



*There is nothing more influential
in a child's life than
the moral power of quiet example.*

*For children to take
morality seriously, they must
see adults take morality seriously.*

– William J. Bennett,
The Book of Virtues

*The actions of men
are the best interpreters
of their thoughts.*

– John Locke

*In great attempts
it is glorious even to fail.*

– Cassius

*Patriotism is easy
to understand in America;
it means looking out for yourself
by looking out for your country.*

– Calvin Coolidge

*You should always be careful when
reading books about health.*

*Otherwise you might
die of a misprint.*

– Mark Twain

*He who is waiting
for something to turn up
might start with his shirt sleeves*

– Unknown

*There is nothing wrong with America
that cannot be cured
by what is right with America.*

– Pres. Bill Clinton

*I feel that the greatest reward
for doing
is the opportunity to do more.*

– Jonas Salk

*What lies behind us and what lies
before us are tiny matters compared
to what lies within us.*

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

*Our stories are
inextricably interwoven.
What you do is part of my story;
what I do is part of yours.*

– Daniel Taylor



Halfpenny in the Box

The great point about a knight was that he was always doing kindness or good turns to people. His idea was that ~~you~~ must die, but you should make up your mind that before your time comes you will do something good. Therefore, do it at once, for you never know when you will be going off.

So, with the Scouts, it has been made one of our laws that we do a good turn to somebody every day. It does not matter how small that a good turn may be, if it were only to help an old woman lift her bundle, or to guide a child across a crowded street, or to put a halfpenny in the poor box. Something good ought to be done each day of your life. Remember the knot in your necktie and on your Scouts' badge— they are reminders to you to do a good turn (daily). And do your good turn not only to your friends, but to strangers and even to your enemies.

– Robert Baden-Powell
Scouting for Boys, Part IV

The Dumbing Down.. .

The 1929 "St. Valentine's Day Massacre," which merits two mentions in the World Book Encyclopedia, consisted of seven gangsters being killed by four gunmen. Comparable violence, which might occur any weekend in Washington, D.C., or Los Angeles, has been redefined today as very nearly normal.

The redefinition is not benign: "We are," as New York's Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan puts it, "getting used to a log of behavior that is not good for us."

– William Raspberry, *Washington Post*

The Everending Story

Any love that lasts becomes a love story. A marriage, for example, is a shared story: the partners grow in love partly on the basis of shared memories, and partly on the conviction that they are on a journey together. In having children, they bring them into the story and introduce them to the characters – aunts, uncles and grandparents – who are already part of it. It is an expression of confidence that the story ought to be continued.

– William K. Kilpatrick,
Why Johnny Can't Tell Right From Wrong

America's Spirit for Volunteerism

Just as the renowned French political commentator Alexis de Tocqueville marveled at what he called "The spirit of volunteerism in America" during a visit here early in the last century, so observers still marvel at the extent to which ordinary citizens by the tens of millions contribute their time, talent, toil, and sweat working for relief of the individual or improvement of the common good. By some estimates, almost half of all Americans older than their mid-teens regularly devote at least a few hours to working without pay for the benefit of others, whether in schools, hospitals, churches, civic organizations, emergency services, or a multitude of other endeavors. Their donated time mounts into the billions of hours every year.

– Norman Vincent Peale,
The American Character

Endurance

After the cheers have died and the stadium is empty,

*After the headlines have been written,
and after you are back in the quiet of your own room
and the Super Bowl ring has been placed on the dresser;
and all the pomp and fanfare have faded,
the enduring things that are left are:*

*The dedication to excellence,
the dedication to victory,
and the dedication to doing with our lives the very best we can do
to make the world a better place in which to live.*

– Vince Lombardi (1913-1970)
Professional Football Coach

Success

See your goal.
Understand the obstacles.
Clear your mind of doubt.
Create a positive mental picture.
Embrace the challenge.
Stay on track.
Show the world you can do it!

Just a Minute...

Scoutmaster Minutes by Dave Tracewell

As Scoutmaster, I've often asked my Scouts what Loyalty means. I get some pretty interesting answers. Are you loyal to your country? To your School? To your Family? The answer is usually yes, but what does it really mean?

When I was a Scout, (yes, they did have Scouts when I was a teenager), I was Patrol Leader, and had 5 Scouts in my patrol. Two of the Scouts in my patrol, the Hawk patrol, went to another school, a rival of the school that I attended. Well, when it came to football season, there was a difference of opinion as to whose football team was the best. A few of us, including myself, were on the opposing football teams at school, and we were always saying our team was the best.

When it came time to play each other in the "big" game, it seemed that each of us played a little harder that day to prove "we were the best." Well, we were the best.. . best friends, that is. I don't even remember who won, but I do remember Dennis and Randy, and the rest of the Scouts in my patrol. Even though they were loyal to their school teams, when they were in our patrol, they were loyal to the Hawk patrol, and loyal to me as their friend.

Loyalty is the strength in one's friendship, the strength in the commitment to whatever you are doing. Many men throughout history have shown their loyalty to their country by giving up their lives in the protection of their country, their family, and in their beliefs.

Be loyal to your family, Troop, Community, and Country by helping and supporting its members, say you are proud to be associated with them.

Be loyal by obeying the laws of your community and helping its citizens, and by continuing to learn more about your country and its heritage.

Be proud of being an American, and a member of the largest youth organization in the world, *The Boy Scouts of America*.

Just a Chance

*If I were president of a bank,
And owned a railroad too,
And had Aladdin's lamp,
Do you know what I would do?*

*I'd wish to be a boy again
With patches on my pants,
A good ol' fashioned appetite,
Some playmates, and a chance.*

*A chance to join a Boy Scout Troop
With leaders such as you;
Men who would give me of their best,
All upright, kind, and true.*

*To know what "on my honor" means,
To say "I'll do my best,"
To learn to really "Be Prepared,"
Brave, clean, and all the rest.*

*To give all boys that kind of chance,
THAT is our chosen task,
Let's give them fun the Scouting way;
Is that too much to ask?*

*So, 'til all boys have had that chance,
We haven't done our best;
But when their wish is realized,
We'll know we've passed our test.*

*For someday when I'm standing
Before the great white throne,
Where I can hear the angels sing
And see the sinners moan,*

*I'll want no better advocate
To make my final plea
Than just some little boy who'll say
"Gee, God, he sure helped me."*

– Author unknown
Submitted by James Rupert

Quotes by Baden-Powell

*We never fail when we try
to do our duty—
we always fail
when we neglect to do it.*

– Rovering to Success

*Joy cometh to him who serveth,
through his brother man,
his father God.*

– Rovering to Success

*Let your ambition
be not to see how much
you can get out of work,
but how much you can put into it.*

– Rovering to Success

*We have all got to die some day;
a few years more or less of our lives
don't much matter if by dying
a year or two sooner than we should
otherwise do from disease we can
help to save the flag of our country
from going under.*

– Scouting for Boys

The wild has its charms.
– Lessons from
the Varsity of Life

*Courtesy and Politeness
pays not so much for the pleasure
it gives to him who receiveth it
as for the happiness it gives
to him that rendereth it.*

– Rovering to Success