

Tough Times Never Last, but Tough People Do

by Robert Schuller (1983)

Inspire others with a cheerful attitude while going through a tough time. If you don't have any advice to give, share your own story. People who never take a chance, never get ahead. Everybody has problems, we must learn to solve & manage problems. Never take your eye off of your goal & keep moving toward it. After you achieve a goal, set another.

One man's problem is another man's opportunity. We may not choose our problem, but we can choose our response to it [do we quit or conquer?]. Choose to hear positive input & not negative. We strive for & achieve far less than our capabilities. The only one who can make the decisions & live with the results is you.

Prioritize what is important & start right now [don't procrastinate]. When something seems impossible, write down 10 possible solutions [think outside the box]. Believe God can be creative through me; write down my dream; share it with others & let them be part of it; never quit. Faith begins when you believe in the ideas God gives you [lack of self-confidence will destroy it].

God help me believe in myself. You can be very decisive when it doesn't contradict your values. Tell yourself: 'if he can do it, I can do it'. There is a point in every adventure that we are all in or back out. **The hardest times are right before there is victory [push on].** God created you to be somebody who inspires others.

There is a pile of rejections in order to get the "yes". Don't make major decisions when you're discouraged. Pray through problems. Tackle your problem today. Decide & act on it. **The life I have today is the result of choices I've made in the past.** I can do anything if I believe & never quit. Visualize yourself the way you want to be [see yourself as He sees you].

Ask yourself: God, who am I? Why am I here? Where am I headed? Can my actions inspire others to be a better person? Is there a good idea in your mind right now? [don't waste it. Do something now.] What goal would I set if I knew I couldn't fail? **If I continue the way I am, will I get where I really want to go?**

Robert Schuller had his church for 6 yrs in a drive-in theater. In 1968 they moved into the Tower of Hope & 1980 opened the Crystal Cathedral [inflation drove it to \$20M]. Later he opened Rancho Capistrano Renewal Center.

Quotes:

"Great people are ordinary people with extraordinary amounts of determination."

"The secret of success is to find a need & fill it." "Believe it & you can achieve it." **"I'd rather attempt something great & fail than attempt nothing & succeed."** "Success is never certain & failure never final." "New powers are discovered every time you push yourself farther than you've ever gone before."

"All we have to fear is fear itself." [FDR] "God should be a resource in the struggle, not a way around it." [Grady Nutt]

“If it’s going to be, it’s up to me.” “Never let a problem become an excuse.” “If you know divorce is not an option, it is amazing how you can learn to love again.” “Today’s decisions are tomorrow’s realities.” “Beginning is half done.” “You won’t win if you don’t begin.” “The me I see is the me I’ll be.” “There will never be another now – I’ll make the most of today. There will never be another me – I’ll make the most of myself.” “Have faith in your faith & doubt your doubts.” [Robert Schuller]

Scripture: For I know the plans I have for you...for good & not evil. [Jer 29:11]
But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength... [Is 40:31]
If God is for us, who can be against us? [Rom 8:31]

Books: You Can Become the Person You Want to Be. Move Ahead with Possibility Thinking.
[Robert Schuller]
The Positive Family [Mrs R. Schuller]; Run, Patty, Run [about Patty Wilson]

Poem: I shut the door on yesterday & throw the key away. Tomorrow has no fears for me since I have found today.

Comments: The sun is still there even when we cannot see it during a storm. But the clouds will pass & we will see it again. We all have rough spots in life. Have faith & keep pushing on. It will get better.