

American Inspiration

Thoughts for today and every day . . .



✓“In truth a family is what you make it. It is made strong, not by the number of heads counted at the dinner table, but by the rituals you help family members create, by the memories you share, by the commitment of time, caring and love you show to one another, and by the hopes for the future you have as individuals and as a unit.” Marge Kennedy

✓“Minute events are the hinges on which magnificent results turn. In a watch, the smallest link, chain and ratchet, cog, or crank is as essential as the mainspring itself. If one falls out, time will stand still.” John Cumming

✓“When you really consider the everyday things around you, they start to seem like tiny miracles.” Amy Shearn

✓“Memories are like a garden. Regularly tend the pleasant blossoms, and remove the invasive weeds.” Linda Fifer Ralphs



American Update

We have a marvelous time at the TDEA convention last week and are now heading into our first contest of the season, the Kansas Spectacular. It is a great event with over 70 teams! Make sure to watch the competition live this Saturday and others that are noted on our web site.

Contest entries are coming in at a record rate and we are looking forward to a great season. To see schedules, results, live broadcasts and more, visit our web site at www.DanceADTS.com.



Inspiration of the Week

Love People, Reward Performance

By John C. Maxwell, author of *“Failing Forward”*

Educators in the United States have been seeking ways to increase students’ test scores. One popular theory states that the best way to improve children’s ability is to puff up their self-esteem, because high-achievers tend to have high self-esteem.. However, researchers have found that simply building children’s egos breeds many negative traits: indifference to excellence, inability to overcome adversity, and aggressiveness toward people who criticize them.

Now, I place high value on praising people, especially children. But I also believe that you have to base your praise on truth. Here's the approach I use to encourage and lead others:

Value people

Praise effort

Reward performance

I use that method with everyone, including myself. And no matter where I fail or how many mistakes I make, I don't let it devalue my worth as a person. As the saying goes, "God uses people who fail—cause there aren't any other kinds around."

This weekly message is generated from:

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American ★★★★★
Dance/Drill Team ★★
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