

“Everyone’s Child”
TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Years of Legacy

Chapter 11: Random Moments Shape Our Lives

Chapter 12: Live It Like You Mean It

Written By: Rodney Zimmerman
© 2019

Chapter 11: Random Moments Shape Our Lives

There are so many random moments that will shape my life such as friendships, relationships, careers, family, traveling, heartaches, births, and deaths. These are all opportunities to shape a better me. Thoughts towards things I want to accomplish, coming full circle and allowing me an opportunity to create a second chance of life. Many things I do not see happening around me, readjusts my vision of what's ahead. Feelings flowing through me that cause me readjust my thoughts at that exact moment. I know that every opportunity I walk forward, there will be those who question my decisions; however this is the life I shape in order for my purpose to extend my legacy.

I react to adjusting the thoughts that the step I am taking is meant to happen. I am going to reserve my energy for my best use, to become and to give the best me. I will live the perfect opportunity every day, understanding that every opportunity has a perfect storm. I am beginning to realize more and more that I have substituting my goals for my best purpose. It has taken time for me to find my creativity, but being successful in life has begun with me believing that I will be. My brain has always wired itself to hone in on its goal, but with simple reprogramming I have figured out how to rewire my brain to hone in on its purpose. I have an opportunity to understand that if I make this an obligation, I will not reach it because I will make it something instead of pushing myself to reach it.

If I learn to manage myself, it is guaranteed that I will shift my measure of progress from time spent to competencies mastered. Once I understand myself as a complete person, I will be able to self-reflect with a destination for my goals. This practice will ultimately drive me to get to know myself and love how I listen to my needs and the needs of others. This will involve creating alignment around a clear purpose. I must be willing to find something that is different about myself but can connect to a greater purpose with someone else.

Why Commit To Attraction When Committing To Love Lasts

We have been living a life committed to the attraction of things including a better position or even a better person. We have been absorbed in the lust of the next best thing (similar to the idea that the grass is greener on the other side). Our lust of attraction has caused us to lose friends, lose jobs, lose relationships, and possibly lose your sanity. We possibly fall in and out of a depression with everything around us becoming negative. It becomes harder to pull ourselves out and we begin looking at everyone else's failures to justify our own. Did we know that our attraction can change with the blink of an eye? Think of it like this; we are attracted to a television show. The show eventually gets challenged by a better show on a different network. Our attraction shifts and we have forgotten all about the first television show because something else grabbed our attention. Our attraction to things can cause bad experiences; but our love for something or someone can create our purpose, ultimately allowing us the journey towards our legacy.

Your Experience Can Create Your Legacy

Each one of our experiences influences our perspective to either become a stronger person or a weaker person. This decision influences our direction of purpose, ultimately leading to our legacy. If we believe that our surrounding experiences are detrimental to us, our purpose may be detrimental, leading us on a path towards a detrimental legacy for others such as our own children to follow. On the other hand, if we believe that our purpose can be redirected; our goals, while possibly becoming much tougher to achieve, can be foreseeable with opportunities. It all begins with our perspective of how we view things. We may be a person who is always negative because we don't see our purpose past our goals. We are the person who is always inflicting the negative "what if" on others. Our if's usually include negative words like don't, won't, and can't. Today we are

given an opportunity that we overlooked because we are stuck in our negative position. This is becoming the legacy others around us are beginning to see as they too become stuck.

Imagine for a moment that we took the same energy put into negative words to readjust our perspective in order to see purpose along our journey. Does this put our life on a balanced playing field for either positive or negative outcomes? One thing does happen which didn't happen before. We become the person who inflicts the positive possibilities into the atmosphere. We open opportunities to explore positive outcomes in our goals, leading to a stronger purpose, ultimately driving our legacy. Opportunity becomes our driving force for positive outcomes when we take advantage.

“When you fail, your story is given potential by the direction of the things you allow to shape it.”

Activity 1: Create Your Legacy

Ask yourself if everything you are doing this week is helping you reach a step closer to your legacy. This implies that you already understand the purpose of each week. Create a chart showing the path you are heading in order to leave your legacy.

The Story of Legacy

In the early years, the connections were clear. Maggie was a part time realtor. Her daughter Sara went with her on many of the showings. Maggie's last two showings before she stopped doing real estate, due in part to depression from her husband leaving, was showing a house to Devin's parents and Christina's parents. Maggie went into a shell, raising Sara as a single parent. As Sara grew up, she became friends with her now husband, as well as with Devin, and David's parents. They all used to hang out in high school and many going to the same college at University of

Colorado, staying close to home. When they all graduated college, all of them moved back to the town where they all grew up. Sara got married and had Matthew. David's parents had him around the same time. The two families became close and Matthew and David pretty much grew up together. While they were in elementary school, they used to clean the yards of their teacher Mr. Devin. Matthew had a school crush on Christina Brinkley. The two of them were inseparable and told each other that they would get married when they got older.

During this time, there was a man named Jim McCathy who worked at an advertising company. He was a very wealthy man who worked long hours. His son Noah was also in middle school, but was not really friends with Matthew and David. Noah was very rebellious and one day backed his father's car out of the driveway for fun. It was at this same moment that Matthew and David were riding their bikes down that same street. Unbeknown to Noah, Matthew and David were intersecting with his driveway at the exact moment Noah hit the gas and peeled out backwards. Noah hit the two boys, running them over. After more than 5 months in a coma, the doctors advised the boy's parents that they would never come out of their comas. Both boys' parents agreed that it was best to release their pain and let them go.

Christina was devastated and swore that she would never be in love with anyone ever again. As Christina entered high school, Jim McCathy's life turned upside down. His son Noah was in and out of alternative schools and juvenile detention centers, he lost his position at an advertising company, his wife died, and he felt he had nothing left. During the better days of Jim's life, he gave his time to help military personnel at the veterans' center, giving some of them jobs with his company while finding placement for others. Devin was one of the marines that he helped.

Christina, now in high school, still had love for Matthew. While getting math tutoring with Mr. Devin, now a teacher, she asked

him if he could name his tutoring sessions after Matthew and David in their honor. In total agreement, Devin turned his Tuesday and Thursday tutoring sessions into Matthew and David's math tutoring academy. Christina growing up, kind of lost, started hanging out with the wrong people. She ended up at a party where she got drunk and ended up kissing Noah, the last person she ever wanted to kiss. It haunted her and she wanted to talk to Mr. Devin about it. She tried to catch him one day after class, but couldn't. He ended up coming to her the next day and asking for her help. There was a man under the bridge that he wanted to help and something told him to get in touch with Christina. At that same exact moment, Christina showed him a picture she saw of Mr. Devin standing with an older gentleman which looked like the father of Noah. Mr. Devin could not believe that they were talking about the same man.

Christina felt compelled to talk to her father for Mr. Devin and see if she could help. She was able to set up a meeting, but on the way to the meeting, Mr. Devin's car broke down. Maggie was driving by and stopped to give them a ride. When Devin and Jim got to the office of Mr. Brinkley, they were afforded a meeting with an advertising company; the same company that Jim was fired from. Jim McCathy got the job on the ground floor, started over, working his way up the position ladder. While he was a manager of the company, Maggie worked for him. Almost 4 years later, he became president of the advertising company. Maggie was moved into an executive position as a layout designer because of her experience from real estate with layouts. Matthew and David had created a legacy of love by embedding their attitudes of service in all of those they touched.

Chapter 12: Live It Like You Mean It

We return to perspective, with our eyes wide open, the wave lands its soul on each breath. By touching sight, yet washing away time hoping to stand still; and though happiness lies within ourselves, there is a still glimpse of solace through the smile we see today. This touch is the touch of unending light, peaking over each sunset you see. Your heart is no longer intimidated to surround itself in strength found in plain view; but yet a ray of true beauty piercing reality beyond the foreseen. This moment you are in is the moment when words unspoken touch the soul as if a ripple gently touches a calm stream. This we both tether a peace within ourselves, brought to clarity by the hands no search will longer hold. Our hearts we touch, and the eyes unto which we see is a reflection. While we continue to see the beauty in that of which surrounds us, nothing will diminish the strength of our reflection that embodies what words may not direct.

We all feed off of those who inspire, yet we should allow those who touch the hearts of others, to touch ours. Adulthood follows our innocence of childhood, and yet we are strong in our journey to explore every uncertainty. There are no cares of the destination which lies within our inspiration to feel. There are two strengths that make us whole, inspiring us to lead with no regrets. Each word becomes truth to our journey, a complete abstraction of your physical beauty and my emotional beauty. Only our inspiration writes the next chapter to our story. I want you to know that each piece of what we have to give, our hands touch to receive, that two become in comparison to nothing surrounding opportunity, built without expectation, and formed without response.

I have dreamed for you to know the rhythm of my understanding; a still truth to your needs, yet support to your strength. This has become my simple reminder formed and maintained without sight, through the ever changing rhythm of emotions formed within. There can be no confusion in the depth of where I stand

or who stands next to me; for each of us represent everyone's child.

Activity 1: Live Your Life To The Fullest

Hopefully after reading this book, you now understand that how you communicate verbally, through action, non-verbally; how you listen; how you respond; how you feel; your action plan; your goals, purpose, and legacy; and everything around that which defines you, will help you make the most of life every day. For this final activity, head out this morning and do all of the things emphasized in this book, within a single day. Keep in mind that any day could be your last, and if you haven't put a dent in your purpose, you have only put a dent in your possibilities.