

Life Of Lincoln

"I do the very best I know how—the very best I can; and I mean to keep doing so."

Abraham Lincoln's life is the best example of his own words. Consider the chronology of his career:

- 1831 - Failed in business
- 1832 - Defeated for legislature
- 1833 - Again failed in business
- 1834 - Elected to legislature
- 1835 - Sweetheart died
- 1836 - Had nervous breakdown
- 1838 - Defeated for speaker
- 1840 - Defeated for elector
- 1843 - Defeated for Congress

- 1846 - Elected to Congress
- 1848 - Defeated for Congress
- 1855 - Defeated for Senate
- 1856 - Defeated for Vice-President
- 1858 - Defeated for Senate
- 1860 - ELECTED PRESIDENT

Do not wish to be anything but what you are, and try to be that perfectly.
St. Francis de Sales

This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark!
Phillipians 3:13

Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?
Robert Browning

Before we set our hearts too much upon anything, let us examine how happy they are, who already possess it.
La Rochefoucauld

Ours is a world where people don't know what they want and are willing to go through hell to get it.
Don Marquis

Accept the place the divine providence has found for you, the society of your contemporaries, the connection of events.
Ralph Waldo Emerson

Those who aim at great deeds must also suffer greatly.
Plutarch

Above all, try something.
Franklin D. Roosevelt

A WOMAN RUSHED up to famed violinist Fritz Kreisler after a concert and cried:

"I'd give my life to play as beautifully as you do."

Kreisler replied, "I did."

Little Einstein's Failures

A boy was so slow to learn to talk that his parents thought him abnormal and his teachers called him a "misfit." His classmates avoided him and seldom invited him to play with them. He failed his first college entrance exam at a college in Zurich, Switzerland. A year later he tried again. In time he became world famous as a scientist. His name: Albert Einstein.

We work to become, not to acquire.
Elbert Hubbard

Let me tell you the secret that has led me to my goal. My strength lies solely in my tenacity.
Louis Pasteur

What one has to do usually can be done.
Eleanor Roosevelt

The world is all gates, all opportunities, strings of tension waiting to be struck.
Ralph Waldo Emerson

It is NOT the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled or where the doer of deeds could have done better.

The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

●All that is essential for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.
—Edmund Burke

●There are three kinds of people; those who watch things happen, those who make things happen, and those who have no idea what happens.
—The Bible Friend

●My life shall be a challenge—not a compromise.

—Charles Cowman

To try when there is little hope is to risk failure. Not to try at all is to guarantee it.

Anonymous

A successful individual typically sets his next goal somewhat but not too much above his last achievement. In this way he steadily raises his level of aspiration.
Kurt Lewin

The most absurd and reckless aspirations have sometimes led to extraordinary success.
Vauvenargues

All rising to great places is by a winding stair.
Francis Bacon

The world stands aside to let anyone pass who knows where he is going.
David Starr Jordan

WHEN THINGS ARE NORMAL Charlie Brown is busy with a woodworking project one day when Lucy comes by and asks: "How's the birdhouse coming along, Charlie Brown?" He replies, "Well, I'm a lousy carpenter. I can't nail straight. I can't saw straight and I always split the wood. I'm nervous, I lack confidence, I'm stupid, I have poor taste and absolutely no sense of design . . ." And then in the last frame he concludes, "So, all things considered, it's coming along OKAY!"

“Far and away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.”

Theodore Roosevelt (1858–1919)
Labor Day address, 1903

“If we all did the things we are capable of doing, we would literally astound ourselves.”

Thomas Edison (1847–1931)

DETERMINATION Among other qualities of personal character, what makes a man great is his determination to keep going. Most sports buffs know that from 1960 to 1966 the record for the most stolen bases was held by the incredible Maury Wills. In 1962 he set the current club record for the Dodgers, 104 stolen bases in one regular season.

But Maury Wills set another record in those years. A record probably obscured by his other accomplishments. A rather dubious record, for in 1965, a year in which he again held high honors for the most stolen bases he also took top billing for the most times caught stealing in a single season. He got thrown out (or "knocked down") 31 times that year. But . . . he got back up. And that's why we remember him. Proverbs 24:16 "For a righteous man falls seven times, and rises again."

Abe's Advice

If I were to try to read, much less answer, all the attacks made on me, this shop might as well be closed for any other business. I do the very best I know how — the very best I can, and I mean to keep doing so until the end. If the end brings me out all right, what is said against me won't amount to anything. If the end brings me out wrong, ten angels swearing I was right would make no difference.

— A. Lincoln

●The man who is incapable of making a mistake is incapable of anything.

—Lincoln

●The biggest mistake is the fear that you will make one.

●Money is never so well spent as when you get cheated out of it—for at one stroke you have purchased prudence.

—Schopenhauer

●It's wise to apologize to a man if you're wrong—and to a woman if you're right.

—Calgary Albertan

●A fault denied is twice committed.

—Spanish Proverb

●The only complete mistake is the mistake from which we learn nothing.

●There aren't any hard-and-fast rules for getting ahead in the world—just hard ones.

●In order to live off a garden, you practically have to live in it.

—Kin Hubbard

●You don't have to lie awake nights to succeed. Just stay awake days.

—Healthways

●There is no poverty that can overtake diligence.

—Japanese Proverb

●By perseverance the snail reached the Ark.

—Spurgeon

●Triumph is just umph added to try.

●Experience is a wonderful thing. It helps you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.

●Mistakes will happen but must you give them so much help?

●From an American Marketing Association Newsletter: "It has been brought to our attention that last month we labeled a picture 'Herb Breseman,' while the photograph was of Bob Fernald. However, since the article was about Ed Macdonald—disregard the whole thing."

●Don't fear mistakes. Ford forgot to put a reverse gear in his first automobile. Edison once spent \$2,000,000 on an invention which proved of little value.

●It took me fifteen years to discover I had no talent for writing, but I couldn't give it up because by that time I was too famous.

—Robert Benchley

●When I was a young man I observed that nine out of ten things I did were failures. I didn't want to be a failure, so I did ten times more work.

—George Bernard Shaw

●No man is a complete failure until he begins disliking men who succeed.

●Few men have the strength to honor a friend's success without envy.

—Aeschylus

●For one man who sincerely pities our misfortunes, there are a thousand who sincerely hate our success.

—Charles C. Colton

●Envy shoots at others and wounds herself.