

Title: Motivation for the Demotivated

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Foreword: Thanks for purchasing a copy of my motivational ebook. It is basically a collection of articles that I have written over the years. I have been questioned by some of my ezine subscribers when I would be writing a motivational book. Well after some wait here it is. I certainly hope you find joy and success after reading my humble words.

Making Money Amongst Murder and Mayhem

Its' official. My country is the murder capital of the world. In 2005, nearly 1700 murders were committed in Jamaica. That's more than the amount of soldiers who died in Iraq last year and that is frightening indeed.

But what does murder and mayhem has to do with making money? For me it is waking up knowing that today could be my last day. It inspires me to make the most of every opportunity that I come across.

Many of us do not experience physical murder and mayhem, but it could be taking in the mind right now. One example is being trapped in the rat race of the working world. Mind you though, working for someone is not bad, but it becomes so when your job restricts you from doing the things you have always wanted to do.

What is your passion in life? Are you living it? Then you are slowly killing your soul. What are you good at? Make a list of your passions and then select one or two that really appeal to you. Now do some research and find out what kind of business revolves around your passions.

My passions are writing, blogging and designing websites. Out of these I have developed a writing course, publish several blogs and offer web design services for local clients. Even if I don't benefit financially, I still do in other ways.

Even if you are still employed, now is the time to start doing something for yourself. There are so many things one can do to make money in any environment that you are located.

Get out there and start a business for yourself even if it is only part time. Stop pressuring yourself to please the boss and kill your soul. Plus it is not only you who would benefit but your family as well. Don't be a victim of murder and mayhem out there; make your soul be filled with renewed zest for living.

A Dollar In Your Pocket and A Dream

That's the least you need to start your own online business. Well, that's what I started with and it doesn't have to be different with you.

In today's Information Age, we are bless to have such wonderful opportunities right at our fingertips. A brick and mortar business can cost you thousands of dollars to get off the ground, where as an online business can cost you zero dollars to start.

There are many companies that you can sign up and sell their products and services for a commission. They provide marketing tools, tracking software and product links all free of cost to you. You can then market for free through classified ads, articles and forums.

At sometime you will realize that you will need to invest some money in your online business to help speed up its growth. As they say there is no free lunch, because all these stuff are available for free that does not means your success is also free. Your dollars will be well spent and will give you a more professional appearance.

For example, I know webmasters that purchase domain names just to market their affiliate products. I have seen people like Willie Crawford published an article with a web link embedded in it which redirects you to TheRichJerk.com. This is clearly an affiliate link presented in a professional format. And that domain may have cost Mr. Crawford just a few bucks.

Sorry if I have let any cat out of the bag but that's the way these people are making things happen. Here in my homeland of Jamaica, many are bewildered when I show them how easy it can be for them to start their own online business.

They are even more startled when they learn that they can set up a free website through Geocities or a free blog with Blogger and create a source of income. They can place pay per click ads or affiliate links on them and make some mail box money.

With economies around the world so unstable, it is imperative that you seek to create a stable source or multiple sources of income. And in today's world the easiest way to do so is with your own online business. All you need to start is a dollar in your pocket and a dream.

How to Use Your Pain to Gain

Pain. All of us have felt that emotion some time or the other. And most of us fear that heart-wrenching feeling that pain brings. We all have to deal with it, but some people treat it differently.

Successful people recognize and use the value of pain to gain in their lives. Any person who is a success carries with them a lot of pain inside. But what makes them different? Simple. Pain is the only road to true success in life. And that can be personal, business or family.

Athletes are a prime example. To be the best, they have to train and stretch their muscles. This in turn strengthens and builds them which makes them powerful. But to achieve this as you know can be very painful. But, these athletes know that to bear the pain gives them the edge to gain.

Being in a relationship or running a business will set you up for some pain. In business rude people, your fears and unreliable technology will cause you pain. Jealousy, fears, power struggles etc. can burn you in a relationship. But we all have to get over them.

Most people will run from the pain. They are the ones with the stories of dreams that were unfulfilled. But the truth is the only way to achieve your goal is to go through the pain.

So my friends if this moment you are feeling pain smile inside. At least you now know even if others don't, it is your path to success. Use it wisely because where there is no pain, there is no gain.

Potholes on The Road To Success

Howdy folks, today I would like to speak to you about the journey to success. Potholes on that road to be more exact. Success is the one thing that everyone aspires to attain in life. But for many it has been very elusive, leaving them to believe it is a matter of luck or a gift. Success can be achieved by all, but knowing how to achieve it puzzles many. Here are a few potholes on your journey:

1. **People:** During your journey, people's opinions will have a positive or negative impact on you. Some may say your dreams are not worth trying for, or may want to discourage you. Others will support and believe in your endeavours. The choice of which you will pay attention belongs to you.
2. **Time:** Time can be your friend or something that make your dreams slip away. It is important to use your work time positively, creatively and consistently to achieve success. Don't waste your time doing too much things that don't produce results. To get where you want to go, you need to practice efficient time management skills.
3. **Knowledge:** The possession of sufficient knowledge and know-how is critical to you. But having this knowledge is useless if it is not put to use. Remember, knowledge is potential power; the use of it is power. Learn all you can about your career, the latest trends, market changes etc. But always remember to put your knowledge to good use.
4. **You: Yes You!** A lot of people don't realise how much control they have over their destiny. Yes, things might happen that we don't want or can't understand. But the use of positive thoughts and mindset is key. Look at the truly positive people around you, do they act or think negatively? I don't think so! Try not to procrastinate too much. Work consistently and persistently on your goals to achieve success.

That's it! The following are just a few dreams layers you need to be aware of. Success can be achieved by all, but remembering these pointers will bring you much closer to it.

The Dream I Nearly Gave Up

Hello again to you my loyal readers. My very first article which I published sometime last year dealt with the topic of positive thinking and success. Today I am going to talk to you about your dreams and what they mean to your life's purpose. I am going to give you a glimpse into my life and how the before-mentioned topic relates to me.

In the year 2000, I suddenly had this crazy idea that I was going to learn to build websites. The idea just sprang "out of the blue" and I did not know a single thing about what I was getting into. Somehow I got the money to pay for the web design course that I needed to do, and three months later I finished the course and my first website (determination).

During this period of time, I was laughed at and ridiculed by some of my co-workers who thought that my new field of endeavor was a crackpot. I even gave up on myself for a few months just to ease the tension and to avert the criticisms. Eventually, I came around to and decided that I was going to do it and follow things through no matter what (courage).

For period of three years, I marketed my website (without a computer of my own) from obscurity to the top of the search engines. You may be asking yourself, "how did he do it"? I spent my lunch hour (most of it!!) and any free time that I got to work on it, day after day without any visible signs of progress (persistence).

Then it began. Six months after hours of tedious work, I broke into the top ten for the search term "Mandeville, Jamaica". I was elated by that achievement, because of the obstacles that I had faced and because most of my competitors were the "big boys". A few months later I won an award for the work that I did on my website and to top it all – a number 1 (# 1) listing in Google, Yahoo and AOL. This was accomplished by overcoming many obstacles along the way most of which I just ran right over.

This experience taught me a lot about life and how I should follow my dreams through to end. So my friends in whatever you are striving for at this very moment and you are not seeing any results, push on. Because once you do so success WILL come, it's just a matter of time. Keep on hanging in there, my brothers and sisters and I will see you at the bank. Remember, life always goes in favor of the brave and action taker. What action are you taking today to achieve your goals?

Develop Guts to Achieve Glory

It is just amazing the amount of people who don't have the courage to go after their dreams. They sit around living a life they are not happy with and still they do nothing about it.

And the funny thing is that if you should ask them the reason for this, they start finding excuses left, right and center. They vary from money to age to the economy and others you might be familiar with.

Many of us are waiting for Lady Luck to pay us a surprise visit. We blindly believe that that will be the end of our troubles. But this is hardly so. We have to work hard and wisely for the success we desire.

To make something of ourselves in this world calls for us to overcome obstacles and setbacks. But my biggest obstacle is my fears and you may find yourself in a similar position.

Not facing our fears and moving on could be the difference between success and failure. So what's to do?

All it takes is the will and guts to go ahead and create something worthwhile in this world. We can all achieve success but we need to conquer our FEARS.

The man without fear is one who is not living. We all have our personal fears. It can be fear of failure, success or people's opinion. But you have to face them to achieve success.

Ask any successful person and they will tell you this secret. A brave person is someone who acts in spite of his or her fears. So ask yourself, what fears do you need to conquer to reach your goals?

Do You Have Staying Power?

"If you are going through hell, keep on going" - Sir Winston Churchill

Staying Power. Some of you may know that record by the late Barry White. On that track, he was talking about his love making abilities and his prowess at it.

That is not what this article is about. It is about that trait that sets successful people apart from the failures, whether it is in business or in marriage.

How staying power does relate to online marketing? It is a fact that successful marketers have that ability. For them, it is simply a matter of sticking around when things don't work out the way they want it to.

Staying Power. Abraham Lincoln, Winston Churchill and many other great men and women all had it. It was that ability which made them different from being simple dreamers and wishers.

They had to have it to make their dreams and aspirations become a reality. This is the kind of attitude that we all need to have. Some people are born that way and luckily for the rest of us, it can be learnt.

Staying power requires persistence, consistency and a "never say die" attitude. With practice one can develop their staying power in any area of life they are engaged.

If you are serious about making your business and personal endeavors survive the long haul, start by thinking about ways you can develop your staying power. It really works!

You don't have to take my word for it. Next time you happen to see Oprah Winfrey, Bill Gates or Arnold Schwarzenegger ask them. Their answer would not be far from what I expected.

How Do You Define Your Success?

How does an online marketer define success? There are many ways to describe success, but does it always have to do with a hefty bank balance?

I can consider myself to be an online success. Heck, I am not making a ton of money every month or consider myself to be a guru.

So how could someone say they are a success with little to show for it? Again, it all fits with your definition of success.

For years too many people have believe that success is all about the realization of material things. This has caused many persons to chase after their dreams in frustration and then give up.

Because they are not making lots of money in the online gold rush, they think that they are losers and they are because they think themselves into failure.

Anyone who adds value to another person's life is a success in my eyes. As long as they provide something to make you happier, make more money or feel good about yourself they are successful.

We have many unsung heroes among us. They have overcome adversities and personal crisis in their lives and still have the drive to make another's live better. They are rarely seen in the news or on television.

They don't have to anyway. Why? Because they already know who they are and their limits and capabilities. Telling them is just reminding them of who they are.

Keeping track of where you started and where you are now should give you some idea of how much progress you have made.

So are you already a success or are you waiting on someone to tell you so? I hope not.

Strive or Strife?

That is the question I have been asking myself since the first day of this year dawned. Prosperity and adversity is experienced each day by everyone but how can we keep the former in our lives?

The successful among us know and use certain traits in order for them to achieve their goals. Now some persons believe that these people were born this way when in fact they had to develop their winning traits.

Strivers have an eye for opportunity as they are quick to grasp the situation as it presents itself. In other words they more easily see the solution to a common need. Strifers fail to see these opportunities as they are busy complaining about life. They are the ones who are usually left behind.

Strivers know how to discipline themselves in order for them to reach their goals. While the strifer is out enjoying himself at the bar or in front of the television, the striver is busy putting his latest move in motion. Yet, he stills know the importance of downtime.

Strivers have a need to achieve. They are always looking forward to the next move or conquest. Strifers are satisfied with the mundane activities of day to day life.

Strivers have an appetite for work. They willingly put in long hard hours even if the returns are not immediate. Strifers are the ones who give up more easily in the quest to find success. They rarely use the power of persistence to their advantage.

Strivers know how to make stress work for them in a positive way. They often focus on the end result and not the process of reaching there. All the strifer can see is the obstacles and roadblocks to which he makes a hasty retreat.

Strivers know how to think for themselves. They may seek out the advice of others but after analyzing all the information they make their own decisions. The strifer is easily swayed by the opinions and thoughts of others.

Strivers normally like to be independent. They cherish being their own boss and the freedom it brings whether financially or personally. Many strifers are content with receiving a paycheck every fortnight of month. Which would you prefer wages or profits?

Strivers like to maintain a healthy cash flow. They know that profits are the measure of their business success. Since strifers fail to use their winning traits they have more of a cash trickle than a flow.

Do you have what it takes to be a striver? It takes time and work. The good thing is that if you are a strifer you can evolve into a striver. All it takes is the passion to develop the traits which will make you strive.

After the Storm.....

Have you ever wondered why is it that after we go through a bad phase in life we seem to come out better for it? It use to puzzle me too until recently after I stared down a gunman's nozzle I realized why.

If you have ever been in a situation like I did and survived to tell the tale you would be more than grateful for everything. And the worst part is that my family home was invaded by gunmen which left us with a feeling of being so vulnerable.

I used to place little emphasis on the things that matter the most to me in like my family, my friends and the joy I get from accomplishing goals and helping people.

It was after that I began to really feel the joy in seeing simple things like the tree leaves dancing in the gentle summer breeze. It was then that I began to really appreciate the twinkle of love in my daughter's eyes every time she sees me.

Listen, I happen to live in the crime capital of the Caribbean which is Jamaica. There is not a single day that you don't read or hear negative news or stories coming your way. The caustic gossip and idle chatter that surround you can make you feel miserable absorbing all this stuff.

That's why it is important to develop a positive attitude towards life. Developing one does not happen overnight but it can be done. Doing things like reading inspirational literature and articles, listening to uplifting music and having constructive talks with others are ways to build up your positive attitude.

If more people could get access to books like Think and Grow Rich and The Laws of Success among others what would be the impact on our society? It is materials like these that we need to use to build up our self-esteem so as for us to have greater respect for life and people.

Did that gunman scare the life out of me? Hell no. Instead he made me appreciate life more than ever. It made me realize that no matter what you have been through you can overcome. Life's too short to be brooding over what when wrong or what might have been.

All I am focus on right now is to make use of whatever time I have left on earth. I have even stopped thinking about what others think about me because it doesn't matter anymore to me.

As someone once said, "Those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind". Stay positive, it is the best way to reach out for success.