

American Inspiration

Thoughts for today and every day . . .

“We’re all in the same boat now, and we’ve got to learn to work together.”
Dorothy Height



“Friendship consists in forgetting what one gives and remember what one receives.” Alexandre Dumas



“In every winter’s heart lies a quivering spring, and behind the veil of each night waits a smiling dawn.” Kahlil Gibran



“In actual life, every great enterprise begins with and takes its first forward step in faith.” August Wilhelm Von Schlegel

American Update



We must remember in our thoughts and prayers, our friends from Japan as they are going through such great tragedy. Last August, Kaye Coachman (ADTS Staff) and I traveled to Sendai for the first American Dance/Drill Team Japan competition. There were over 75 teams for this first ever event and there are two of the winning teams that will be traveling to our competition that qualified there in Sendai.

It is so troubling to watch the footage of this beautiful ‘sister city’ to Dallas. The people of Sendai were so warm and welcoming to us. We will continue to pray for them and are currently researching ways that the dance teams in America might be able to help some of the dance teams in Japan. We will keep you updated.

Make sure to plan to watch not only our teams from Japan (Wakaba HS and Shibata Performance Kids), but also the 100+ other teams that will be at our National/International Competition March 25th and 26th. If you cannot attend, you can watch live on our web site! www.DanceADTS.com

Inspiration of the Week

Struggling

A man found a cocoon of a butterfly. One day a small opening appeared, he sat and watched the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through that little hole. Then it seemed to stop making any progress. It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could and it could go no farther. Then the man decided to help the butterfly, so he took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon.

The butterfly then emerged easily. But it had a swollen body and small, shriveled wings. The man continued to watch the butterfly because he expected that, at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to support the body, which would contract in time. Neither happened.

In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of it's life crawling around with a swollen body and shriveled wings. It was never able to fly. What the man in his kindness and haste did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get, through the tiny opening were God's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into it's wings so that it would be ready for the flight once it achieved it's freedom from the cocoon.

Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our life. If God allowed us to go through our life without any obstacles, it would cripple us. We would not be as strong as what we could have been. And we could never fly.

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