted for a major portion of the overall class grade. Needless to say she was a bit worried. After talking for a bit I finally asked her "have you asked the teacher if you could do extra credit?" to which she said she had not. The next day she said that she and the professor had worked out a way for her and the class to earn extra points.

The key thing here is not that she had gotten another chance. Rather the lesson here is " you can't possibly expect to gain something if you don't first ask for it! After all the worst anyone can say is no...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

4/1/98

"Success doesn't come the way you think it does, it comes from the way you think." -- Dr. Robert Schuller

"If you are not afraid to face the music, you may someday lead the band." -- Spuk Tiding

"Don't find fault, find a remedy." -- Henry Ford

"Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice; it is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved." -- William J Bryan

"Difficulties are stepping stones to success." -- Anonymous

Daily Commentary

Go looking for opportunity! There is opportunity all around us, unfortunately we aren't always tuned into it. Make it a practice to continuously be on the lookout for new and interesting opportunities.

Be sure to tell those around you that you're always interested in advancement and would they please keep you in mind should they hear of anything. Along the way you will inevitably be introduced to things that are of no interest to you. However, I promise that with an open minded attitude that wonderful opportunity **will** find you!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

4/2/98

"If you think you can; you can! -- Unknown

"Neither you nor the world knows what you can do until you have tried." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Our greatest glory is not in never failing, but in rising every time we fail." -- Confucius

"If you aren't going all the way; why go at all?" -- Joe Namath

"Success is often just an idea away." -- Unknown

"Skillful pilots gain their reputation from storms and tempests." -- Epicurus

Daily Commentary

Share your network! -- I have two wonderful friends who might very well be considered the "masters of networking"! Their names are Claire Bellios who lives in Canada, and David Crawford of Tuscaloosa, AL.

The reason I mention them is that I find their networking skills to be so natural! You see they both make a constant effort to bring their friends and associates together. The interesting thing is that they don't do it for any gain, its just that they enjoy their contacts and want to share them with their friends.

Some people think that contacts or prospects are to be hoarded away like hidden treasure, but I can assure you that both Dave and Claire's way of networking has been a very successful venture for all involved. The bottom line is that they realize that by sharing their contacts the folks they share with will be all the more likely to do the same with them. May you find success in everything you attempt!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

4/3/98

"Success is the prize for those who stand true to their ideas!" -- Josh S. Hinds

"Keep your business affairs in your own hands. It's the only way to be happy." -- Martha Washington

"We cannot truly face life until we face the fact that it will be taken away from us." -- Billy Graham

"The best eraser in the world is a good night's sleep." -- Unknown

"Success means getting up just one more time than you fall." -- Bill Dotson

"Adversity has the effect of eliciting talents which, under prosperous conditions, may have remained dormant." -- Unknown

Daily Commentary

While it is true that we can't guaranty our the outcome of our ventures before hand, we can certainly take steps to increase our chances of achieving success! I have outlined a few of the steps here.

1) Plan for success - In today's fast paced world it is simply not enough to have a good idea. You have to dedicate the time to create a business plan (or success plan). Friends any venture (business or otherwise) will have its ups and downs. By having a carefully laid out plan you will better be able to identify the roads to take towards your success!

2) Be persistent! - Its a sad truth that many folks don't find success right off the bat. However, it is also true that with enough persistence success will find you!

3) Save some for that rainy day! - I can't stress this enough! If you want to be truly successful (meaning happy in your daily life) in your life you have got to have a nest egg. A friend once told me that the key to piece of mind lies in the ability to know that no matter what happens you always have a little something to fall back on!

I hope that these tips find you already well on your way to your dreams!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

4/4/98

"Tough times never last, but tough people do!" -- Robert Schuller

"Every person is a gold mine; most of us just don't take the time to dig." -- Unknown

"Never look behind you, something may be gaining on you." -- Satchel Paige

"Never, --- Never, --- Never, --- Never give up." -- Winston Churchill

"One man with courage makes a majority." -- Andrew Jackson

"There are plenty of rules pertaining to success, but none of them work unless you do." -- Unknown

Daily Commentary

Make your word your bond! -- The surest way to the top is by standing by the commitments you make to others. Our lives can take many turns but this aspect of your character can never be undone by anyone but yourself!

If you can be known as having this trait you will see that many opportunities will beat a path to your doorway!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

4/6/98

"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success." -- Henry Ford

"With every rising of the sun, Think of your life as just begun." – Ella Wheeler Wilcox

"Bad luck is born of poor planning and missed opportunities." -- Unknown

"I do the very best I know how - the very best I can; and I mean to keep doing so until the end." -- Abraham Lincoln

"Undertake something that is difficult; it will do you good. Unless you try to do something beyond what you have already mastered, you will never grow." -- Ronald Osborn

Daily Commentary

When you do a thing know that success is within your grasp! All too often we are our own worst enemies. The bottom line is you were made for success!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

4/8/98

Special Note: It has come to my attention that a dear member of this list's community is faced with one of life's biggest challenges. I Hope that each of

you will do as I am and keep Gail and her family in your thoughts and prayers...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

"Procrastination -- is the thief of time." -- Young

"I find the greatest thing in the world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving." -- Oliver Wendell Holmes

"Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time, for that's the stuff life is made of." -- Benjamin Franklin

"Do not wait for extraordinary circumstances to do good actions; try to use ordinary situations." -- Jean Paul Richter

"The greatest pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do." -- Walter Bagehot

Daily Commentary

In each of our lives for whatever reason there are times that we are faced with things that just don't make sense to us. And the more we struggle to understand our hardships the less any of it makes sense.

I have found that in every challenge and obstacle that we are faced with their *can* be good that can come from it! While its almost never easy to identify I assure you that it is there lying dormant just waiting for us to release it!. I urge everyone to spend your days looking for positives in your life...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

4/9/98

"Success isn't something you chase. It's something you have to put forth the effort for constantly. Then maybe it'll come when you least expect it. Most people don't understand that." -- Michael Jordan (NBA Basketball Star)

"You must build your success on the success of others!" -- J.Paul Getty

"Play the smiling game in your daily life. See how many people you can get to smile back at you. Keep score and tally the results at the end of each day." -- Josh S. Hinds

"Set your sights on the highest peak and it shall be the mountain you climb."
-- Unknown

"When the one great scorer comes to write against your name, he marks not that you won or lost, but how you played the game." -- Grantland Rice

Daily Commentary

In our busy lives it is far too easy to get caught up in the day to day. All our faults can easily get magnified in our own eyes.

Friends do as I try to do and step back, look at yourself in the mirror. If you really focus on yourself you can see that you truly are an amazing person! Think about it for a minute, of all the living things that we share this earth with, only we have the unique ability to rise above our current environment! For instance, if I am a farm animal or a wild animal in the jungle I can't very well do anything to get myself into a better situation can I? However, as living breathing human beings we can not only live fuller, richer lives, we also have the **unique** opportunity to lift those around us up as well!

Friends, if you don't like the path that your life is taking, believe it or not you **can** change it! I am not going to try to tell you that it will be easy. I don't believe that would be fair to you or me. What I will say is that many before you have chosen to take charge of their lives and careers rather than letting life lead them.

I hope that you would adopt this attitude, as I have found it to be **extremely** helpful in my never ending pursuit of success. When you read, watch TV, or hear about someone who has done something extraordinary, don't view them in awe and say to yourself "aren't they lucky?". Because friends there is absolutely no difference between you and that person. The difference can be summed up in one word "Action"! They saw their opportunity and they went for it. You can have the same achievements. It will take persistence and a **strong** will to succeed, but you can do it!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

4/10/98

"Let every man or woman here, if you never hear me again, remember this, that if you wish to be great at all, you must begin where you are and with what you are. He who would be great anywhere must first be great in his own Philadelphia." -- Russel H. Conwell

"I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving: To reach the port of heaven, we must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it, but we must sail, and not drift, nor lie at anchor." -- Oliver Wendell Holmes

"You cannot do a kindness too soon because you never know how soon it will be too late." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Life is not a 'brief candle'. It is a splendid torch that I want to make burn as brightly as possible before handing on to future generations." -- George Bernard Shaw

"Dream as if you'll live forever...live as if you'll die today." -- James Dean

Daily Commentary

Be a friend to all! -- This is something that I try to practice every day. In my opinion it is one of the most rewarding things we can achieve in our lives.

Friends it takes a lot of work to be viewed in this light by others, but I assure you that you will find nothing more rewarding. You will find that when you are viewed in this light by your peers that more opportunities will come your way.

People will be naturally more attracted to you as a person. And far more importantly you will feel better about yourself as a whole. I promise it won't be easy, at times you might even feel as though your going against the grain. However, if you can resist the temptation to speak ill of another you will gain the respect and admiration of those around you. While this might not be a magic key to success, surely it was one of its ingredients! May you find success in all your efforts...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

4/13/98

Take time-out 1/2 way through your day to ask "what have I done today?" Then act on your thoughts! Chances are if it was enough for you to ponder it, success is not far behind! -- Josh S. Hinds

"Picture in your mind a sense of personal destiny." -- Wayne Oates

"A minute's success pays the failure of the years." -- Browning

"Be not solitary, be not idle." -- Robert Burton

"Never let hope elude you; that is life's greatest fumble." -- Unknown

Daily Commentary

I have always believed that an idea will never be revealed to us that we aren't capable of achieving! Don't get me wrong I am not saying that just because we have an idea we will be guaranteed instant success. To think this would be a bit foolish on my part.

What I do believe however is that with the right amount of planning and persistence we can certainly achieve more than we might think we can!

Friends there is only one guaranty in life, that is nothing ventured, nothing gained!

The fact is if you think you can, then you are probably already half way towards your own success!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds (ICQ # 2940261)

4/14/98

"To handle yourself, use your head; to handle others, use your heart." -- Unknown

"If you cannot do GREAT THINGS; do small things in a GREAT WAY." -- J. F. Clarke

"You can't expect a man to see eye to eye with you when you're looking down on him." -- Unknown

"Life is a grindstone. But whether it grinds us down or polishes us up depends on us." -- L. Thomas Holdcraft

"Two men look out through the same bars; one sees the mud and one the stars." -- Frederick Langbridge

Daily Commentary

Friends, life has but one certainty, that is that it will be *full* of change! While it's true that we can't do anything to stop the changes, we can do something far better!

We can learn to grab hold of these changes. It is through our willingness to embrace this change that many opportunities will be revealed to us. Good, bad, or indifferent each of life's challenges give us a new door to a new and wonderful experience. I hope that you will do as I try to do and learn to embrace your ever evolving life...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

4/15/98

"If the power to do hard work is not talent, it is the best possible substitute for it. Ambition by itself never gets anywhere until it forms a partnership with work." -- James Garfield

"It's true that the willing horse gets the heaviest load. It is also true that he develops the strongest muscles and gets the most corn." -- Unknown

"Think not on yesterday, nor trouble borrow On what may be in store for you tomorrow, But let today be your incessant care-- The past is past,

tomorrow's in the air. Who gives today the best that in him lies Will find the road that leads to clearer skies." -- John K. Bangs

"Rather than climb over the fence into greener pastures, why not just water the grass on your side?" -- Unknown

"Great minds must be ready not only to take opportunities, but to make them." -- Colton

Daily Commentary

Whether or not we like to admit it sometimes we just don't feel very upbeat! The cause of our feelings are not near as important as us realizing that we can do something to combat these feelings. I am not going to promise you a end all for depression here, I think we have all heard that one before.

What I will say is that we can take several steps to actually reprogram ourselves with a more upbeat attitude. How you ask? Everyone of you will have to find out what works best for you, but hopefully my examples will lead you to this self discovery.

First I identify what the cause of the problem is, I don't dwell on it because this is onlh1h32w-11(k) (c)-14e nonTto0(le)-16(-11(a)-11(tY)16(-1w)-10(e)-16(-10(e))-16(4 t pe11ap-061sT.00.0(c-11(w)-(o)elw)-n(11()-15(oa(-16(o1741b)-1-1Jsw sseg911(a)-1eeso

If I had one bit of advice to share it would be a saying that my dad used to instill in my mind on almost a daily basis. He would say "Josh, life will offer you so many opportunities, but you have to be willing to be aware of them".

Friends, I promise in the next few months there will be many trials and tribulations to face. Some of you might be going straight into a new job that has been waiting on you, and there will be others that feel that the job outlook might seem hopeless at times. No matter what category you fall into now please remember that it is **only** now, and the now has very little to do with tomorrow!

Also, please know that should any of you need **any** advice, etc. that I am here should you need me. So without further ado make your mark on this world! I have no doubt that I will hear of you doing **many** amazing things in your lives. Please keep me posted...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/7/98

"Half of your life may be spent trying to find something to do with the time you rushed through life trying to save." -- Will Rogers

"As long as a person has hope and is accessible to reason there is little to worry about." -- Unknown

"Motivation is what gets you started. Habit is what keeps you going." -- Jim Rayn

"A book that is shut is but a block." -- Thomas Fuller

"I had six honest serving men. They taught me all that I knew: Their names were; where and what, when and why, and how and who." -- Kipling

Daily Commentary

I have always tried to hold true to the idea that **nothing** will ever be revealed to me that I am not capable of achieving! That is that if an idea comes to me I realize that while it may not be an easy thing I know that I am capable of following it through towards success in it!

I hope that each of you will foster this attitude as well. I have no doubt that this belief alone will go very far towards your own personal successes...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/8/98

"Seekers look into the crises that most people shun, because from hurt or failure or disaster, one can seize the deepest truth." -- Deepak Chopra

"As you believe, so you become. As you become, so you believe." – Author Unknown

"The foolish man seeks happiness in the distance; The wise grows it under his feet." -- James Oppenheim

"For those that have the courage to believe and the strength to run their own race victory is certain!" -- Gertrude Johnson

"The shortest answer is doing." -- George Herbert

Daily Commentary

People often ask me "Josh, how do you find the time or energy with which you pursue your ventures?" Well, friends I have to tell you that there simply is **no** hidden secret!

Trust me I am just like everyone else, there are certain things that I **have** to do that I do just as slowly (if not more so...lol) than anyone. However, I have found that when I stick to my plan of 'focusing my energies on things that interest me' my overall productiveness goes up!

I am not saying that pursuing these things means that I do not have to put ample time into them. Rather I am saying that because I am able to achieve hyper focus on these things that I don't notice the large amount of time it takes.

Friends I can not express to you enough how much more full-filling your lives will be if you can at least dedicate some time to those things that are of most interest to you...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/9/98

"Better to do a little well than a great deal badly." -- Curlye

"Speak not but what may benefit others or yourself." -- Ben Franklin

"The greater the difficulty, the greater the glory." -- Cicero

"You must believe to achieve." -- Unknown

Daily Commentary

When someone does something worth mentioning be sure to recognize them for their efforts! I have found that little goes as far as building those up

around us. In doing this you will notice that you yourself are built-up in the process...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/10/98

"Choose the life that is most useful, and habit will make it the most agreeable." -- Francis Bacon

"The most basic of all human needs is the need to understand and be understood." -- Ralph Nichols

"The best way to persuade people is with your ears — by listening to them." -- Dean Rusk

"Instead of listening to that is being said to them, many managers are already listening to what they are going to say." -- Unknown

"The key to success is to get out into the store and listen to what the associates have to say. It's terribly important for everyone to get involved. Our best ideas come from clerks and stockboys." -- Sam Walton

Daily Commentary

Each of us has a deep need within us to actually be *listened* to rather than just heard. I am sure that upon reflection each of us could at least identify with at least one situation in our lives where we could identify with the quotes above.

I would urge everyone to do as I try so hard to do to go beyond simply hearing what the other person has to say and instead ponder it and give it some serious thought. In doing this I am sure that you will find many opportunities revealed to you each day!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/11/98

"You have to expect things of yourself before you can do them." – Michael Jordan

"Most games are lost, not won." -- Casey Stengel

"When you face a fork in the road, step on the exhilarator!" -- Pat Riley

"Ain't no chance if you don't take it." -- Guy Clark

"The principle is competing against yourself. It's about self-improvement, about being better than you were the day before." -- Steve Young

Daily Commentary

In our daily lives it is so easy for us to get down on ourselves about not being quite where we want to be. I know at times it is particularly hard for me, you see I am constantly trying to compare myself to my father who was already quite successful at my age (see <http://www.onlineconsulting.com/dad.htm> for his story).

Friends I have to remind myself almost everyday that no matter how hard I might try to mimic his success I will be unable to achieve it. What I mean by this is that instead I need to be taking the time to focus on my own life as well as the things that I have been fortunate enough to have been blessed with.

It is in this mind set that we will be able to find that inner peace that we all long for in our daily lives...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/12/98

"There is no such thing as a 'self-made' man. We are made up of thousands of others. Everyone who has ever done a kind deed for us, or spoken one word of encouragement to us, has entered into the make-up of our character and of our thoughts, as well as our success." -- George Adams

"There is nothing impossible to him who will try." -- Alexander the Great

"Eighty percent of success is showing up." -- Woody Allen

"There is no agony like bearing an untold story inside of you." -- Maya Angelou

"All endeavor calls for the ability to tramp the last mile, shape the last plan, endure the last hours toil. The fight to the finish spirit is the one characteristic we must possess if we are to face the future as finishers." -- Unknown

Daily Commentary

One success in our lives doesn't make us a successful person anymore than one failure makes us failures! It is in this thought that we can find the comfort of knowing that no matter how many chances it takes us to achieve our dreams so long as we can exert enough persistence we will see success in our lives!

Friends each new day will give us the chance to put yesterday behind us and move forward towards new goals!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/13/98

"Don't be afraid of the space between your dreams and reality. If you can dream it, you can make it so." -- Belva Davis

"By forgetting the past and by throwing myself into other interests, I forget to worry." -- Jack Dempsey

"Only passions, great passions can elevate the soul to great things." -- Denis Diderot

"Action may not always bring happiness, but there is no happiness without action." -- Benjamin Disraeli

"If we all did the things we are capable of doing, we would literally astound ourselves." -- Thomas A. Edison

Daily Commentary

One of the easiest roads to success is in doing that which you would do anyway! When I first heard this I used to ponder it deeply. Now I see proof of this everyday. You see this is the exact way I started "The Motivational Mecca!"

I started it simply because I am a strong believer in motivational thinking. When I began it was simply as a way to share the best sites with motivational content. Now it has grown to so much more! It has grown into a wonderful community of like minded friends. It has truly been a blessing to me. In the last year we have seen the site add a chat room, and a On-line Motivational bookstore!

Soon we will be expanding to include a section that features motivational short stories and poems. What makes me most excited is that soon we will be doing a weekly interview with selected motivational speakers and other successful people from various walks of life.

Friends the most amazing thing about this all is that it has all happened because I would continue to do this even if it had never grown! I would do it because this is what I love...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/14/98

"How do you go from where you are to where you want to be? I think you have to have an enthusiasm for life. You have to have a dream, a goal, and you have to be willing to work for it." -- Jim Valvano

"One may walk over the highest mountain - one step at a time." – John Wanamaker

"Life is not a problem to be solved, nor a question to be answered. Life is a mystery to be experienced." -- Alan Watts

"There is no chance, no destiny, no fate that can circumvent or hinder or control the firm resolve of a determined soul." -- Ella Wilcox

Daily Commentary

Hardly a day goes by that most of us don't hear the saying "study your failures so that we don't make the same mistake twice".

While I don't dispute that this is a *wonderful* piece of advice what I find interesting is that there's a saying that is equally as important, yet is seldom heard. That is the idea of taking the time to pat ourselves on the back for a job well done!

I am not suggesting that we should do this in public. That behavior is obviously a no, no. However, I am a strong believer in that we *should* take a private moment to ponder our successes, explore the event and the steps we took that lead to the achievement. I have found that it is when we recognize our individual successes that we build the needed momentum that will drive us towards our next goal!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/15/98

"I worked for a menial's hire, Only to learn, dismayed, That any wage I had asked of Life, Life would have gladly paid." -- Jessie Rittenhouse

"Your expected gains from any learning experience are directly proportionate to what you put into it." -- John Roger & Peter McWilliams

"Life was meant to be lived and curiosity must be kept alive. One must never, for whatever reason, turn his back on life." -- Eleanor Roosevelt

"If it fails, admit it frankly and try another. But above all, try something." -- Franklin D. Roosevelt

Daily Commentary

Each day I receive lots of wonderful letters from my on-line friends, for which I am very thankful. I always try my best to reply as quickly as possible.

What I have found is that some folks are surprised to hear back from me. As such I just wanted to take the time to re-iterate to everyone that while I do stay busy *each* and everyone of you are my TOP priority! You see without all of you my days wouldn't be half what they are now.

If you would like you may real time chat with me anytime you would like! My ICQ # is 2940261. ICQ is FREE and available for download at <http://www.mirabilis.com>...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/17/98

"If there be anything that can be called genius, it consists chiefly in ability to give that attention to a subject which keeps it steadily in the mind, till we have surveyed it accurately on all sides." -- Reid

"In the human heart new passions are forever being born; the overthrow of one almost always means the rise of another." -- La Rochefoucauld

"Never be satisfied because improvement is always possible!" -- John Roger & Peter McWilliams

"No one can make you feel inferior without your consent." -- Eleanor Roosevelt

Daily Commentary

Take time to recuperate! If there is one thing I would encourage you to do it would be to at least take one day a week to invest in your own sanity! Friends, those who know me best might say "Josh isn't that calling the kettle black?" The reason is that I have been known to burn *many* a midnight oil working on project after project.

However, recently I have come to realize that I simply have to give myself a little time to recover from the previous week! You see while we may not believe it our bodies simply aren't made to run 90 to nothing! I have actually found that after my recoup day I am able to come back much more revived and ready to face the challenges of tomorrow much better!

Friends I encourage you to give yourselves a little time to do the same! In doing so I am sure that you will see your overall productivity skyrocket!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/18/98

"Only passions, great passions can elevate the soul to great things." -- Denis Diderot

"If you don't like the way the world is, you change it. You have an obligation to change it. You just do it one step at a time." – Marian Wright Edelman

"Don't be too timid and squeamish about your actions. All life is an experiment." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

"First say to yourself what you would be; and then do what you have to do."
-- Epictetus

Daily Commentary

When looking to pursue a new venture be sure to ask the advice of those who have already succeeded in a similar venture.

We all have that need to have those that are closest to us to approve of what we want to achieve. However, the sad fact in many cases is that most folks just won't see things our way!

In many cases it isn't that they don't want us to succeed, rather it is just that they are basing their advice on their own inability to dream goals as big as our own!

Please don't get me wrong I am not saying that you should alienate these folks. Instead let your successes be a witness to them that with the right amount of planning and persistence they too can achieve their goals!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/20/98

"There is nothing impossible to him who will try." -- Alexander the Great

"The grand essentials to happiness in this life are something to do, something to love, and something to hope for." -- Joseph Addison

"The greatest potential for controlling the ends is to exist at the point where action takes place." -- Louis A. Allen

"Babe Ruth had 714 home runs, but struck out 1330 times." -- Unknown

"If you get up one time more than you fall, you will make it through." -- Unknown

Daily Commentary

If something is worth doing, I have found that it is best if I take the time to plan for such success! We actually have the ability to encourage our chances

of success in our daily lives by taking the time to plan for our goals and more importantly working our plan each day!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/22/98

"Play the smiling game in your daily life. See how many people you can get to smile back at you. Keep score and tally the results at the end of each day." -- Josh S. Hinds

"I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more luck I have." -- Thomas Jefferson

"Show class, have pride, and display character. If you do, winning takes care of itself." -- Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant

Daily Commentary

Tell those that are closest to you that they are appreciated! Friends, with nothing to lose and *everything* to gain why is it that this is so often overlooked? Have a wonderful day!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/23/98

"Life is a do-it yourself kit!" -- Phyllis Diller

"You don't get to choose how you're going to die or when. You can only decide how you're going to live." -- Joan Baez

"Ideas won't keep; something must be done about them." -- Alfred North Whitehead

"Imagination is the highest kite one can fly." -- Lauren Bacall

Daily Commentary

There is great personal power in developing our own humility! The fact is that *no* one likes someone who is too self absorbed with themselves. All too often as we climb our own personal ladders of success we can easily lose our sense of humility. Be careful to keep a constant hold of this and be sure not to lose it!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/25/98

"Natural abilities are like natural plants; they need pruning by study." -- Francis Bacon

"Knowing what you can not do is more important than knowing what you can do. In fact, that's good taste." -- Lucille Ball (Actress, Producer)

"The king is the man who can." -- Thomas Carlyle

"My great hope is to laugh as much as I cry; to get my work done and try to love somebody and have the courage to accept the love in return." – Maya Angelou (Poet, Writer, Performer)

"Hope is a waking dream." -- Aristotle (Philosopher)

Daily Commentary

Take the time to explore your ideas! Whether we realize it or not each day we are all blessed with many wonderful ideas. What happens all too often is that we just disregard them as a passing thought. Friends I challenge you to take these ideas a step further. Take a second to write them down and when you get a free minute explore each of these ideas a bit further.

I am sure that it is in one of these ideas that you will find your next great success!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/26/98

"You are the only person on earth who can use your ability." -- Zig Ziglar (Sales Trainer, Author, Motivational Speaker)

"Sometimes adversity is what you need to face in order to become successful." -- Zig Ziglar (Sales Trainer, Author, Motivational Speaker)

"Children's talent to endure stems from their ignorance of alternatives." -- Maya Angelou (Poet, Writer, Performer)

"We may encounter many defeats but we must not be defeated." – Maya Angelou (Poet, Writer, Performer)

"If anything goes bad, I did it. If anything goes semi-good, then we did it. If anything goes real good, then you did it. That's all it takes to get people to win football games." -- Bear Bryant (Champion College Football Coach)

Daily Commentary

Treat each day as another step towards new goals and new experiences! Friends I would urge you each day to try and be aware of all the things that are happening around you.

While it is easy for us to get caught up in our daily problems. I can assure you that if you can stay focused on the positives (you may have to look hard, but they are there I promise :-)) you will be able to increase the overall quality of your day.

Friends, believe it or not motivational material has the ability to program us with positive feelings in the same way that bad ones can...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/27/98

"God made man to go by motives, and he will not go without them, any more than a boat without steam or a balloon without gas." -- Henry Ward Beecher (Preacher, Orator, Writer)

"Life takes on meaning when you become motivated, set goals and charge after them in an unstoppable manner." -- Les Brown (Speaker, Author, Trainer, Motivator Lecturer)

"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around." -- Leo Buscaglia (Expert on Love, Lecturer, Author)

"What comes from the heart, goes to the heart." -- Samuel Taylor Coleridge (Poet, Critic, Philosopher)

"The will to do springs from the knowledge that we can do." -- James Allen (Essayist, Author of "As a Man Thinketh")

"It doesn't matter how many say it cannot be done or how many people have tried it before; it's important to realize that whatever you're doing, it's your first attempt at it." -- Wally Amos (Businessman Founder, Famous Amos Cookies)

"Confronted with the impossibility of remaining faithful to one's beliefs, and the equal impossibility of becoming free of them, one can be driven to the most inhuman excesses." -- James Baldwin (Author)

Daily Commentary

In today's list I tried to give everyone a few more quotes than usual. The main reason is that many of you have told me that you are archiving the quotes. I think that this is a wonderful idea! I myself keep many on file so if any of you happen to be looking for just that right dose of inspiration I will be glad to oblige you!.

The above leads me into the importance of introducing daily inspiration into your life on a daily basis. In doing this I have found that it really helps me to add a nice balance into my routine. May you find success in every corner of your life!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/28/98

"The minute you settle for less than you deserve, you get even less than you settled for." -- Maureen Dowd

"Once we accept our limits, we go beyond them." -- Brendan Francis

"You can tell more about a person by what he says about others than you can by what others say about him." -- Leo Aikman

"Are you in earnest? Seize this very minute! Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it. Only engage, and then the mind grows heated. Begin, and then the work will be completed." -- John Anster

Daily Commentary

One of the most powerful things I have been able to do is to develop my network on a daily basis. What's a network you ask? Simply put it is everyone you have come into contact with.

I have found that so many new opportunities come my way by simply developing my internal network. While each of us has somewhat of a network already it is possible to actually harvest your network. How you ask? The simplest thing I can suggest is to think beyond your own motives when developing your network.

For instance, the next time a friend asks you for a favor or tells you about an opportunity they heard about rather than simply thinking it's not something that you're interested in, think about your network and see if it might be something that's of interest to someone you know. In doing this you will be growing your network far and wide, and in doing this success is never far behind!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

5/29/98

"Very few people are ambitious in the sense of having a specific image of what they want to achieve. Most people's sights are only toward the next run, the next increment of money." -- Judith M. Bardwick (Academic)

"'Tis not what man does which exalts him, but what man Would do!" -- Robert Browning (Poet)

"The slave has but one master, the ambitious man has as many as there are persons whose aid may contribute to the advancement of his fortunes." -- Jean De La Bruyère (Classical Writer)

"Ambition can creep as well as soar." -- Edmund Burke (Political Writer, Statesman)

Daily Commentary

I once heard a saying "When you do a thing act as though the whole world were watching!" I must admit at first it seemed a bit strange; however upon further reflection I have come to realize that with every decision we make, and turn we take in our lives tends to come a situation that happens as a result of the past.

Think about it, how many times have you met someone only to find that your paths cross at a later date? If you're like most of us its more than you care to count...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/1/98

"For the things we have to learn before we can do them, we learn by doing them." -- Aristotle (Philosopher)

"Dig within. Within is the wellspring of Good; and it is always ready to bubble up, if you just dig." -- Marcus Aurelius (Roman Emperor, Philosopher)

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started." -- Sally Berger

"Never forget that life can only be nobly inspired and rightly lived if you take it bravely and gallantly, as a splendid adventure in which you are setting out into an unknown country, to meet many a joy, to find many a comrade, to win and lose many a battle." -- Annie Besant (Theosophist)

Daily Commentary

Well by now I am sure that you have figured out that today's commentary is going to deal with "Action". Friends I find most often that one word tends to be the most common missing ingredient in peoples (and my own :-)) lack of success.

When I was first introduced to the world of business (in my fathers business) at the age of 16 I learned very quickly the power of action! You see like most small businesses our success (or lack there of) depended solely on our ability to lay a plan into action and put it into place as rapidly as possible.

Recently I have found that these valuable skills are serving me well in my most recent venture. You see we took the time to make a plan, but we also made it a *special* point to add a time frame to the plan! This is a common missing ingredient I have found.

You see by including a time frame we were able to better interject "action" into the goals of the venture. Its important to note that while I really had no way for sure of knowing whether the venture would be successful or not I did know that if "action" wasn't taken then it certainly wouldn't succeed!.

I am happy to report that in the last three days we have exceeded out projected goal. Friends the key here is that we chose to plan , but not plan ourselves out of action! The bottom line is that no matter how much you plan your goal you'll have to leave room for it to change as its needed!

And above all else, once you get that basic plan laid down your next step has got to be to just get started!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/2/98

"I have always felt that although someone may defeat me, and I strike out in a ball game, the pitcher on the particular day was the best player. But I know when I see him again, I'm going to be ready for his curve ball. Failure is a part of success. There is no such thing as a bed of roses all your life. But failure will never stand in the way of success if you learn from it." -- Hank Aaron (Baseball Player)

"You have to be able to center yourself, to let all of your emotions go... Don't ever forget that you play with your soul as well as your body." -- Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (Basketball Player)

"Thoughts are things; they have tremendous power. Thoughts of doubt and fear are pathways to failure. When you conquer negative attitudes of doubt and fear you conquer failure. Thoughts crystallize into habit and habit solidifies into circumstances." -- Bryan Adams (Musician, Singer, Songwriter)

"Blessed is the person who is too busy to worry in the daytime, and too sleepy to worry at night." -- Leo Aikman

Daily Commentary

When you go to sleep each night take time to remind yourself that all that happened today is in the past! Don't dwell on the days failures or allow yourself to become stagnant by living on yesterdays successes.

Simply review them both and take the best from them and let it lead you towards the new successes of tomorrow!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/3/98

"Losing doesn't eat at me the way it used to. I just get ready for the next play, the next game, the next season." -- Troy Aikman (Professional Football Player)

"Constant repetition carries conviction." -- Robert Collier (Writer & Publisher)

"Any thought that is passed on to the subconscious often enough and convincingly enough is finally accepted." -- Robert Collier (Writer & Publisher)

"As long as you know what it is you desire, then by simply affirming that it is yours -- firmly and positively, with no ifs, buts, or maybes -- over and over again, from the minute you arise in the morning until the time you go to sleep at night, and as many times during the day as your work or activities permit, you will be drawn to those people, places, and events that will bring your desires to you." -- Scott Reed

Daily Commentary

Keep your eyes open to new opportunity! Whether or not we realize it each day affords us a new chance to take steps towards our own success.

All too often what happens is that we aren't aware of the fact that new possibilities are being continuously introduced to us. I have found that by making a quick note of that passing thought I am able to review these ideas at a later point (particularly that night).

In doing this I can sort through them and implement the ones that I want to incorporate into my daily action plan...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/4/98

"The extent of your consciousness is limited only by your ability to love and to embrace with your love the space around you, and all it contains" -- Ken Carey

"Natural ability without education has more often raised a man to glory and virtue than education without natural ability." -- Marcus T. Cicero (Great Roman Orator, Politician)

"The first requisite for success is the ability to apply your physical and mental energies to one problem incessantly without growing weary." -- Thomas A. Edison (Inventor, Entrepreneur, Founder of GE)

Daily Commentary

Embrace Failure! -- Recently I was reading an issue of "Fast Company" (I enjoy these types of magazines because they tend to highlight those that have achieved various successes in their lives) and I ran across an article about the J. Peterman Co. What caught my eye was that Mr. Peterman the founder called "Failure his best teacher".

What I found fascinating was that he said that when he was raising capital to start the J. Peterman Co. the venture capitalists he talked with all wanted to know one common question, "had he ever failed at anything"!

You see these folks who make a living at picking the best companies didn't see failure as a weakness, instead they reasoned that anyone who hadn't previously come back from a down time probably didn't have what it takes to build a successful business. Now I have to tell you that really sent me doing some research, and sure enough if you check around you will be hard pressed to find someone who has found success on that first try! Instead what you're sure to find lots of folks who just wouldn't take *no* for an answer.

Lets look at this outside of the realm of business for a second. Take for example the game of baseball. It is a fact that most major league home run hitters strike out many more times than they get hits, but when they get that hit it more than makes up for their low hit ratio. The fact is that each of us have so much more ability than we can even fathom!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/5/98

"Every person is responsible for all the good within the scope of his abilities, and for no more, and none can tell whose sphere is the largest." -- Gail Hamilton (Writer, Humorist)

"I won't accept anything less than the best a player's capable of doing... and he has the right to expect the best that I can do for him and the team!" -- Lou Holtz (Football Coach)

"It is a fine thing to have ability, but the ability to discover ability in others is the true test." -- Elbert Hubbard (Author, Publisher)

"The Creator has not given you a longing to do that which you have no ability to do." -- Orison Swett Marden (Author, Founder of Success Magazine)

Daily Commentary

I am convinced that one of the finest qualities a person can develop is the ability to recognize promise in those around them. Upon reading about those rarest of individuals one is hard pressed to get to the root and find that they aren't also strong motivators of others.

You see friends, the truest way to find personal success is to lead others along with you on your journey!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/6/98

"You must begin to think of yourself as becoming the person you want to be." -- David Viscott (Author, Speaker, Trainer)

"Only one thing registers on the subconscious mind: repetitive application -- practice. What you practice is what you manifest." -- Grace Speare

"As long as you know what it is you desire, then by simply affirming that it is yours -- firmly and positively, with no ifs, buts, or maybes -- over and over again, from the minute you arise in the morning until the time you go to sleep at night, and as many times during the day as your work or activities permit, you will be drawn to those people, places, and events that will bring your desires to you." -- Scott Reed

"First say to yourself what you would be; and then do what you have to do." -- Epictetus (Philosopher)

Daily Commentary

There are very few people that would disagree with the power that our subconscious mind can play in leading us to achievements.

However, I find it amazing that many of us don't use daily affirmations to program our subconscious. That's right friends, by continually introducing our goals and desires into our mind it is possible to actually program yourself for that achievement!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/8/98

"It takes 20 years to build a reputation and five minutes to ruin it. If you think about that, you'll do things differently." -- Warren Buffett (Investment Entrepreneur)

"I'd like people to think of me as someone who cares about them." --
Princess of Wales Diana

"You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do." -- Henry Ford
(Industrialist, Founder of Ford Motor Company)

"A reputation once broken may possibly be repaired, but the world will
always keep their eyes on the spot where the crack was." -- Joseph Hall
(Clergyman, Writer)

Daily Commentary

While our lives can be turned upside down at the drop of a dime I find
comfort in knowing that no matter what my reputation and name sake is
always in my own control!

Friends it's a fact that many different things can and will happen to change
our lives, many of them are even out of our control. However, no matter
what happens always do your best to be viewed as someone who's word is
your bond and you will *always* have that to fall back on!...Your friend in
cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/9/98

"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth." --
Muhammad Ali

"Be careful what you set your heart upon - for it will surely be yours." --
James Baldwin

"Nothing is built on stone; all is built on sand, but we must build as if the
sand were stone. - Jorge Luis Borges

"You tell me, and I forget. You teach me, and I remember. You involve me,
and I learn." -- Benjamin Franklin

Daily Commentary

One of the most profound things I have been fortunate enough to learn so
far is that "Success truly lies in our ability to give freely of ourselves!". As a
testament to this I must site this very list.

You see when I started it I had only one goal in mind, to share the same
motivational thinking that had been shared with me before. As the day's
passed so the list has grown. In a nutshell our growth is a simple result of
sharing the power of motivational thinking.

It is truly something that I believe strongly in, I can honestly say that even had the list and site had not grown a bit I would still continue to do it. Friends, find the things that you would do anyway and success is sure to follow!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/10/98

"There are some people who live in a dream world, and there are some who face reality; and then there are those who turn one into the other." -- Douglas Everett

"It is a fine thing to have ability, but the ability to discover ability in others is the true test." -- Elbert Hubbard (Author, Publisher)

"Accept everything about yourself -- I mean everything, You are you and that is the beginning and the end -- no apologies, no regrets." -- Clark Moustakas (Humanistic Psychologist)

"We must accept life for what it actually is -- a challenge to our quality without which we should never know of what stuff we are made, or grow to our full stature." -- Ida R. Wylie

Daily Commentary

Remind yourself each day that you are both unique and one of a Kind! Whether or not we realize it we are *all* built for a particular success!

So many of us don't take the time to search out what our talents are. Friends each day be aware of your ideas! For these are the stepping stones of your personal successes!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/11/98

"Are you in earnest? Seize this very minute! Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it. Only engage, and then the mind grows heated. Begin, and then the work will be completed." -- John Anster

"There's no substitute for guts." -- Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant (University of Alabama Football Coach)

"It's not the will to win, but the will to prepare to win that makes the difference." -- Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant (University of Alabama Football Coach)

"I worked very hard. I felt I could play the game. The only thing that could stop me was myself." -- Jim Abbott (Pro Baseball Player)

Daily Commentary

Sometimes we all underestimate our own abilities. Friends remind yourself each day that you are 100% capable of achieving what you set your mind too!

Our dreams will almost never come easy, yet I think you would be hard pressed to find a situation where someone didn't accomplish their goals after applying that right amount of persistence to the tasks at hand! May success find you in every aspect of your life...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/12/98

"Learn to adjust yourself to the conditions you have to endure, but make a point of trying to alter or correct conditions so that they are most favorable to you." -- William Frederick Book

"In life, as in chess, forethought wins." -- Charles Buxton (Author)

"The two big advantages I had at birth were to have been born wise and to have been born in poverty." -- Sophia Loren (Film Actress)

"Motivation is the art of getting people to do what you want them to do because they want to do it." -- Dwight D. Eisenhower (Thirty-fourth President of the USA)

Daily Commentary

Friends to have goals is simply not enough to guarantee our success! There is a very important ingredient that must be mixed in as well.

Each day we must make a to do list, on it be sure to include at least three things you will need to do to achieve your bigger goals. It's true that Rome wasn't built in a day, and the same holds true with our own dreams.

However, the Romans did have a plan, and rest assured that each day that plan was worked! Needless to say the rest is now history :-) ...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/13/98

"One man can be a crucial ingredient on a team, but one man cannot make a team." -- Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (Pro Basketball Player)

"Circumstances may cause interruptions and delays, but never lose sight of your goal. Prepare yourself in every way you can by increasing your knowledge and adding to your experience, so that you can make the most of opportunity when it occurs." -- Mario Andretti (Auto Racer)

"Give yourself something to work toward -- constantly." -- Mary Kay Ash (Founder of Mary Kay Cosmetics)

"Winning starts with beginning." -- Robert H. Schuller (Minister, Author, Social Leader)

Daily Commentary

Give your goals substance -- Setting goals is wonderful, it confirms that we have taken that first step towards what we desire in our lives. However, we can't stop there!

The next step is for us to actually visualize ourselves reaching our goals. It is in visualization that we can actually program ourselves to reach that which we desire. Friends, its one thing for us to say "I want to get that dream job". And quite another to say "In my dream job I will be in charge of marketing at a growth oriented company".

Do you see the difference that a little visualization can play in making our goals more "concrete" in our minds? To say I want to find my dream job is one thing, but to identify it and imagine myself doing this job creates an energy in me to make it a reality!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/14/98

"You have to "be" before you can "do," and do before you can "have." – Zig Ziglar (Sales Trainer, Author, Motivational Speaker)

"The principle is competing against yourself. It's about self improvement, about being better than you were the day before." -- Steve Young (Pro Football Player)

"The time to relax is when you don't have time for it." -- Sidney J. Harris (Journalist)

Daily Commentary

Many of us spend way to much time absorbed in our work! I have to admit that I am probably the worst in doing this.

However, I am convinced that to *truly* succeed we all have to be able to give ourselves the time to relax a bit and allow the weeks events to soak into our subconscious. In doing this we will all realize that we can return to our tasks much more effective!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/15/98

"If you judge people, you have no time to love them." -- Mother Teresa

"Reach high, for stars lie hidden in your soul. Dream deep, for every dream precedes the goal." -- Unknown

"Friendship with oneself is all important, because without it, one cannot be friends with anyone else in the world." -- Eleanor Roosevelt

"No matter how small, acknowledge the achievement." -- Greg Henry Quinn

Daily Commentary

Combat your "Bad Days" -- That's right believe it or not yours truly admits that he has "bad day's" ☺ Whether or not we want to admit it sometimes we all have those feelings that our situation could be better (for some it's even a feeling of hopelessness).

Friends, there are those who would claim that all we need do is to simply convince ourselves that things aren't so bad! and poof! we will feel magically better :-). I can personally tell you that for some folks its just not that easy :-). However, fortunately I can also say that its *not* hopeless either!

The key is that we must be able to come to grips with the very thing that is the cause of our feelings. This is best done through our taking time to think and meditate on the things that are bothering us. In doing this identify the true root of your feelings.

After doing this be sure to commit it to paper! After doing this I get a much clearer picture of the magnitude of my feelings. As I am sure most of you agree, it is at the very point that we ponder these thoughts that they begin to run wild in our minds.

By narrowing them down to paper we can better tame them and get that *necessary* sense of the true magnitude of them. Upon completing this list we must take a little time identify things that we can do to combat these feelings. For instance today I had a bit of a feeling that I was overburdened by projects that I *needed* to complete.

Upon following the steps outlined above I was able to look at both the first list and then the second list. I can tell you that I found a feeling of comfort

because my second list revealed the steps that I could take to help me reduce the problems that I faced which were right in front of me on my first list...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/16/98

"A kind and compassionate act is often its own reward." -- William J. Bennett

"A ship in a harbor is safe, but that's not what ships are built for." -- Unknown

"Cherish your visions and your dreams, as they are the children of your soul; the blue-prints of your ultimate achievements." -- Napoleon Hill

"One hundred percent of the shots you don't take, don't go in." – Wayne Gretsky

Daily Commentary

Embrace the fact that each of us are built for achievement! In doing this we will be more aware of the opportunities that surround us each day!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/17/98

"You shouldn't criticize: It's an easy habit to acquire and an impossible one to break. It robs your soul of character." -- John Grisham

"Happiness doesn't just happen, we encourage it by the choices we make each day." -- Unknown

"To change your life-- Start immediately, do it flamboyantly, no exceptions." -- William James

"The elevator to the top is out of order; therefore, you must take the stairs, one at a time." – Zig Ziglar

Daily Commentary

Success in anything is almost never done overnight! Which all too often is the very reason that so many of us don't set out to do that which we most desire.

Another common pitfall is that we just lack the belief that we are capable of half of what we really are! Friends, take a journey down memory lane, think

about all the things that you have accomplished over your life and write them out for yourself!

The results will *amaze* you I am sure. Friends we are motivated to achieve in tiny steps! For instance if I wanted to become a long distance runner the worst thing I could do would be to just take off running and expect to break a new record! Instead I would need to work my way towards new goals each day, knowing that each accomplishment will add up and see me through to my overall goal!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/18/98

"If you're proactive, you don't have to wait for circumstances or other people to create perspective expanding experiences. You can consciously create your own." -- Stephen R. Covey (Speaker, Trainer, Author of "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People")

"Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out." -- James B. Conant (Educator, Diplomat)

"Never underestimate your problem or your ability to deal with it." -- Robert H. Schuller

"If you have enough push, you don't have to worry about the pull." – Zig Ziglar (Sales Trainer, Author, Motivational Speaker)

Daily Commentary

For so many of us the main thing standing in the way of our achievements lies in our own self doubt! It is an awesome truth that when we take the time to learn more about ourselves we can better control our own achievements.

There is great strength in knowing your own abilities. The most successful folks use mentors, but you will also notice that they have a strong sense of their own abilities as well.

Friends, anyone who has had success has most certainly known defeat in at least one area of their life. The key is in their own persistence, it is the only thing you need to see you through the doorway of success!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/19/98

"Most people give up just when they're about to achieve success. They quit on the one yard line. They give up at the last minute of the game, one foot from a winning touchdown." -- H. Ross Perot

"To dream anything that you want to dream, that is the beauty of the human mind. To do anything that you want to do, that is the strength of the human will. To trust yourself, to test your limits, that is the courage to succeed." -- Bernard Edmonds

"Scientists have proven that it's impossible to long-jump 30 feet, but I don't listen to that kind of talk. Thoughts like that have a way of sinking into your feet." -- Carl Lewis

"Always do your best. What you plant now, you will harvest later." – Og Mandino

Daily Commentary

Friends our own successes can be directly linked to our ability to positively impact those around us! So many of us look for ways to benefit ourselves first.

I truly believe that a far easier path towards attaining your goals is to develop your individual goals around bettering the lives of those around you! In doing this you will *quickly* realize that many will come to your side and recognize your efforts.

In my own business we have adopted a sense of community. The number one priority is to give a total customer experience! And number two is to give everyone in the organization a chance to better the overall quality of their life!

In this day and age of complex Mission Statements ours is straight and to the point. We care about those that we do business with and we care about those that make up our organization!

Needless to say these simple beliefs have gone farther towards building our company than anything else I could have imagined. Friends, try to adopt this into your life, you will certainly see results in short order! May you find success in every aspect of your life!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/20/98

"We are what we repeatedly do, excellence is therefore not an act but a habit." -- Aristotle

"Reach high, for stars lie hidden in your soul. Dream deep, for every dream precedes the goal." -- Unknown

"We do not understand joy, until we have felt sorrow; faith until we are tested; peace, until we are faced with conflict; trust, until we are betrayed; love until it is lost; hope, until we are faced with doubts." -- Author Unknown

Daily Commentary

Each day is but another chance to do that which we didn't do the day before. Friends it's another chance to try the very ideas that are running rampant in our minds!

At this very moment there is simply *no* better time than to start that journey towards your goals!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/21/98

"Courage is the price that life exacts for granting peace. The soul that knows it not, knows no release from little things; knows not the livid loneliness of fear." -- Amelia Earhart

" I will love the light for it shows me the way, yet I will endure the darkness for it shows me the stars." -- Og Mandino (Author "The Greatest Salesman in the World")

"You see things that are and say "Why?" But I dream things that never were and say "Why not?" -- George Bernard Shaw

"Change is the end result of all true learning. Change involves three things: First, a dissatisfaction with self-a felt void or need; second, a decision to change-to fill the void or need; and third, a conscious dedication to the process of growth and change-the willful act of making the change; Doing Something." -- Leo Buscaglia

Daily Commentary

I used to be notorious for second guessing my own ability to make informed decisions until I ran across an interesting article. It seemed that the writer told of a story where a business person was undergoing the same type situation in their life. They decided to keep a daily log of this. After a month of tracking all her decisions the end results showed that overwhelmingly her initial decisions were for the best!

This points out in my opinion two very interesting things. First, we all have a very unique ability to make the right decisions most of the time. And secondly, even if we make a bad decision there is very little that we can do after the fact! That is look at how much time we are wasting in allowing ourselves to ponder our past decisions.

Take the time to track the choices you make each day. At the end of your evaluation I am sure that you will find out for yourself that you are *more* than qualified to trust your gut!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/22/98

"Making good decisions comes from experience; experience comes from bad decisions." -- Unknown

"If the power to do hard work is not talent, it is the best possible substitute for it. Ambition by itself never gets anywhere until it forms a partnership with work." -- James Garfield

"Hide not your talents; they for use were made. What's a sun-dial in the shade?" -- Ben Franklin

"The only time you mustn't fail is the last time you try." -- Charles F. Kettering

Daily Commentary

Friends, don't try to look for the easy road to success! Because it's almost impossible to find. Instead focus your energies on finding those things that you truly enjoy doing.

Look for the things that you would do even if you didn't get paid for it! You see success in something is not an easy road, it takes time and persistence. However, if you enjoy what you're doing you won't notice as much the long hours it'll take to reach your goals!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/23/98

"We are what we repeatedly do, excellence is therefore not an act but a habit." -- Aristotle

"The greatest good you can do for another is not just to share your riches but to reveal to him/her his/her own." -- Benjamin Disraeli

"Keeping track of our wishes helps us tap into the energy that propels us to go after our happiness." -- Barbara Ann Kipfer

Daily Commentary

Be the change you want to see in your life! When I first heard this statement I must admit it took some time for it to process. It's one of those quotes that seems kind of shallow on the surface :-).

Friends, over time I have come to realize that after all the success stories and quotes that I have read this one quote will be the difference between my success in something. That is I must be willing to take that most awkward of steps and lunge out towards my goals!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/24/98

"I find the greatest thing in the world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving." -- Oliver Wendell Holmes

"He who endures with patience is a conqueror." -- Unknown

"Somewhere in the world there is defeat for everyone. Some are destroyed by defeat, and some made small, and mean by victory. Greatness lives in one who triumphs equally over defeat and victory." -- John Steinbeck

Daily Commentary

When those around you say it can't be done, don't take it personally. All too often it's just their own disbelief in themselves that they are transferring onto your situation. Instead look at the challenge as one in which you can encourage those same folks through watching your successes!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/26/98

"I really don't have a goal to be the greatest coach in the business. I just try to achieve the best with the talent God has given me. If I do that, I'm satisfied." -- Tom Landry (Champion Pro Football coach)

"Too much caution is bad for you. By avoiding things you fear, you may let yourself in for unhappy consequences. It is usually wiser to stand up to a scary-seeming experience and walk right into it, risking the bruises and hard knocks. You are likely to find it is not as tough as you had thought. Or you may find it plenty tough, but also discover you have what it takes to handle it." -- Norman Vincent Peale

"It's not what happens to us that counts, it's how we respond." -- Unknown

Daily Commentary

Each day our motivational community is blessed with new readers, and for that I am **very** thankful. Today I was reminded of how our little community was started and figured that I would recount its undertaking for all of the new readers ☺.

You see friends, I have been a big believer in motivational thinking since I was about 16 years old. Not long after I began my Inspirational reading I became a bit infatuated with the idea of one day being a Motivational Speaker.

Well, the years passed and as time went on I never lost site of that dream. I will admit however that at times the prospect of reaching this goal has seemed a bit daunting. It seemed that the more I researched the idea of breaking into the "Motivational Industry" the harder it seemed. There were numerous requests on my part and it seemed time after time I was met with a resounding **no** (but good luck to you, Josh).

Then the idea hit me that there had to be a way to get my message out myself ☺. Thus "The Inspiration a Day!" was born! You see I figured that if I couldn't make my way into the industry by conventional means that I would simply create my own doorway in.

Friends, I'll be the first to admit that before sending out that first list I was scared to death! Thoughts ran rampant through my mind such as "Who do you think you are to try this when others haven't?" or "What if no one likes what you have to say?".

After spending countless hours re-writing that first list I sent it out! To all two of the folks who had expressed interest! :-)) To say that the first one was awkward would be an understatement! However, I had made my mind up that at least if I fell flat on my face it was better to know then never to have tried!

Well, friends I am happy to report that today we have 804 subscribers getting that very same "Inspiration a Day!" and not a day goes by that I am not able to greet a new member to our motivational community!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/27/98

"You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You are able to say to yourself, 'I lived through this horror. I can take the next thing that comes along'... you must do the thing you think you cannot do." -- Eleanor Roosevelt

"There are two things to aim at in life: First, to get what you want; and after that, to enjoy it. Only the wisest of mankind achieve the second." -- Logan Smith

"Little strokes, fell great oaks." -- Ben Franklin

Daily Commentary

One of the greatest things we can do in our lives is to be an encourager of others. Friends if I had to give credit to one thing that has helped me to find success in my personal life it would be my ability to lift up others.

I truly believe that everything that has come my way has been a direct result of my attempt to help others find their own successes. You see our lives are not simply our own, I really believe that our lives are entwined with all those around us. As such who am I not to help others to reach their goals! May you find success in every corner of your lives...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/28/98

"You don't have to have the lead if you have the courage to come from behind." -- Unknown

"The will to win is not nearly as important as the will to prepare to win." -- Bobby Knight

"Life is a do-it-yourself Kit." -- Phyllis Diller

"How do you go from where you are to where you want to be? I think you have to have an enthusiasm for life. You have to have a dream, a goal, and you have to be willing to work for it." -- Jim Valvano

Daily Commentary

Reaching our goals can be one of the most difficult things that many of us face! The fact is that if it were *easy* there would likely be something else that we would long for in our lives.

For many of us it may take several attempts at various things before we finally reach our elusive goals. However, friends I assure you that more often than most it is the most persistent of people who *always* do reach their dreams!

Please don't be the one to have to look back and ask yourself "had I only tried one more time could it have been done?" Because I assure you that the answer would have been yes!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

6/29/98

"LIFE IS A GRINDSTONE. But whether it grinds us down or polishes us up depends on us." -- L. Thomas Holdcraft

"Two men look out through the same bars; one sees the mud and one the stars." -- Frederick Langbridge

"Dream, but with your eyes open." -- Harry Edwards

"The best thing about the future is that it comes only one day at a time." -- Unknown

6/30/98

"It's your aptitude, not just your attitude that determines your ultimate altitude." -- Zig Ziglar

"I was the kind nobody thought could make it. I had a funny Boston accent. I couldn't pronounce my R's. I wasn't a beauty." -- Barbara Walters (TV Personality)

"If Columbus had turned back, no one would have blamed him. Of course, no one would have remembered him either." -- Unknown

"Disciplining yourself to do what you know is right and importance, although difficult, is the highroad to pride, self-esteem, and personal satisfaction." -- Brian Tracy (Trainer, Speaker, Author, Businessman)

Daily Commentary

Remind yourself each day that you are an **amazing** person! The fact is that you and you alone are responsible for every achievement that is to come your way!

Whatever you do don't ever forget that you are as capable of success as anyone that you might read about or hear about...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/1/98

"When it is a question of God's almighty Spirit, never say, "I can't." -- Oswald Chambers (Scottish Preacher, Author)

"Others have done it before me. I can, too." -- Corporal John Faunce (Soldier)

"It is all one to me if a man comes from Sing Sing Prison or Harvard. We hire a man, not his history." -- Henry Ford (Industrialist, Founder of Ford Motor Company)

"The person born with a talent they are meant to use will find their greatest happiness in using it." -- Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe (Poet, Dramatist, Novelist)

Daily Commentary

Each of us are blessed with a special talent, that is there is something that each of us *can* do a little better than the next person. Unfortunately in most cases these talents aren't always known to us!

Therefore it seems to me that the surest way to make sure that we don't misuse or neglect our gifts is to go after each idea that crosses our minds. This I truly believe is the only way that we can find these hidden talents that lay dormant in all of us...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/2/98

"Adversity has the effect of eliciting talents which in prosperous circumstances would have lain dormant." -- Horace

"We become what we think about." -- Earl Nightengale

"You will recognize your own path when you come upon it, because you will suddenly have all the energy and imagination you will ever need." – Jerry Gillies

"Build a dream and the dream will build you." -- Robert Schuller

Daily Commentary

So many times it isn't until after a major event in our lives takes place that we come to realize that it played such a big part in our life's progress. For me such an event was when I lost a friend whom I had dated for some time.

I cared so much for her and throughout the relationship we had shared so much that when it was over I couldn't make sense of it at first. The question kept running through my mind "why had I spent so much time with this person yet in the end it appears that it was all in vain".

The answer that I came to at that time was so wrong that I simply had to comment on it today! You see, it wasn't in vain at all! Upon reflection I have

come to realize that each of us were going through difficult times in our lives. You see in reality we had both been paired together by a force so much wiser than either of us!

Now I am able to look back and realize all the *good* that came from my time with her. While it wasn't meant to last I do have memories that can never be taken from me. And perhaps best of all that relationship has taught me that there will come a time when I will find someone else that I can regain that feeling for. I have to tell you that it really gets me excited to think that at any minute without so much as a warning it will happen again.

Last but certainly not least I am thankful for the strength that I gained as a result of dealing with the of loss that was associated with the breakup. You see I realize now that relationships just as life is a fragile thing and as such must be handled with kid gloves. Friends, I never stop for a minute now to tell those closest to me that they are appreciated! May you find the one that you are looking for in your life...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/3/98

"The most exhausting thing in life is being insincere." -- Anne Morrow Lindbergh

"Speak not but what may benefit others or yourself." -- Ben Franklin

"You must have long range goals to keep you from being frustrated by short range failures." -- Charles Noble

Daily Commentary

I discuss a lot about playing to your strengths in order to achieve success. Along the same lines I feel it extremely important that we *all* identify the very essence of what it is that really motivates us.

Personally I have always had an interest in business. When I first started out I used to focus on the more superficial side of things. For instance, I used to be a lot more "bottom line" oriented. Don't get me wrong I have always tried to be extra supportive of members of the organization. It was just that I hadn't grasped my own personal feeling for what the organization's true purpose was.

You see, I used to use profitability as the basis for which I measured the success of the organization. While I will certainly agree that it is important I am happy to say that I have broadened my thinking a bit.

Friends there are so many more ingredients that must come into play in order for a company (or ourselves) to be truly successful. You see I view our

organization as a living thing, that is I try to make it a direct extension of everyone in it. In practicing this it becomes obvious that if someone is unhappy it *will* have a direct effect on the company as a whole.

True success in my eye's lies beyond the bottom line. In a nutshell the best part about adopting this way of thinking is that considering everyone in this way the organization has no choice but to wind up with positive results. Simply put, implement a "win, win" environment and there are no limits to what you can achieve. At our organization we try to place a direct incentive for everyone to contribute.

We have a simple mission, to offer an enjoyable environment where everyone is appreciated for their efforts. Does this mean that everything is wonderful with no bumps along the way? Of course not, just like any other growing company we have our share of trials and tribulations. The difference is that together as a team we have been able to overcome these things in an efficient manner. May you find success in your daily life!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/4/98

"Eighty percent of success is showing up." -- Woody Allen

"The greatest pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do." -- Walter Bagehot

"The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step." -- Lao Tsze

"The failure is only a successful person who never learned how to keep trying." -- Unknown

Daily Commentary

Friends, more often than not we give up on our goals right before we cross that invisible threshold that leads to our achievement. Always keep in mind that persistence is the key to finding success in your life!

Often it is the ability to continue on towards our goals when others doubt us that many times separates success from failure. Achievement isn't something that is promised to us. Many times it even takes more than one attempt before it finds us. However, the fact remains that if you give up without trying that one last time, you very well may be just missing your goals!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/6/98

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world." -- Gandhi

"Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great." -- Mark Twain

"The roots of true achievement lie in the will to become the best that you can become." – Harold Taylor

Daily Commentary

Before I ever set out to do anything whether business related or in my personal life I try to answer the following question, "Does what I am planning to do fit into my overall goals, or is it simply short term thinking that is motivating me towards this?".

The key here is that I have taken the time to plan my long term goals. Since life is a constant change I find that loosely planning can better keep me in tune with that which I want out of my life.

Friends, don't be afraid of the change's that occur in your life, but, at the same time you must take care to keep yourself on course with your goals! Having a plan and working that plan can better keep us on track in our lives...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/7/98

"Only those who have the patience to do simple things perfectly will acquire the skill to do difficult things easily." -- Unknown

"Without change, something sleeps inside us, and seldom awakens. The sleeper must awaken." -- Frank Herbert

"Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken bird that cannot fly." -
- Langston Hughes

Daily Commentary

While it's true that we can't predict our success in something before we try it, it is also true that we can guarantee we won't if we don't go forward towards our goals! Be the change that you want to see in your life...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/8/98

"Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, ambition inspired, and success achieved." -- Helen Keller

"The harder you work, the luckier you get." -- McAlexander

"You get the best out of others when you give the best of yourself." -- Harry Firestone

"It's always too early to quit." -- Norman Vincent Pearle

Daily Commentary

Don't ever underestimate your own abilities! Remind yourself each day that you were *made* for success! Friends, look at yourself, you are simply an amazing person!

Whether we realize it or not there is no one who is exactly like us! And as such we owe it to both ourselves and those around us to do everything within our power to let our talents shine as far and as wide as possible! ...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/9/98

"If being an egomaniac means I believe in what I do and in my art or music, then in that respect you can call me that ... I believe in what I do, and I'll say it." -- John Lennon

"Don't let life discourage you; everyone who got where he is had to begin where he was." -- Richard L. Evans

"Every problem has a gift for you in its hands." -- Richard Bach

Daily Commentary

Where you are or aren't in your life at this moment has absolutely no bearing in what you are capable of achieving! Find comfort in those words for they are *very* true!

Friends, for just about everyone you read about that has achieved "success" in their lives you are likely to find some form of failure in their past. Lets try to view our failures as these people do, as the ultimate teacher. In practicing this we will find that there is absolutely nothing that we can't overcome!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/10/98

"Most of us can read the handwriting on the wall; we just assume it's addressed to somebody else." -- Ivern Ball

"You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do" -- Henry Ford

" If you want to leave footprints in the sands of time, don't drag your feet" -- Annot L. Sheppard

"Always do right. This will gratify some people, and astonish the rest." -- Mark Twain

Daily Commentary

Don't be afraid to tell those closest to you how much they are appreciated! While this is one of the easiest things that we can do, it always seems to be one of the most overlooked things that we practice in our lives!

How many times have you felt that you weren't appreciated or given credit where you felt it might have been due? I have found that since I have begun to make a personal commitment to making others feel as though they are *appreciated* that I have in turn had this behavior come back to me in many ways!

The bottom line is that I really believe in the saying "you reap what you sow!"...May you reap success in all your ventures!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/11/98

"Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Great deeds are usually wrought at great risks." -- Herodotus

"There are no shortcuts to any place worth going." -- Anon

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." -- Aristotle

"Never confuse activities with accomplishments...results are what counts!" -- Gene Stallings (Former Head Football Coach, The University of Alabama)

Daily Commentary

Know in your heart that you are good enough to achieve that which you most desire! Remind yourself daily that there is absolutely no difference besides you and the other fellow that has achieved success! Persistence is all that will lie in your way!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/12/98

"Where the heart is willing it will find a thousand ways, but where it is unwilling it will find a thousand excuses." -- Author unknown

"I believe a little bit of success lies in everyone! Will you be the one to deny that? Or rather be the one who chooses to be guided by it? I hope you choose as I to do the latter!" -- Josh S. Hinds

"You lift me, and I'll lift you, and we'll ascend together." -- Unknown

"A relationship is a living thing. It needs and benefits from the same attention to detail that an artist lavishes on his art." -- David Viscott

Daily Commentary

Cultivate your friendships! Dedicate a portion of your day to building a stronger relationship with those you come into contact with. Very few things will take you farther in life than building relationships!

While its true that to be successful at this we must be willing to give far more than we expect in return, at the same time it is also true that we will see many opportunities abound in our lives!... True success must be measured on the value that our lives give to those around us!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/13/98

"Success is achieved and maintained by those who TRY, And keep TRYING. Where there is nothing to lose by TRYING, And a great deal to gain if SUCCESSFUL, By all means, TRY. DO IT NOW!" -- W. Clement Stone

"Remember when life's path is steep to keep your mind even." -- Unknown

"Come to the edge, He said. They said, We are afraid. Come to the edge, He said. They came. He pushed them...and they flew." -- Guillaume Apollinaire

Daily Commentary

I am happy to report that we have taken yet another step in the advancement of this lil' e-zine ☺. Each day I plan to give a brief overview of

some of the more noteworthy (in my humble opinion) motivational sites out there!

If by any chance you know of a site that you'd like me to review, and share with the rest of our community by all means drop me a line <mailto:jhinds@technologist.com> and tell me about it :-).

I hope that you enjoy the new section in this list...Your friend in cyberspace,
Josh Hinds

7/14/98

"When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us."
-- Helen Keller

"Action may not always bring happiness; but there is no happiness without action." – Benjamin Disraeli

"Happiness is not a destination. It is a method of life." -- Burton Hills

"Most people would rather be certain they're miserable, than risk being happy." -- Robert Anthony

Daily Commentary

Live your life knowing that with each new day you **will** encounter at least one new opportunity to advance your current position in life! You might be saying "How do you know this?" I can say this because I see things manifest in my own life each day!

Does that mean that I am always tuned in to them while they're happening? Of course not (by the way if anyone out there can do that please share your secret :-). However, upon my reflection of the days events I can see many of these things as they had been presented to me.

For me the important thing is that upon my reflection I don't regret **any** of the missed opportunities. I simply make myself aware of the fact that they were sent my way.

I then make a solid commitment to myself before I go to sleep that the following day I will try to be more attuned to my surroundings!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/15/98

"The most basic of all human needs is the need to understand and be understood." – Ralph Nichols

"I think the one lesson I have learned is that there is no substitute for paying attention." -- Diane Sawyer

"The key to success is to get out into the store and listen to what the associates have to say. It's terribly important for everyone to get involved. Our best ideas come from clerks and stock boys." -- Sam Walton

"Listening is a magnetic and strange thing, a creative force. The friends who listen to us are the ones we move toward. When we are listened to, it creates us, makes us unfold and expand." -- Karl Menninger

Daily Commentary

Friends, I used to be notorious for thinking my way was the only way! If you are in business for yourself or aspire to be this is a trait that you are likely to be familiar with :-).

I am happy to report that each day I get a bit closer towards beating this type of mentality! You see, I truly believe that in order for us to reach full maturity in any organization it should be done by fostering an attitude of total empowerment from each member of your organization!

To hear, but not truly listen simply didn't fit into my personal biz. philosophy. Therefore I have vowed each day that I will do all that is necessary to get past my old beliefs!

I truly believe that the key to success in your organization will inevitably lie in your ability to build and develop those around you! Simply put if you don't truly *listen* to those you are associated with then you are likely missing the boat on one of the best resources available in your organization (or personal life: -)...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/16/98

"What you do speaks so loudly that I cannot hear what you say." – Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Remember, people will judge you by your actions, not your intentions. You may have a heart of gold -- but so does a hard-boiled egg." -- Anon

"Ideologies separate us. Dreams and anguish bring us together." – Eugene Ionesco

"Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community." – Anthony J. D'Angelo

Daily Commentary

You are good enough! Don't get caught up in watching others success! The time that you will spend being envious of another's success will only be taking away from your own personal achievements!

In other words watch the successful ,but always remember that you are just as capable as they are!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/17/98

"Our doubts are traitors and make us lose the good we oft might win by fearing to attempt." -- William Shakespeare

"Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice; it is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved." -- William Jennings Bryan

"Great deeds are usually wrought at great risks." -- Herodotus

Daily Commentary

You are good enough! The fact is that if an idea has so much as crossed your mind then it is true that *you* are capable of seeing it through to fruition!

So many times our own disbelief in our abilities are all that stands in our way of success! Remind yourself today that you are good enough to make things happen in your life!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/18/98

"Success is achieved and maintained by those who TRY, And keep TRYING. Where there is nothing to lose by TRYING, and a great deal to gain if SUCCESSFUL, By all means, TRY. DO IT NOW!" -- W. Clement Stone

"Nothing is worth more than this day." -- Goethe

"The heart has arguments with which the logic of mind is not acquainted." -- Blaise Pascal

" And all people live, not by reason of any care they have for themselves, but by the love for them that is in other people." -- Leo Tolstoy

Daily Commentary

Define your life goal! What is a life goal? I am sure that many of you have goals, and that is great ,but life goals are the same as our *long term* goals. That it is by determining my life goals I can make better decisions with regards to my short term goals.

Life goals are not to be taken lightly. They should be totally in line with your values! Your overall being. In aligning your life goals with your natural abilities I believe that we can actually steer our lives on the course we want it to take.

Personally my life goal is to create opportunity for those around me. That is to positively impact those I am fortunate enough to come into contact with.

After identifying my life goal I have a standard to measure the importance of my short term goals. For instance if I have an idea and after measuring it to see that it fits into my life goal and if it doesn't then the idea is forgotten. I record the idea along with the reason I passed on it, and simply move forward with my daily routine. Life goals for me are the measuring stick that I need to achieve balance in my life...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/20/98

"Always do your best. What you plant now, you will harvest later." – Og Mandino

"Worry affects the circulation, the heart, the glands, the whole nervous system, and profoundly affects the health. I have never known a man who died from overwork, but many who have died from doubt." -- Charles W. Mayo

"Common sense is genius dressed in its working clothes." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Daily Commentary

I used to ponder things long before finally acting on them. Then I ran across an interesting comment by a fellow entrepreneur. "Act now for tomorrow someone might beat you to it!" simple words ,but so very true!

Friends these words more than anything else have shaped the way I try to live my life. Does this mean that I don't have my share of failures? Certainly not, it does mean that I don't let my failures dictate my next achievements!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/21/98

"Our greatest glory is not in never failing, but in rising every time we fail." -- Confucius

"If you aren't going all the way; why go at all?" -- Joe Namath

"Skillful pilots gain their reputation from storms and tempests." -- Epicurus

Daily Commentary

I have come to realize that some days are simply better than others! Does that mean that when I hit one of the bad ones that I consider it to be wasted?

Absolutely not, instead I look at it for what it truly is. Another chance for me to learn from it, in each bad day we have the wonderful opportunity to learn from these experiences. And with careful pondering of the days events we can ensure that we don't have a repeat! May you learn from your bad days and find success in your ventures...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/22/98

"What matters is not the size of the dog in the fight, but the size of fight in the dog." -- Bear Bryant

"Ain't no man can avoid being born average, but there ain't no man got to be common." – Leroy "Satchel" Paige

"I never blame fortune - there are too many complicated situations in life. But, I am absolutely merciless toward lack of effort." -- F. Scott Fitzgerald

Daily Commentary

Success in something lies in our ability to do a thing when the odds say it can't be done! In a person's ability to get up and run that mile the next morning after a terrible defeat the day before. In the ability to meet our own failure face to face and to set out with another plan not knowing for sure if success is ahead or not!

Yes, success comes in many forms , but inevitably it all comes down to one's level of persistence...May you reach high for goals, and personal success abound in your life!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/23/98

"Try not to become a man of success but rather a man of value." – Albert Einstein

"There is no substitute for hard work." -- Thomas Jefferson

"Without a sense of urgency, desire loses its value." -- Jim Rohn

"If your ship doesn't come in, swim out to it." -- Jonathan Winters

Daily Commentary

Life's achievements start with our first steps towards them! Almost never an easy venture, our goals do get clearer with each move we make towards them.

Don't wait another minute to act on your dreams! There is simply no better time than now to go after that which you desire...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/24/98

" Nothing is worth more than this day." -- Goethe

"And all people live, not by reason of any care they have for themselves, but by the love for them that is in other people." -- Leo Tolstoy

" We are what we repeatedly do, excellence is therefore not an act but a habit." -- Aristotle

7/25/98

"Concentration is the ability to think about absolutely nothing when it is absolutely necessary." -- Ray Knight

"When you face a fork in the road, step on the exhilarator!" -- Pat Riley

"Ain't no chance if you don't take it." -- Guy Clark

Daily Commentary

I used to look around for approval on just about everything before taking the leap of action on my ideas. Not too awful long ago I came to realize that what I was doing was actually slowing my success in the effort.

You see the bottom line is that if the idea's were logical and appeared to work in most peoples mind it would have already been done. That's the beauty of things. We in many cases are the ones who know whether or not we can achieve a thing.

It is in our relentless effort to first find approval that we can accidentally lock our selves out of opportunity. Does this mean that I jump blindly after every idea that crosses my mind? Of course not ,but I do make sure that I am the final naysayer of any idea that I decide to pass on...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/28/98

"Dream lofty dreams, and as you dream, so shall you become. Your vision is the promise of what you shall one day be; your ideal is the prophecy of what you shall at last unveil." -- James Allen

"You'll seldom experience regret for anything that you've done. It is what you haven't done that will torment you. The message, therefore, is clear. Do it! Develop an appreciation for the present moment. Seize every second of your life and savor it. Value your present moments. Using them up in any self-defeating ways means you've lost them forever." -- Wayne Dyer

"The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate." -- Oprah Winfrey

Daily Commentary

Don't allow anyone to try and convince you that you aren't capable of achieving a thing! Friends, I assure you with the right amount of persistence applied to anything we could simply amaze ourselves!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/29/98

"You win some, you lose some, you wreck some." -- Dale Earnhardt

"Dare to risk public criticism." -- Mary Kay Ash

Life's like a boom-a-rang. The more good you throw out, the more you receive in return." – Josh S. Hinds

"We must always change, renew, rejuvenate ourselves; otherwise we harden." – Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Daily Commentary

Take the time to build up others! Friends I have found very few things will go as far to ensure your success as to be viewed as one that builds up those around you. When you are viewed in this light you will notice that many new opportunities will find you...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/30/98

"If at first you don't succeed; you are running about average." -- M. H. Alderson

"You are wholly complete and your success in life will be in direct proportion to your ability to accept this truth about you." -- Dr. Robert Anthony

"Ones best success comes after their greatest disappointments." – Henry Ward Beecher

"Behind every successful man there's a lot of unsuccessful years." – Bob Brown

Daily Commentary

What is success? To many of us success is measured by one's pocket book. However, I would like everyone to challenge this notion for a bit. Does that mean that the person that never amasses great wealth is any less successful? I think not.

You see success is in many things it is a much in the person that does without so that their child may go to college and build a better life for themselves. Success in my opinion is overflowing in the person who gives of their time to those that are in need. While charity rarely benefits ones pocket book it builds a wealth far greater! You see, it goes so deep into building our character that very few things if any will go farther towards building us into successful individuals...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

7/31/98

"I have always felt that although someone may defeat me, and I strike out in a ball game, the pitcher on the particular day was the best player. But I know when I see him again, I'm going to be ready for his curve ball. Failure is a part of success. There is no such thing as a bed of roses all your life. But failure will never stand in the way of success if you learn from it." -- Hank Aaron

"We can do anything we want if we stick to it long enough." -- Helen Keller

"Everything you want is out there waiting for you to ask. Everything you want also wants you. But you have to take action to get it." -- Jack Canfield

"Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things brought together." -- Vincent Van Gogh

Daily Commentary

Life never ceases to amaze me sometimes! One minute you can just be sitting there working day in and day out feeling even a bit complacent in your life. When suddenly *bam* out of know where you can run into that particular person that you feel totally comfortable with.

Many of you know what I mean. There are probably some of you who even have a longing to feel this way yourself. While it's true that we can do little to advance our efforts towards finding these special people that seem to come into our lives at these most opportune of times we can all nonetheless find a certain comfort in knowing that they lie just beyond the next curve in our lives...Friends, may you find comfort in each day knowing that there is someone out there for each of you!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/1/98

"Natural abilities are like natural plants; they need pruning by study." -- Francis Bacon

"The extent of your consciousness is limited only by your ability to love and to embrace with your love the space around you, and all it contains." -- Ken Carey

"When it is a question of God's almighty Spirit, never say, "I can't." -- Oswald Chambers

"The person born with a talent they are meant to use will find their greatest happiness in using it." -- Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe

Daily Commentary

Search long and hard each day looking for your special gift! While it may take time to discover where your special talents lye, by doing this you will find the greatest happiness in doing these things. May you find success in all your efforts!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/3/98

"The minute you settle for less than you deserve, you get even less than you settled for." -- Maureen Dowd

"Life has no other discipline to impose, if we would but realize it, than to accept life unquestioningly. Everything we shut our eyes to, everything we run away from, everything we deny, denigrate or despise, serves to defeat us in the end. What seems nasty, painful, evil, can become a source of beauty, joy and strength, if faced with an open mind. Every moment is a golden one for him who has the vision to recognize it as such." – Henry Miller

"Accept everything about yourself -- I mean everything, You are you and that is the beginning and the end -- no apologies, no regrets." – Clark Moustakas

Daily Commentary

Friends, remind yourself each day that no matter what your background or what you have done yesterday has absolutely no bearing as to what you may achieve today! Look at each day for what it is, another chance for you to shine as bright as your dreams may carry you!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/4/98

"Happiness can exist only in acceptance." -- Denis De Rougemont

"Love is a force more formidable than any other. It is invisible – it cannot be seen or measured, yet it is powerful enough to transform you in a moment, and offer you more joy than any material possession could." -- Barbara De Angelis

"Not all of us have to possess earthshaking talent. Just common sense and love will do." – Myrtle Auvil

"If it is your time, love will track you down like a cruise missile." -- Lynda Barry

Daily Commentary

When you think you have found that special someone be sure not to let it pass you by! Reach out to that person and try not to hold back your true feelings. While you may not find the result you want you will at least not have to wonder...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/5/98

"Very few people are ambitious in the sense of having a specific image of what they want to achieve. Most people's sights are only toward the next run, the next increment of money." -- Judith M. Bardwick

"The men who succeed are the efficient few. They are the few who have the ambition and will power to develop themselves." -- Herbert N. Casson

"Big results require big ambitions." -- James Champy

Daily Commentary

When you set out to do a thing remind yourself daily that not only can you accomplish the task ,but that by simply taking on the task you are already past the half way mark of its achievement!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/6/98

"We live in deeds, not years: In thoughts not breaths; In feelings, not in figures on a dial. We should count time by heart throbs. He most lives Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best." -- David Bailey

"Having once decided to achieve a certain task, achieve it at all costs of tedium and distaste. The gain in self confidence of having accomplished a tiresome labor is immense." -- Thomas A Bennett

"Somehow I can't believe that there are any heights that can't be scaled by a man who knows the secrets of making dreams come true. This special secret, it seems to me, can be summarized in four C s. They are curiosity, confidence, courage, and constancy, and the greatest of all is confidence. When you believe in a thing, believe in it all the way, implicitly and unquestionable." – Walt Disney

Daily Commentary

Keep in mind each day that it takes a special mix of get up and go and just the right amount of stubbornness to see your way through the door of success!

Don't ever give up on that which you truly believe in. Friends we have absolutely know way of knowing how close we may be to our dreams!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/7/98

"The world is round and the place which may seem like the end may also be only the beginning." -- Ivy Baker

"Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending." -- Carl Bard

"Every moment of your life is infinitely creative and the universe is endlessly bountiful. Just put forth a clear enough request, and everything your heart desires must come to you." – Shakti Gawain

"You create your opportunities by asking for them." -- Patty Hansen

Daily Commentary

Over the next week or so I will be taking a trip to Atlanta Georgia with a very special person. See believe it or not amongst my sometimes hectic schedule I do try to take the time to smell the roses a bit.

Friends, there is nothing wrong with working hard on the things that you believe in. While it is certainly true that effort is the key ingredient in success we must also be careful that we don't let time pass us by. Make sure that you don't wake up one day and find that you have no time to truly enjoy your successes...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/16/98

"Compassion automatically invites you to relate with people because you no longer regard people as a drain on your energy." -- Chogyam Trungpa

"The path to cheerfulness is to sit cheerfully and to act and speak as if cheerfulness were already there." -- William James

"Developing a cheerful disposition can permit an atmosphere wherein one's spirit can be nurtured and encouraged to blossom and bear fruit. Being pessimistic and negative about our experiences will not enhance the quality of our lives. A determination to be of good cheer can help us and those around us to enjoy life more fully." -- Barbara W. Winder

Daily Commentary

Let me start out by telling everyone how good it is to be back! While I had a *magnificent* vacation which I will share a bit with you all. I must say that I did miss each and everyone of you! I consider each member of our motivational community as an extended part of my family. I hope that everyone has had a good week and are getting geared up for another wonderful one ;-)

Now for a bit about my trip. This past week I was fortunate enough to spend some time with a person that could very well be one of the most naturally compassionate people I have ever met. Friends, how many of you have ran

across the kind of person that know matter what they are faced with they
always seem to be looking out for the other person?

Well, I am happy to say that it has given me a wonderful new perspective on things in my own life. in watching this person in action I couldn't help but notice that while she gave of her self unexpectedly for the benefits of those in need others seemed to flock to her. It was truly a witness to me that the saying holds true "Success is most naturally achieved by giving freely of yourself, without expecting anything in return"...Once again it is great to be back!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/17/98

"Having once decided to achieve a certain task, achieve it at all costs of tedium and distaste. The gain in self confidence of having accomplished a tiresome labor is immense." -- Thomas A. Bennett

"Dedicate yourself to the good you deserve and desire for yourself. Give yourself peace of mind. You deserve to be happy. You deserve delight." -- Mark Victor Hansen

"I want to put a ding in the universe." -- Steve Jobs (Co-founder of Apple Computer)

Daily Commentary

I love to study the stories of great achievers, however I must say that the power in doing so has been much more effective since I have adopted this simple attitude.

Always keep in the top of your mind that there is absolutely *no* difference between you and the person that you're reading about's ability to achieve success!

Look at these people for what they are, as mentors and not people to look upon as special achievers! Friends it is a fact of life that with enough ambition we too can achieve personal success in our lives!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/18/98

"When the archer misses the mark, he turns and looks for the fault within himself. Failure to hit the bull's eye is never the fault of the target. To improve your aim -- improve yourself." -- Gilbert Arland

"Commit to CANI! -- Constant And Never-ending Improvement" -- Anthony Robbins

"If you wish to achieve worthwhile things in your personal and career life, you must become a worthwhile person in your own self-development." – Brian Tracy

Daily Commentary

Keep embedded in your mind that you are on a constant journey to experience new and rewarding things! Friends, there is a wonderful story waiting to unfold in each of our lives. However we must watch for it with both eyes open! So that it doesn't pass us by...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/19/98

"If it's meant to be; it's up to me." -- Author Unknown

"A hunch is creativity trying to tell you something." -- Anonymous

"Our job is not to straighten each other out, but to help each other up." -- Neva Cole

"Look not back in anger, nor forward in fear, but around you in awareness." -
- Ross Hersey

Daily Commentary

Know in your heart that you are good enough! Friends, I assure you that if you can dream it you are certainly more than capable of achieving it! While the road towards achievement can be filled with many ups and downs find strength in knowing that though your own perseverance you will find personal success!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/20/98

"Cherish your visions; cherish your ideals; cherish the music that stirs in your heart, the beauty that forms in your mind, the loveliness that drapes your purest thoughts, for out of them will grow delightful conditions, all heavenly environment; of these if you but remain true to them, your world will at last be built." -- James Allen

"No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks." -- St. Ambrose

"Cherish your human connections: your relationships with friends and family." -- Barbara Bush

"Most of us, swimming against the tides of trouble the world knows nothing about, need only a bit of praise or encouragement -- and we will make the goal." -- Jerome P. Fleishman

Daily Commentary

Over the years I have come to believe in the power to achieve by simply building those around me up! Everyone has a willingness to be appreciated, in obliging these folks you will find that the favor is returned 100 fold!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/21/98

"Sooner or later, those who win are those who think they can." – Richard Bach

"We are what we believe we are." -- Benjamin N. Cardozo

"He can who thinks he can, and he can't who thinks he can't. This is an inexorable, indisputable law." -- Henry Ford

"Belief in oneself is one of the most important bricks in building any successful venture." – Frank Gifford

Daily Commentary

Very few ingredients are as common as blind faith when it comes to reading about the so called "Successful". However, blind faith is rarely so blind upon further research, simply put be sure to plan for your success. Follow these steps to help yourself succeed in your next venture.

Plan - Before I do anything I make a short action plan (keeping in mind that it can and will vary from time to time). That is, I outline the things that I want to achieve and the steps that I must take for me to get started.

Do I believe in this? - I always measure everything according to my "life goals". If it doesn't fit in with the bigger picture (my life goals) then I just don't pursue it. To do so would be short term thinking (which I believe can be disastrous). I always ask this question "would I do this even if I weren't going to get paid?" This sounds crazy ,but in many cases when starting a new venture it can take a while to get it going. By first answering this question I can assure myself that I won't get disenchanted before my achievement takes hold!

Keep the 'belief' level high! - I find that as long as I practice the above list this part is relatively easy. I take the time to review my "plan" regularly to stay better focused on the goal at hand.

May you all find success in that which you strive for....Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/22/98

"Fortune befriends the bold." -- John Dryden

"There are high spots in all of our lives and most of them have come about through encouragement from someone else. I don't care how great, how famous or successful a man or woman may be, each hungers for applause."
– George M. Adams

"Those who are lifting the world upward and onward are those who encourage more than criticize." -- Elizabeth Harrison

"I believe that any man's life will be filled with constant and unexpected encouragement, if he makes up his mind to do his level best each day, and as nearly as possible reaching the high water mark of pure and useful living."
-- Booker T. Washington

Daily Commentary

I talk a lot about personal success, which I do feel very strongly about; however, equally important is our own ability to encourage those around us! If I had to attribute one thing to my personal feeling of achievement it wouldn't be anything I have, nor anything I set out to accomplish on a material level, rather it would be the wonderful treasures I get from everyone on the list that have told me that the IAD has impacted them in some way.

This simple pleasure could not be attained by any other way than to truly believe in and appreciate all of you who share in reading this list. I would encourage everyone to at least tell someone around you how much they are appreciated...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/24/98

"My success just evolved from working hard at the business at hand each day." -- Johnny Carson (TV Personality, Businessman)

"Failures are finger posts on the road to achievement." -- Charles F. Kettering (Engineer, Inventor)

"It's the repetition of affirmations that leads to belief. And once that belief becomes a deep conviction, things begin to happen." -- Claude M. Bristol (Author of "The Magic of Believing")

Daily Commentary

Always look for the good in others, in doing so they will find the good in you as well...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/25/98

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." -- Aesop

"To cultivate kindness is a valuable part of the business of life." -- Samuel Johnson

"Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile." – Mother Teresa

Daily Commentary

A Better Week's Checklist -- Yes, I do mark these off as I practice them ☺

1. Smile at a stranger - This can go very far in bettering someone else's day! Practice it and you'll see it come back to you.
2. Encourage your peer's - We all long for encouragement in our lives. This comes natural to great leaders, but it can be acquired through practice.
3. Be a good finder - This fits right along with the above tip. The world is full of negativity, practice this and you'll see a major change in the way you're viewed by your peers.
4. Set weekly goals! - Navigators know that the wind changes constantly, by planning they make sure that the wind stays in their sails. Weekly goals will help you to stay better focused on your target.
5. Read motivational content daily! - Each day we have a choice, that is to become consumed by the negativity that surrounds us or we can counter that by taking in more positive content! I am not saying to be blind to what's going on around us, what I am saying is that we need to be careful not to overlook the positives in our lives!

Hope this helps...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/27/98

"The world is round and the place which may seem like the end may also be only the beginning." -- Ivy Baker

"My sun sets to rise again." -- Robert Browning

"Positive thinking is the key to success in business, education, pro football, anything that you can mention. I go out there thinking that I'm going to complete every pass." -- Ron Jaworski

Daily Commentary

Dream visually! - When you set goals how "visually" do you perceive them? That is do you simply say "I want to be the best I can be at my job", or do you say "Starting tomorrow I will be at work twenty minutes before work starts. I will give everyone that passes by a friendly hello. I will do such and such to make myself a more productive participant in my organization.

This may sound a bit extreme ,but the key here is that we a put face on that which we want to achieve. We must be certain that we know what we want to accomplish and what steps it will take...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/28/98

"Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision just passes time. Vision without action can change the world. A true leader must first see an idea as opportunity, then choose to act upon it." -- Joel Barker

"You have to leave the city of your comfort and go into the wilderness of your intuition. What you'll discover will be wonderful. What you'll discover is yourself." -- Alan Alda

"An entrepreneur tends to bite off a little more than he can chew hoping he'll quickly learn how to chew it." -- Roy Ash

Daily Commentary

Life can be many things ,but one thing is for sure if we don't truly experience it we may very well miss the boat on a new adventure. Our lives twist and turn each day, many times new opportunities are opening up around us without us even realizing it.

Each day we need to try and take time to notice the many new opportunities that abound...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/30/98

"Out of difficulties grow miracles." -- Jean De La Bruyere

"We can see a thousand miracles around us every day. What is more supernatural than an egg yolk turning into a chicken?" -- Rutherford Platt

"Seeing, hearing, feeling, are miracles, and each part and tag of me is a miracle." – Walt Whitman

Daily Commentary

In our daily lives it can be so easy to look past the many miracles that surround us. When I think of the very fact that I am breathing it simply amazes me!

Today, at this very moment lets all try and take the time to give thanks for all the many things that are happening in our lives. Some may not seem like situations that given another road we would choose, but I promise you that given enough reflection on them we can find that silver lining!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

8/31/98

"Fortune befriends the bold." - John Dryden

"When you cannot make up your mind which of two evenly balanced courses of action you should take -- choose the bolder." -- William Joseph Slim

"You must see your goals clearly and specifically before you can set out for them. Hold them in your mind until they become second nature." – Les Brown

Daily Commentary

A careful balance between finding things you believe in and offering opportunities to others can be an easy road towards our own personal success!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

9/1/98

"Skill in the art of communication is crucial to a leader's success. He can accomplish nothing unless he can communicate effectively." -- Norman Allen

"Tell a person they are brave and you help them become so." -- Thomas Carlyle

"A leader is someone who helps improve the lives of other people or improve the system they live under." -- Sam Ervin

Daily Commentary

One of the most fortunate things I have tried implement in my life is the art (or willingness) to delegate. This is something that in many small organizations (and peoples lives) that far too often overlooked.

I was fortunate to have been involved in a family business at a rather young age. By far one of the most important things was the importance of practicing delegation. While the business was very successful I also saw first hand the often unneeded stress that can be placed on an environment when its leader tries to takes on the burden of all aspects of the business.

I promised myself that rather than go that route I would live by a simple rule. I will always try to work with those that are better at something than myself. Friends, I truly believe that in giving people the opportunity to go with their ideas the overall organization will run as efficiently (if not better) as if I tried to handle the load myself...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

9/2/98

"Very few people are ambitious in the sense of having a specific image of what they want to achieve. Most people's sights are only toward the next run, the next increment of money." -- Judith M. Bardwick

"When you go in search of honey you must expect to be stung by bees." -- Kenneth Kaunda

"If you have a great ambition, take as big a step as possible in the direction of fulfilling it. The step may only be a tiny one, but trust that it may be the largest one possible for now." – Mildred McAfee

Daily Commentary

The smallest of steps -- Keep in mind that your success in everything starts with that very first step towards it. The sale is never made, the new friend is never met, and the new love is never found without taking that very first awkward step towards it!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

9/4/98

"Many an opportunity is lost because a man is out looking for four-leaf clovers." -- Anon

No!" the class shouted. Once again he said, "Good!" Then he grabbed a pitcher of water and began to pour it in until the jar was filled to the brim. Then he looked up at the class and asked, "What is the point of this illustration?" One eager beaver raised his hand and said, "The point is, no matter how full your schedule is, if you try really hard, you can always fit some more things into it!"

"No," the speaker replied, "that's not the point. The truth this illustration teaches us is: If you don't put the big rocks in first, you'll never get them in at all." What are the 'big rocks' in your life? A project that YOU want to accomplish? Time with your loved ones? Your faith, your education, your finances? A cause? Teaching or mentoring others?

Remember to put these BIG ROCKS in first or you'll never get them in at all.
-- Author Unknown

9/6/98

"The world isn't interested in the storms you encountered, but whether or not you brought in the ship." -- Raul Armesto

"Man's power of choice enables him to think like an angel or a devil, a king or a slave. Whatever he chooses, mind will create and manifest." -- Frederick Bailes

"Other people's opinion of you does not have to become your reality." -- Les Brown

Daily Commentary

You have a choice! - Such powerful words that no doubt we have all heard time and time again. However, I believe it is worth another mention.

Inevitably there are those that clearly have not made the choice to be where they are at in their life! The wonderful truth is that where you are now has absolutely nothing to do with where you can end up! Listen carefully, everyone (even you!) deserves to be happy in what they do each day!

Unfortunately in many cases the foreseeable consequences of making the necessary changes appear to be too much risk for us to take on, therefore many choose to stay right on the path that they are on! Don't get me wrong I am the first to admit that change is scary. By the same token I can assure you that if you continue to choose the unhappy path that you are on you will keep on getting what you have!

The simple truth is that change can be hard, and anyone that tells you that it won't come with sacrifice is simply not shooting you straight! I am reminded of a time in my life where I had become a bit complacent. I was working in

the family business, things were good ,but I had an overwhelming feeling that I needed to make my own place in life.

I left and moved several states away. I worked in a job that I wasn't particularly happy with (but I knew it was what I had to do at the time). Over the course of time new opportunities opened up for me. I relocated back to Tuscaloosa, AL (my home) wound up in a Computer company. From there I opened up my own consulting business. And as a result the very list that you are reading was born!

The bottom line is that the choice I had to make was very difficult, but I did it! And as a direct result of my willingness to leave my "comfort zone" my world has been opened up to new and fascinating opportunities! The fact is that it was hard! At times I wanted to turn back. However, now I can say without a doubt that I am so thankful that I didn't!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

9/7/98

"You've got to get to the stage in life where going for it is more important than winning or losing." -- Arthur Ashe (Tennis Player)

"Having once decided to achieve a certain task, achieve it at all costs of tedium and distaste. The gain in self confidence of having accomplished a tiresome labor is immense." -- Thomas A. Bennett

"Failures are finger posts on the road to achievement." -- Charles F. Kettering (Engineer, Inventor)

Daily Commentary

Consider keeping a daily journal. In it keep up with the positive things that happen in your day. I have found that we all need a constant reminder that we are on course and gaining towards our goals.

By having a way to see first hand that positive things are happening in our everyday life we can better stay focused on things that we want to accomplish...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

9/8/98

"This above all; to thine own self be true." -- William Shakespeare

"The only real mistake is the one from which we learn nothing." -- John Powell

"There are no mistakes, no coincidences. All events are blessings given to us to learn from." -- Elizabeth Kubler-Ross

had to spend all his time flat on his back. The men talked for hours on end. They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, where they had been on vacation. And every afternoon when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his room-mate all the things he could see outside the window.

The man in the other bed began to live for those one-hour periods where his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the activity and color of the world outside. The window overlooked a park with a lovely lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed their model boats. Flowers of every color of the rainbow would flicker in the wind. Grand old trees graced the landscape, and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance.

As the man by the window described all this in exquisite detail, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine the picturesque scene. One warm afternoon the man by the window described a circus passing by. Although the other man couldn't hear the animals - he could see it in his mind's eye as the gentleman by the window portrayed it with descriptive words. Then unexpectedly, a sinister thought entered his mind. Why should the other man alone experience all the pleasures of seeing everything while he himself never got to see anything? It didn't seem fair.

At first thought the man felt ashamed. But as the days passed and he missed seeing more sights, his envy eroded into resentment and soon turned him sour. He began to brood and he found himself unable to sleep. He should be by that window - that thought, and only that thought now controlled his life.

Late one night as he lay staring at the ceiling, the man by the window began to cough. He was choking on the fluid in his lungs. The other man watched in the dimly lit room as the struggling man by the window groped for the button to call for help. Listening from across the room he never moved, never pushed his own button which would have brought the nurse running in. In less than five minutes the coughing and choking stopped, along with that the sound of breathing. Now there was only silence—deathly silence.

The following morning the day nurse arrived to bring water for their baths. When she found the lifeless body of the man by the window, she was saddened and called the hospital attendants to take it away. As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked if he could be moved next to the window.

The nurse was happy to make the switch, and after making sure he was comfortable, she left him alone. Slowly, painfully, he propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at the world outside. Finally, he would have the joy of seeing it all himself. He strained to slowly turn to

look out the window beside the bed. It faced a blank wall. The man asked the nurse what could have compelled his deceased roommate who had described such wonderful things outside this window. The nurse responded that the man was blind and could not even see the wall. She said, "Perhaps he just wanted to encourage you."

Epilogue. . . You can interpret the story in any way you like. But one moral stands out: There is tremendous happiness in making others happy, despite our own situations. Shared grief is half the sorrow, but happiness when shared, is doubled. If you want to feel rich, just count all of the things you have that money can't buy.

9/10/98

"For what is the best choice, for each individual is the highest it is possible for him to achieve." -- Aristotle

"Success is not measured by what you accomplish, but by the opposition you have encountered, and the courage with which you have maintained the struggle against overwhelming odds." -- Orison Swett Marden (Founder of Success Magazine)

"A winner is someone who recognizes his God-given talents, works his tail off to develop them into skills, and uses these skills to accomplish his goals." -- Larry Bird (Basketball Player, Coach)

"It's not the will to win, but the will to prepare to win that makes the difference." -- Paul "Bear" Bryant (University of Alabama Football Coach)

"Winners have simply formed the habit of doing things losers don't like to do." -- Albert Gray

9/11/98

"He is rich or poor according to what he is, not according to what he has." -- Henry Ward Beecher

"Victory; a matter of staying power." -- Elbert Hubbard

"No vision and you perish; No Ideal, and you're lost; Your heart must ever cherish Some faith at any cost. Some hope, some dream to cling to, Some rainbow in the sky, Some melody to sing to, Some service that is high." -- Harriet Du Autermont

Daily Commentary

Look for the opportunities that are in line with your overall values. I truly Believe we all have things that we feel more strongly about than others, and

by focusing on these areas of our life we can more naturally move towards their achievement!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

9/12/98

"Winning isn't everything. Wanting to is." -- Catfish Hunter

"If you sit down at set of sun and count the acts that you have done, and counting find one self-denying deed, one word that eased the heart of him who heard; One glance most kind that fell like sunshine where it went- then you may count that day well spent." -- George Eliot

"Hold on to your dreams for if dreams die life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly." – Langston Hughes

Daily Commentary

Life is about so much more than simply living. It is about taking chances, telling the people around you how you truly feel about them. It's about sharing what you have accomplished with those around you.

Life is about going for the things that you want in your life and being able to enjoy them when you achieve them! Life's about living an example for those around you, and teaching others to lift themselves up in the process!

Above all else life is a journey, its not about being complacent and stagnant. We're never promised tomorrow, but luckily we have the now!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

9/14/98

"When we seek to discover the best in others, we somehow bring out the best in ourselves." -- William Arthur Ward

"We do not attract what we want, but what we are." -- James Allen

"I'm not afraid of storms for I'm learning how to sail my ship." – Louisa May Alcott

"What lies behind us and what lies before us, are tiny matters, compared to what lies within us." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

9/15/98

"Wishing is good for us. Daydreams, fantasies, castles in the air, and aspirations all drive us forward, impel us to make things happen. They also tell us a lot about ourselves. Our wishes come straight from our core, and

they are loaded with vital information about who we are and who we can become. Keeping track of our wishes helps us tap into the energy that propels us to go after our happiness." -- Barbara Ann Kipfer

"The greatest good you can do for another is not just to share your riches but to reveal to him/her his/her own." -- Benjamin Disraeli

"I will love the light for it shows me the way, yet I will endure the darkness for it shows me the stars." -- Og Mandino

Daily Commentary

Consider introducing a little exercise into your life. Don't worry I am not going to suggest that everyone run to the nearest Wal-Mart and invest in the latest aerobics video :-). However, on a serious note I have to share with everyone how much better I have felt since I have gotten back into my personal exercise routine. I won't tell you what I do because I truly believe that isn't what's important. The key is that you are able to introduce some type of exercise into your daily life.

What can you expect in doing so? Friends that is a question that only you will answer in time. As for myself, I have gained a better sense of relaxation in my day. That is that I actually feel a bit more in control of the days events. Am I suggesting that the same will work for you? I think to do that would be foolish! I can say however that you'll never know until you try, will you ...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

9/16/98

"Ambition is the germ from which all growth of nobleness proceeds." -- Thomas Dunn English

"If you play it safe you stagnate in this league. Maybe we'll bust, but if we hit it, we'll hit it big." -- Jimmy Johnson NFL Coach

"In today's economy there are no experts, no 'best and brightest' with all the answers. It's up to each one of us. The only way to screw up is to not try anything." -- Tom Peters

Daily Commentary

Today as I ponder my life I can't help but notice the string of events that have built my life into what it is, and ultimately what it will become. While it's certainly true that some things definitely weren't by design and it's likely that had I had an alternative I wouldn't have chosen a few of them.

The inevitable still exists. That is that each of the choices that I made along the way (albeit some a bit blindly...lol) have all gone into shaping the very point that I am at in my life.

I am reminded of this very list. Simply starting out as a way for a few to share ideas. And the most I hoped for was for myself and a few others to gain a bit more motivation in our daily lives. I look at the way things have gone and I can't help but be amazed at the way that this list has grown!

Friends, it has become a very important part of my life (actually *all* of you have :-). I find that each day whether it be a hard one or not inevitably I will have at least one wonderfully nice letter from a member of this list. If you haven't done so I would suggest that each of you spend time in your day building your "network". I assure you that nothing will take you as far in your life!...your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

9/17/98

"I know that I'm never as good or bad as any single performance. I've never believed my critics or my worshippers, and I've always been able to leave the game at the arena." -- Charles Barkley

"The principle is competing against yourself. It's about self-improvement, about being better than you were the day before." -- Steve Young

"Great works are performed not by strength but by perseverance." – Samuel Johnson

Daily Commentary

I find the above quotes to be very interesting. Not just because of the folks who said them or even on there face value ,but more so because of the common thread that seems to run between them.

That is each of them is great in their own right, yet they seem to have a thorough understanding of the fact that failure or at least less than spectacular performance are inevitable. Even more so it seems to me that they have come to the understanding that failure (or lack of success) in something is as much a part of the natural growth process as the achievement itself is.

Friends, try and take the time to ponder these quotes as I have and then try to apply them to an event in your own life...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

9/18/98

"People become really quite remarkable when they start thinking that they can do things. When they believe in themselves they have the first secret of success." -- Norman Vincent Peale

"Sometimes the only thing we do to avoid success is refuse to be energetic on our own behalf." -- Barbara Sher

"Success, in my view, is the willingness to strive for something you really want. The person not reaching the top is no less a success than the one who achieved it, if they both sweated blood, sweat and tears and overcame obstacles and fears. The failure to be perfect does not mean you're not a success." -- Fran Tarkenton

Daily Commentary

Keep in mind that life is a series of ongoing events. Its not a home run every time you come to bat, nor a major success each day! Life is a series of events that happens to us each day, a compilation of some good, some bad and some just plain indifferent.

The key then I believe lies in our ability to not allow the less than perfect days to over shadow the fact that there are some wonderful events that do occur in everyone of our lives! May you all be able to focus on the positives in your daily life...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

9/19/98

"Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Genius is only the power of making continuous efforts. The line between failure and success is so fine that we scarcely know when we pass it: so fine that we are often on the line and do not know it. How many a man has thrown up his hands at a time when a little more effort, a little more patience, would have achieved success. As the tide goes out, so it comes clear in. In business, sometimes, prospects may seem darkest when really they are on the turn. A little more persistence, a little more effort, and what seemed hopeless failure may turn to glorious success. There is no failure except in no longer trying. There is no defeat except from within, no really insurmountable barrier save our own inherent weakness of purpose." -- Elbert Hubbard

"Today a thousand doors of enterprise are open to you, inviting you to useful work. To live at this time is an inestimable privilege, and a sacred obligation devolves upon you to make right use of your opportunities. Today is the day in which to attempt and achieve something worthwhile." -- Grenville Kleiser

Daily Commentary

complaining, I can choose to accept their complaining or I can point out the positive side of life. I choose the positive side of life."

"Yeah, right, it's not that easy," I protested. "Yes, it is," Jerry said. "Life is all about choices. When you cut away all the junk, every situation is a choice. You choose how you react to situations. You choose how people will affect your mood. You choose to be in a good mood or bad mood. The bottom line: It's your choice how you live life." I reflected on what Jerry said. Soon thereafter, I left the restaurant industry to start my own business. We lost touch, but I often thought about him when I made a choice about life instead of reacting to it.

Several years later, I heard that Jerry did something you are never supposed to do in a restaurant business: he left the back door open one morning and was held up at gunpoint by three armed robbers. While trying to open the safe, his hand, shaking from nervousness, slipped off the combination. The robbers panicked and shot him. Luckily, Jerry was found relatively quickly and rushed to the local trauma center. After 18 hours of surgery and weeks of intensive care, Jerry was released from the hospital with fragments of the bullets still in his body.

I saw Jerry about six months after the accident. When I asked him how he was, he replied, "If I were any better, I'd be twins. Wanna' see my scars?" I declined to see his wounds, but did ask him what had gone through his mind as the robbery took place. "The first thing that went through my mind was that I should have locked the back door," Jerry replied. "Then, as I lay on the floor, I remembered that I had two choices: I could choose to live, or I could choose to die. I chose to live." "Weren't you scared? Did you lose consciousness?" I asked. Jerry continued, "The paramedics were great. They kept telling me I was going to be fine. But when they wheeled me into the emergency room and I saw the expressions on the faces of the doctors and nurses, I got really scared. In their eyes, I read, 'He's a dead man.' "I knew I needed to take action."

"What did you do?" I asked. "Well, there was a big, burly nurse shouting questions at me," said Jerry. "She asked if I was allergic to anything. 'Yes,' I replied. The doctors and nurses stopped working as they waited for my reply. I took a deep breathe and yelled, 'Bullets!' Over their laughter, I told them. 'I am choosing to live. Operate on me as if I am alive, not dead.'" Jerry lived thanks to the skill of his doctors, but also because of his amazing attitude. I learned from him that every day we have the choice to live fully. Attitude, after all, is everything. -- Brian Cavanaugh (A Cup of Chicken Soup for the Soul)

9/21/98

when someone is in pain. And meaning it.

One of my patients told me that when she tried to tell her story people often interrupted to tell her that they once had something just like that happen to them. Subtly her pain became a story about themselves. Eventually she stopped talking to most people. It was just too lonely. We connect through listening. When we interrupt what someone is saying to let them know that we understand, we move the focus of attention to ourselves. When we listen, they know we care. Many people with cancer can talk about the relief of having someone just listen.

I have even learned to respond to someone crying by just listening. In the old days I used to reach for the tissues, until I realized that passing a person a tissue may be just another way to shut them down, to take them out of their experience of sadness and grief. Now I just listen. When they have cried all they need to cry, they find me there with them.

This simple thing has not been that easy to learn. It certainly went against everything I had been taught since I was very young. I thought people listened only because they were too timid to speak or did not know the answer. A loving silence often has far more power to heal and to connect than the most well intentioned words.

Rachel Naomi Remen
"Kitchen Table Wisdom"

I hope that this has found at a truly prosperous time in your life!...your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

9/24/98

"If you don't take charge of shaping your own destiny, others will apply their agenda to you." -- Eric Allenbaugh

"The great accomplishments of man have resulted from the transmission of ideas and enthusiasm." -- Thomas J. Watson

"Courage is the strength to face pain, act under pressure, and maintain one's values in the face of opposition." -- Eleanor Roosevelt

Daily Commentary

I think the following story does a fabulous job of teaching us the importance of truly "listening" to what others have to say! How many times have you found yourself in a situation where you were convinced you were right and no one could make you wrong? (myself, too may to count...lol) I can tell you

9/26/98

"Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do." -- John Wooden

"Most games are lost, not won." -- Casey Stengel

"The minute you start talking about what you're going to do if you lose, you have lost." -- George Shultz

9/27/98

"People deal too much with the negative, with what is wrong. Why not try and see positive things, to just touch those things and make them bloom?" -- Thich Nhat Hanh

"My sun sets to rise again." -- Robert Browning

"Positive thinking is the key to success in business, education, pro football, anything that you can mention. I go out there thinking that I'm going to complete every pass." -- Ron Jaworski

Daily Commentary

Hello Friends!

Relish in the fact that you are an incredible person! You don't believe me? I challenge you to look around you today, look at the many positive things that have happened in your life! Look beyond your shortcomings, these are the easy things to notice! Instead focus on your family, friends, job, etc. Many of them are unique to you! That is that no one else is exactly as you are! Explore this it's amazing!

Upon looking at your life I hope you will further ponder the ideas you have or have had, the simple fact is that if you can dream them then it is equally likely to be within your power to achieve these things! I hope that you will do as I do and at least spend a portion of each day trying to be the change you want to see in your life!...Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

A note From Josh Hinds

I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed the excerpts from the Inspiration a Day! They were taken over the course of a little over a year, so I feel comfortable in saying that it pretty much reflects what was happening in my daily life at the time.

It is truly a living journal of sorts, an on going adventure in my life and the lives of those I come into contact with on a daily basis.

I am certain that one thing was evident in my daily commentary. That is that I truly believe in building genuine relationships with those that we come into contact with. I was fortunate to see first hand how this can make a difference in our lives.

I will never forget the time shortly after losing my father, it seemed that things were going topsy turvey in my own life. However, I still find to this day how amazing it is that at just the right moment someone whom new my father would come into my life. Upon careful reflection I can remember so vividly the numerous bits of advice that were sprinkled on me at just the right time.

It seems funny now how things tend to come together when it seems lost. Why did these things happen? The question could certainly be speculated, but I personally believe it was a direct result of the kind of persona that my father was. You see my dad was the kind of person that was always there for you. Never one to draw attention to his caring side, but always there at the same time.

I can't help but believe in the saying "you reap what you sow". Some might simply view this as nonsense and for that you're certainly entitled to your opinion ,but being there first hand I can tell you at times I new there was certainly a guardian angel near.

I look back at the year or so after my father's passing and I can see an amazing growth that took place in my personal life. I find it interesting that each choice I made along the way seems to have at least some tie to where I am now. Did I make bad choices? Don't we all? The question should be asked is if I had to do it all over again would I, and to this I give a resounding yes!

I would challenge anyone reading this at this very moment to sit the book down for a bit and ponder this question for a minute. Look beyond your immediate failures, the lost opportunities and look at what you have accomplished! The good things that have happened in your life. The children you raised, the new job you once loved. The business that you chose to enter into.

Upon pondering these tings try and gain a true sense of what it was like to feel happiness about these things. You see, this feeling was there at one time. Now what is important is that you can regain this sense of fulfillment and apply it to another area of your life. Friends we have so many choices in our lives. I hear so often about the person that isn't happy in their job. They say they would like to quit and start a business of their own. However, they can't afford the loss of income that this would result in doing so.

To this I say "congratulations"! Why congratulations? Because you are already a good way towards achieving your goal! You see you have had a vision that you want more from your life. The next step in your achievement is that you must now be willing to take that first step towards it!

All too often this is the missed step in the process of success. You have the vision but you don't act on it. You see that first step doesn't have to be a hard one. For instance substitute the idea of quitting your job to start the business with the idea of instead continuing your job and working the business in your off time. The idea sounds so simple but you'd be surprised how many don't take this simple step towards achieving that which they want from their life. Some would say that taking this route would make the venture move slower, to this I would say you're exactly right, but it certainly would not be any slower than the path that you're on right now, would it?

Friends all too often it's not some mystical word of wisdom that will give you the personal success that you want in your life. No, plain and simple it lies in your own ability to make your dreams meet your willingness to work towards them.

Sometimes I am simply amazed at what the human spirit is capable of. I would challenge you to find any other thing that is responsible for as many positive things that happen as that of the human spirit. What else in history has created new governments? Taken someone from a simple idea to a global corporation? Raised, clothed, and fed hungry children? Given ever freely of its time so that others with lesser resources could have a better life? I ask of you what else gives someone the strength to fight for one's country? Or has the miraculous ability to love another? Do you see what I mean? The human spirit is a mighty powerful thing. Even more important is that it lies within each and everyone one of us!

What tends to happen however is that over time we can lose contact with our own human spirit. That is that over time we lose our ability to let our spirit actually drive us like it should. It's important to note that any number of things can play a part in this process. The result often leaves us with a feeling of hopelessness. Friends, I would like to say one thing before getting any deeper into this discussion, That is that these feelings are very common! I think many of us would be hard pressed to find that we can't identify at least one area where this has happened in our own lives.

The important thing is that we take the time to carefully identify with these feelings. Even more importantly that we combat these feelings of hopelessness with positive ones! While I will be the first to agree that we can't erase life's negative events, luckily at the same time we don't have to sit idly by and let these feelings consume us. By now I am sure your asking if that's so then what do you suggest? To that I say the answer lies in making list! That's right friends make a list of your past personal successes. Study this list regularly. You see in doing this we can actually program our

subconscious mind. This in turn will create a snowballing effect in you. Lets explore this simple technique for a minute.

Look at your so called bad days. In most cases you will notice that there was one single event that happened to cause you to focus on a negative. As a direct result the next thing while not necessarily so bad was noticed more simply because of the first bad thing that happened to you. Do you see the pattern here? I am talking about the same snowballing effect. What I propose is to use the same technique by first introducing the positives into your life. Here's a handy quote that I try to remind myself to use the previous technique...Success Begets success.

Your friend in cyberspace, Josh Hinds

Feel free to contact Josh Hinds via the web site at GetMotivation.com