



Apple Seeds®



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PRAYER FOR TODAY

Anonymous

“Today, Lord,
May you enlighten us with wisdom to know what we should do; and grant us the courage to do it.”

you responsible for your life, but doing the best at this moment puts you in the best place for the next moment.”

LEARN FROM MISTAKES *Bits & Pieces*

“There are three things people can do when they make mistakes. They can resolve that they will never make another, which is fine but impractical. They may let their mistakes make cowards of them, which is foolish. Or they can make up their minds that they will learn from their mistakes, and so profit by the experience, that when the situation comes their way again, they will know just how to meet it.”



TRUE GREATNESS

Carl Armerding

“This is true greatness: to serve unnoticed and to work unseen.”

MEASURE YOURSELF *Coach John Wooden*

“Don’t measure yourself by what you have accomplished, but by what you should have accomplished with your ability.”

LENTEN REFLECTION

EWTN

<http://www.ewtn.com/faith/lent/F18.htm>

What to give up for Lent...

Give up complaining focus on gratitude.
Give up pessimism become an optimist.
Give up harsh judgements think kindly thoughts.

Give up worry trust Divine Providence.
Give up discouragement be full of hope.
Give up bitterness turn to forgiveness.
Give up hatred return good for evil.
Give up negativism be positive.
Give up anger be more patient.
Give up pettiness become mature.
Give up gloom enjoy the beauty that is all around you.

Give up jealousy pray for trust.
Give up gossiping control your tongue.
Give up sin turn to virtue.
Give up giving up hang in there!

ON INDIFFERENCE *Cardinal Peter Turkson, President, Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace*

In introducing Pope Francis’ Message for the 49th World Day of Peace (2016), Cardinal Turkson said, “Human beings consider themselves self-sufficient and believe they owe nothing to anyone other than themselves, granting themselves rights without assuming duties.”

STICK TO THINGS

Janet Erskine Stuart

“The great thing and the hard thing is to stick to things when you have outlived the first interest, and not yet got the second, which comes with a sort of mastery.”

ON WRITING

Epictetus

“Do not write so that you can be understood; write so that you cannot be misunderstood.”

OPPORTUNITIES

Dr. Albert Einstein

“In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity.”

MARK OF WISDOM *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

“The invariable mark of wisdom is to see the miraculous in the common.”

OPRAH’S PHILOSOPHY *Oprah Winfrey*

“My philosophy is that not only are



DON’T TAKE NO...

Earl Nightingale

“According to the experts on such things, most people are basically negative,

over conservative and quick to say no rather than yes.

Most people, when asked if he or she can do something – practically anything – will almost automatically say no, even before they've given the subject any thought. This is an ancient, built-in resistance to change, an ultra-conservative that is automatically suspicious of anything that threatens the status quo.

If you're smart, you'll recognize this human tendency and make allowances for it..."

LOVING EACH OTHER

Leo Buscaglia

"A loving relationship is one in which individuals trust each other enough to become vulnerable, secure that the other person won't take advantage. It neither exploits nor takes the other for granted. It involves much communication, much sharing and much tenderness."

LENT DAY 7

Bishop Robert Barron

"The 17th century French philosopher Blaise Pascal (*Pensées*, 139) said that most of us spend our lives seeking diversions in a desperate attempt to avoid the hard and simple questions: Who am I? What does God want of me?"

We eat and drink, gamble and gossip, seek out the most banal entertainment, surrender to television and social media, attend party after party – all in order to avoid those questions.

Right now, identify the diversion that most distracts you from these questions. Then take some practical steps to rid yourself of it, or at least reduce it....Make room for yourself to ask and reflect on life's important questions."

DO YOU KNOW ME?

Anonymous

Fresh Packet of Sower's Seeds, p. 80

I have no respect for justice. I maim without killing. I break hearts and ruin lives. I am cunning and malicious and gather strength with age.

The more I am quoted, the more I am believed. I flourish at every level of society.

My victims are helpless. They cannot protect themselves against me, for I have no face and no name. To track me down is impossible. The harder you try, the more elusive I become.

I am nobody's friend. Once I tarnish a repu-

tation, it is never quite the same.

I topple governments and wreck marriages. I ruin careers, and cause sleepless nights, heartaches, and grief. I make innocent people cry into their pillow. I make headlines and heartaches.

I am called gossip!

The next time you want to tell a story about someone...think. Is it true? Is it necessary? Is it kind? If not, please don't say it!

TAKE AN INTEREST

Robert Martin

"Taking an interest in what others are thinking and doing is often a much more powerful form of encouragement than praise."

SECRET OF SUCCESS

Clarence DeLoach, Jr.

Fresh Packet of Sower's Seeds, p. 64

A successful businessman once was asked for the secret of success by a student who interviewed him as part of his senior thesis. Thoughtfully, the businessman pondered the question. His reply summed up success in three words: "**and then some.**" "You see," he said, "I learned early in life that the difference between average people and the truly successful could be simply stated in those three words. Top people did what was expected, *and then some!*"

The truly successful were thoughtful of others; they were considerate and kind – *and then some*. They met their obligations and responsibilities fairly and squarely – *and then some*. They were good friends and helpful neighbors – *and then some*. They could be counted on in an emergency – *and then some*.

Jesus taught the *and then some* principle in the Sermon on the Mount. He tells us to go beyond what is expected! Go a little bit farther!

Let the words, "**and then some,**" serve as a tonic for your spirit. Practice your faith faithfully – *and then some*. Give generously of your time and of your resources – *and then some*. Greet those you meet with a smile – *and then some*. Be dependable, be a good friend – *and then some*. Do your best in all things and at all times – *and then some*. Be among the truly successful who go the extra mile, who make the world more livable and demonstrate true caring for the people around them – *and then some*.

