

Five Attitudes for Success

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Attitude can make or break a career climber's success. Mary, a former executive with IBM in New York City, outlines five attitudes that are crucial for Christians in the workplace.

1. *Don't complain.* It's a Biblical principle (Phil. 2:14) sadly lacking in business. Complaining is at epidemic levels, and the positive person will stand out and survive longer than the grippers.

2. *Do it right and do it now.* Procrastination and mediocrity also inflict the workplace. Most tasks can be completed immediately and correctly. Few workers follow this principle consistently, and suffer the consequences of inefficiency.

3. *Pray for the company.* It's easy to view the job as secular rather than sacred. But the Apostle Paul admonished Timothy to pray for those in secular positions (I Tim. 2:2). Praying for others can change negative attitudes toward them. So intercede for your management, peers, and support staff.

4. *Work harder and smarter, but not longer.* If a job can't be done within the work day, something's wrong with the person or position. If there's continually too much work, request assistance or a job restructuring. The Christian who's a 15-hour, six-day-a-week worker sabotages chances for ministry and becomes self-absorbed and one-sided.

5. *Don't carry a chip on the shoulder.* After someone's wronged you, forgive and forget it. Grudges distort objectivity. Women should not be oversensitive because they're trying to succeed in a male-dominated field. It does more harm than good.

PEOPLE are successful if they have lived well, laughed often, and loved much; if they have gained the respect of others who are intelligent and the love of children; if they have filled their niche and accomplished their task; if they leave the world better than they found it; and if they have looked for the best in others and given the best they have.

Great minds have purposes, others have wishes. Little minds are tamed and subdued by misfortune, but great minds rise above them.

WASHINGTON IRVING

It takes awhile before you can step over inert bodies and go ahead with what you were waiting to do.

There are two kinds of people: those who want to get things done and those who want to be right.

ARCHIBALD MAC LEISH

In order to appreciate excellence you must yourself have struggled for it.

People don't fail, they give up

TURNING FAILURES INTO SUCCESSES 10 Major Steps necessary to convert your past failures to successes and achieve many future high goals: 1) Write down the goals you definitely want to achieve. 2) Take a half-hour each day to review your written goals and list ideas that flash into your mind. 3) Keep your mind on what you want and off what you don't want. 4) Picture yourself already in possession of your objective. 5) Try to recognize, relate, assimilate, and APPLY principles from what you see, hear, read, think, or experience. 6) Look for the principles that are applicable to you to develop better physical, mental and moral health, wealth, and the true riches of life. 7) Use suggestion to influence others and self-suggestion with regularity. 8) Memorize quotations that will inspire you. 9) Learn how to help yourself, and share your knowledge and blessings with others. 10) Memorize the self-starter DO IT NOW! When you have a worthy thought and DO IT NOW! flashes to mind, get into action immediately! DO IT NOW!

Taken from "You Failed? That's Terrific!" by W. Clement Stone, Success magazine

Disappointment

God: Why are you looking so glum? The world is not ready to end quite yet.

Me: God, I guess I'm disappointed. Things didn't go the way I hoped at all. I'm misunderstood and something of a failure to boot.

God: You're not the first to fail. Do you realize that?

Me: Well, God, I suppose you're right. Others have failed but this is my failure and my future looks so bleak.

God: My son, Jesus, was a failure and so was my friend, Paul. Both were misunderstood and rejected. Both had very little future to look forward to. But, then, I turned things around as I often do. I often take failure and make it the stepping stone to some undreamed of success. Have patience. Who knows?

As everyone of us sometimes learns,
And many a failure turns about
When he might have won had he stuck it out;
Don't give up though the pace seems slow -
You may succeed with another blow.

Success is failure turned inside out -
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt
And you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems afar;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit -
It's when things seem worst that you must not quit.

Submitted by Jan Bengtson, Wattauga, IL

Excellence can be attained if you....

***Care more...
than others think is wise.***

***Risk more...
than others think is safe.***

***Dream more...
than others think is practical.***

***Expect more...
than others think is possible.***

**MY MIND IS WHOLLY CONCENTRATED ON THE
MOMENT AT HAND.**

**Concen-
tration**

How easily, steadily, and diligently I work when my mind is concentrated on what I am doing. In writing, reading, studying, and almost everything I undertake, good concentration is necessary for good results.

When I lack concentration, I waste not only time but also the energy of my thoughts. I want to get the benefit of time spent on the activity at hand. If my mind has a tendency to waver from the moment at hand, to move to other objects or subjects, I remind myself that I have the Mind of Christ.

The Mind of Christ is my power of perfect concentration, my power to accomplish. Whenever I am distracted from study or activity, the gentle reminder of the Christ Mind within me will work wonders in helping me to concentrate on what is before me.

"Fear not, be not dismayed; for the Lord God, even my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you, until all the work for the service of the house of the Lord is finished."—I Chron. 28:20

**“Fools look to
tomorrow; wise men
use tonight.”**

Scottish proverb