

WHY ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING

Kathlyn Q. Barrozo Class of 1991, University of Santo Tomas B.S. Medical Technology

There are people who seem to be extremely good at what they do. They win everything—respect, glory, fame, admiration, wealth. They go through life much easier than others do. They gain so much without losing anything. If you ask them what their secret is, their usual answer is: having a positive attitude. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, attitude IS everything.

If you wake up in the morning begrudging having to leave your bed in order to do what you have to do, your day is doomed. If you just plod on the whole day without knowing why you have to do so, then you are living a zombie-like existence not fit for humans at all. If you consider all your relationships as inconsequential, burning your bridges along the way, you might never get to where you are going.

But if you wake up to each sunrise with a happy smile and a great outlook, your day will be replete with great things and wonderful blessings. If you go through the day with a smile in your heart and a skip in your step, you channel a great aura that is sure to inspire others. If you nurture your relationships whether they are personal or career-related, you open yourself to fruitful interactions and fulfilling companionships.

If you look at your work as mere drudgery, then you set yourself up for career disappointments. If you consider other people as competition, you will never find yourself good enough. If you consider the things you do as cumbersome, you will never find satisfaction at all with anything.

If you consider work as a way of giving back for all the blessings you get everyday, you will find growth and more potentials for self-development. If you consider other people as colleagues and associates that you have to cooperate with towards attaining a common goal, you are sure to earn the respect of true friends. If you consider everything you do as a way of improving yourself, you will find satisfaction quite easily. And although they say that finding contentment easily is the nemesis of success, contentment is in actuality the very essence of success. This is especially so when each and every small success you reap inspires you to go further and do more.

Life is not meant to be a romp in the park. It is crafted to be a challenge every which way and at every turn. If we hold on to a negative attitude about life and its facets, we will never live up to our calling; we will never find our true purpose. Those who truly succeed are equipped with a pleasant disposition in life and a prayerful existence that speaks of maturity and true humanity. Strive to have optimism--it's the only attitude that will win you the gold.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

- 1. Why is it difficult to have the proper attitude in everything?
- 2. How can we have the proper attitude at all times? Give specific examples.
- 3. Do you feel you have a great attitude in life? Explain your answer.
- 4. Why is attitude an important factor for living life?
- 5. Is there anyone whose attitude you admire the most? Be able to talk about this role model in class.