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MOTIVATION!

There was a young boy who used to come for regular practice but always played in the reserves and never made it to the soccer eleven. While he was practicing, his father used to sit at the far end, waiting for him. The matches had started and for four days, he didn't show up for practice or the quarter or semifinals. All of a sudden he showed up for the finals, went to the coach and said, "Coach, you have always kept me in the reserves and never let me play in the finals. But today, please let me play." The coach said, "Son, I'm sorry, I can't let you. There are better players than you and besides, it is the finals, the reputation of the school is at stake and I cannot take a chance." The boy pleaded, "Coach, I promise I will not let you down. I beg of you, please let me play." The coach had never seen the boy plead like this before. He said, "OK, son, go, play. But remember, I am going against my better judgment and the reputation of the school is at stake. Don't let me down." The game started and the boy played like a house on fire. Every time he got the ball, he shot a goal. Needless to say, he was the best player and the star of the game. His team had a spectacular win. When the game finished, the coach went up to him and said, "Son, how could I have been so wrong in my life. I have never seen you play like this before. What happened? How did you play so well?" The boy replied, "Coach, my father is watching me today." The coach turned around and looked at the place where the boy's father used to sit. There was no one there. He said, "Son, your father used to sit there when you came for practice, but I don't see him there today." The boy replied, "Coach, there is something I never told you. My father was blind. Just four days ago, he died. Today is the first day he is watching me from above."

Lesson: Motivation needs to be identified and constantly strengthened to succeed.

Keep your goals in front of you and you will find your path easy to tread.

AN ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS

Dear young people have you ever encountered Jesus personally?

Let me share my encounter

One day I encountered Jesus

He looked at me,

He smiled at me,

He touched me,

I felt and I still feel that he loves me the way I am

No matter my weakness or faults.

My heart leaps with joy

A source of life bubbling up in me,

Jesus takes away sadness, anger and irritation from my heart

A light starts to shine in me

My heart is in joy of a feast.

What about you?

Try to give him time in your life

You too will encounter him

You will feel the same.

By Sr. Leonie r.a.

HIGH SELF ESTEEM	LOW SELF ESTEEM
Talk about ideas	Talk about people
Caring attitude	Critical Attitude
Humility	Arrogance
Respect Authority	Rebels against Authority
Courage of conviction	Goes along to get along
Confidence	Confusion
Concerned about character	Concerned about reputation
Assertive	Aggressive
Accepts responsibility	Blames the whole world
Self Respect	Selfish
Optimistic	Fatalistic
Understanding	Greedy
Willing to learn	Know it all
Sensitive	Touchy
Solitude	Lonely
Discuss	Argue
Believe in Self worth	Believes in net worth only
Guided	Misguided
Disciplined	Distorted sense of freedom
Internally driven	Externally driven
Respect Others	Looks down on others
Enjoy decency	Enjoys vulgarity
Knows Limits	Everything goes
Giver	Taker

GAME OF LIFE

To watch a football, volleyball, basketball, or any other game, without taking side may be very relaxing, but it also offers very little challenge, excitement or fun. I prepare to be a player or a coach or at least a supporter. When you are at the game playing it, it's your life ! In whatever way I can, I want to make a personal contribution to the game, a personal investment in it by my playing. My coaching or cheering a game, is a mirror image of the more important contest in life. Especially the primordial conflict between good and evil, death and life that is being played out before us right now on the field: of human history. I can't ignore this conflict. I can't just sit by and watch others struggling. I myself must become personally involved in that conflict. I must join others to push as hard as one can, up to the end beyond our limits. Make some kind of an investment in the outcome of that struggle; we must all commit ourselves to the creation of a new culture of life. Life is a precious gift, and we must live it to the full. An Indian proverb has it, "when you were born, you cried while the world rejoiced. Therefore live your lives in such a way that when you die the world cries while you rejoice". The real secret of living a life to the full is to restore a sense of focus in your days, because as you live your days so you live your life. The time to live life fully is not tomorrow but today. Whether directly by my actions or indirectly by counsel and prayers. That's precisely what it means to be a Christian. It means taking sides, and the side of good, of life. It means making a personal investment toward the outcome of human history with the whole of our lives. Mother Teresa's life helps us to reflect that what touches people most is not our words but our actions when they present the values we hold dearly.

Questions for Reflection

- What inspires you in your life?
- What do you honor in others?
- How many lives could you touch while you live out this immeasurable gift of life?

By Jim Lual, SDB



A SITE FOR MOTIVATION

www.motivation123.com

Welcome to the Motivation 123™ Web site! From the smallest of changes to complete transformations, the tips, tools, and resources you're about to discover will give you everything you need to live a richer, more rewarding life. The Monthly Motivation Checklist of this site offers a step-by-step list of tips and tricks you can put to use right now to enjoy a happier, more successful life and is updated every month with a brand new set of steps for you to put to work in your life. In need of a little inspiration? This site has a great wealth of Inspirational Stories. You'll find real-life snippets and stories of men and women that cover everything from the uplifting to the truly remarkable. Like every other areas of the site, the site is constantly updating this department with new stories of hope, inspiration, and success. Get inspired to check this site and sure you will find motivation to move ahead.

IF YOU THINK...

If you think you are outclassed, you are,
You've got to think high to rise,
You've got to be sure of yourself before
You can ever win a prize.
Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger and faster man,
But sooner or later the man who wins
Is the man who thinks he can.

By Shiv Khera

Motivation is what gets you started. Habit is what keeps you going

Without a sense of urgency, desire loses its value. Jim Rohn

