

### **A Moments Wisdom 2013**

You cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late.

There are only two times in life: now and too late.

Nostalgia: When you find the present tense and past perfect.

For of all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these: It might have been!

Some choices we live not only once but a thousand times over, remembering them for the rest of our lives.

Everything comes too late for those who only wait.

When you realize you have made a mistake, make amends immediately. It's easier to eat crow while it's still warm.

An apology is a good way to have the last word.

Never ruin an apology with an excuse.

Today's new friend is tomorrow's family.

The language of prayer is forged in the crucible of trouble.

The best way to make your dreams come true is to wake up.

Reputation is for time; character is for eternity.

He who has never learned to obey cannot be a good commander.

Happiness is not a state to arrive at, but a manner of traveling.

Too many people are praying for mountains of difficulty to be removed, when what they really -need is courage to climb them.

Those who know God will be humble, and those who know themselves cannot be proud.

Admitting you are wrong proves you wiser now than you were before.

We must strive without strife; we must contend without malicious contention.

Of all the commentaries on the scriptures, good examples are the best.

If you want to get even with someone, start with someone who has helped you.

Only man, among all living things, says prayers, or even needs to.

We have no one to blame but ourselves when our enthusiasm and zeal are gone, if we have failed to feed them. --Robbie J. Cox

Companionship with God is one of the greatest things we can possibly get from prayer.

Leaving in a huff is some folk's favorite form of transportation.

I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work. (Thomas Edison)

You don't get to choose how you're going to die. Or when. You can only decide how you're going to live. Now.

The last of the human freedoms is to choose one's attitudes.

Never look down on anybody, unless you are going to help them up.

Remember, people will judge you by your actions, not your intentions. You may have a heart of gold, but so does a hard-boiled egg.

Start with what is right rather than what is acceptable.

A pessimist, confronted with two bad choices, chooses both.

We all find ourselves in situations that at times seem hopeless. And, we all have the choice to do nothing or take action.

Be miserable. Or motivate yourself. It's always your choice in whatever has to be done.

Courage is knowing what not to fear. (Plato)

Believing is seeing. It's much more effective than the old notion that seeing is believing.

Have courage for the great sorrows of life, and patience for the small ones. And when you have laboriously accomplished your daily tasks, go to sleep in peace. God is awake.

There are two kinds of people: those that say to God, 'Thy will be done,' and those to whom God says, 'All right, then, have it your way.'

I can see how a man can look down upon the earth and be an atheist, but I cannot conceive how he could look up into the heavens and say there is no God.

If everyone swept in front of his own house, the whole town would be clean.

The sinning child can never know the burden he places on the heart of that loving mother and father by his actions.

The highest reward God gives to us for good work is the ability to do better.

It is a curious thought, but it is only when you see people looking ridiculous that you realize just how much you love them.

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people may forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.

You must learn to let go and move on instead of carrying the pain in you. You don't have the right to cause pain to yourself.

Be certain your passion for equality is not an attempt to portray your envy as a virtue.  
A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him.

Some "deep" preachers aren't really deep; they just muddy the water so much that you can't see the bottom of the creek.

When it's foggy in the pulpit, it's cloudy in the pew.

The backslider likes preaching that wouldn't hit the side of a barn, while the real disciple is delighted when the truth brings him to his knees.

Do the best that you can. Those who count will know that about you.

Truth is seldom at the extremes of human viewpoints.

If you want something done right, give the task to someone who is already busy.

When arguing with a fool, be certain he is not similarly engaged.

Money and power do not change a man. They merely amplify what was already there.

Some days you get the bear. Other days the bear gets you.

Criticism is an acknowledgement of your ability to produce results. Rational persons do not correct the impotent or incompetent.

When a church loses its focus on its work, it's because its leadership lost focus on theirs.

Sin is anything that separates us from God. If we are so good that we don't feel any need for God's mercy, then our goodness is sin.

The greatest pleasure I know is to do a good action by stealth, and to have it found out by accident.

Let us not paralyze our capacity for good by brooding over man's capacity for evil.

The omission of good is no less reprehensible than the commission of evil.

Ever stop to think and forget to start again?

The spiritual eyesight improves as the physical eyesight declines.

At twenty we worry about what others think of us; at forty we don't care about what others think of us; at sixty we discover they haven't been thinking about us at all.

There is only one part of the universe you can be certain of improving, and that's your own self.

There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it.

Until you make peace with who you are, you'll never be content with what you have.  
It's not true that nice guys finish last. Nice guys are winners before the game even starts.

You cannot shake hands with a clenched fist.

English is the perfect language for politicians because it allows them to talk until they think of something to say.

It takes less time to do a thing right than to explain why you did it wrong.

I resolve to be wise when I cannot be merry, easy when I cannot be glad, content with what cannot be mended and patient when there is no remedy.

Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your focus off your goals.

Doing an injury puts you below your enemy; revenging one makes you even with him; forgiving him sets you above him.

The man who toots his own horn soon has everyone dodging when he approaches.

A good leader is someone who takes more than his share of the blame and a little less than his share of the credit.

Having problems is not so bad. There is a special place reserved for people who are problem-free. It is called the cemetery.

I thank Thee, O Lord, that Thou has so set eternity within my heart that no earthly thing can ever satisfy me wholly.

He who neglects to drink of the spring of experience is apt to die of thirst in the desert of ignorance.

Unless we are willing to help a person overcome his faults, there is little value in pointing them out.

No one on his own deathbed ever repents of having been a Christian.

The good Samaritan didn't wait for the media to arrive before he did his thing.

There is a difference between charity and giving away what you no longer want.

He whose goal is to please his audience usually fails God, and he who pleases God cannot please all his audience.

Kind hearts are the garden. Kind thoughts are the roots. Kind words are the flowers.

And, kind deeds are the fruits.

The big jobs of tomorrow are for the man who is doing today's small jobs as best as he can.

A small house can hold as much happiness as a big one.

The child's first school is the family.

Mother's write on the hearts of their children what the world's rough hand cannot erase.

Don't place too much confidence in a man who boasts of being as honest as the day is long. Wait until you meet him at night.

Honesty is the first chapter of the book of wisdom.

People who are brutally honest often get more satisfaction out of the brutality than out of the honesty.

Bumper Sticker: Live right so the preacher won't have to lie at your funeral.

Integrity without knowledge is weak and useless, and knowledge without integrity is dangerous and dreadful.

Don't call a man honest just because he never had the chance to steal.

If you do not tell the truth about yourself you cannot tell it about other people.

I believe every child has hidden away somewhere in his being, noble capacities which may be quickened and developed if we go about it in the right way.

Half of the harm that is done in this world is due to people who want to feel important.

They don't mean to do harm but the harm does not interest them.

The trick is in what one emphasizes. We either make ourselves miserable, or we make ourselves strong. The amount of work is the same.

The atheist has to look at Spring bursting forth and try real hard not to think about God.

A smile is the shortest distance between two people.

Procrastination is the fertilizer that makes difficulties grow.

Criticism comes easier than craftsmanship.

“Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me. But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.” (Jesus Christ)

“Fairy tales do not tell children that dragons exist. Children already know that dragons exist. Fairy tales tell children that dragons can be killed.” (G. K. Chesterton)

“When we were children, we used to think that when we grew up we would no longer be vulnerable. But to grow up is to accept vulnerability. To be alive is to be vulnerable.”

(Madeleine L'Engle)

“If you want children to keep their feet on the ground, put some responsibility on their shoulders.” (Abigail Van Buren)

It is not talking, but walking, that will bring us to heaven.

Age mellows some people; others it makes rotten.

A friend can tell you things you don't want to tell yourself.

Similarities create friendships while differences hold them together.

To know the value of generosity, it is necessary to have suffered from the cold indifference of others.

If you get up one more time than you fall, you will make it through.

He who conquers others is strong; He who conquers himself is mighty.

Take time to deliberate; but when the time for action arrives, stop thinking and go in.

Nothing will ever be attempted if all possible objections must first be overcome.

I avoid looking forward or backward, and try to keep looking upward.

Much tongue and good judgment seldom go together.

May the mother-in-law remember that she was once a daughter-in-law.

A narrow mind and a wide mouth usually go together.

Don't expect your neighbor to be better than your neighbor's neighbor.

When you obey your supervisor, it instructs your subordinates.

Obstacles always show up when you remove your focus from the goal.

The greater the obstacle, the more glory in overcoming it.

Many people use their youth to make their old age miserable.

The fools and the dead never change their opinions.

Opportunities are often lost when we are broadcasting instead of tuning in.

Even when opportunity knocks, a man must rise up out of his seat and open the door.

It takes a strong man to swim against the current; any dead fish can float along with it.

A cloud cannot cast a shadow on you unless the sun is shining behind it.

Trying to resolve a problem with blame is like trying to unsnarl a traffic jam by blowing your horn.

Seen on a bumper sticker: "Too blessed to complain."

Learning without thought is labor lost; thought without learning is perilous.

Success in life is a matter not so much of talent or opportunity as of concentration and perseverance.

Take time to deliberate; but when the time for action arrives, stop thinking and go in.

The great thing in this world is not so much where you stand, as in what direction you are moving.

Nothing will ever be attempted if all possible objections must first be overcome.

I avoid looking forward or backward, and try to keep looking upward.

The soul of conversation is empathy.

Govern your life and thoughts as if the whole world were to see the one and read the other.

As the sculptor devotes himself to stone, so I must devote myself to my soul.

Fortify yourself with contentment, for this is an impregnable fortress.

You cannot depend on your eyes when your imagination is out of focus.

Receive love. Give love. Repeat.

The worldly may mock our message, but they can't stop our prayers.

The language of prayer is forged in the crucible of trouble. When we can't help ourselves and call for help, when we don't like where we are and want out, when we don't like who we are and want a change, we use primal language, and this language becomes the root language of prayer. (E. Peterson)

Forgiving does not erase the bitter past. A healed memory is not a deleted memory.

Instead, forgiving what we cannot forget creates a new way to remember. We change the memory of our past into a hope for our future.

Each day of our lives we make deposits in the memory banks of our children.

There are lots of people who mistake their imagination for their memory.

If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.

The advantage of a bad memory is that one enjoys several times the same good things for the first time.

Why is it that our memory is good enough to retain the least triviality that happens to us, and yet not good enough to recollect how often we have done it to others?

The nose can't be a foot successfully; and if it tries to be a foot, it won't be a good nose, either.

Many can argue; not many can converse.

Such as are thy habitual thoughts, such also will be the character of thy mind; for the soul is dyed by the thoughts.

Adapt yourself to the life you have been given; and truly love the people with whom destiny has surrounded you.

Don't tell people how to do their jobs. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity.

To reach a port, we must sail. Sail, not tie up at anchor. Sail, not drift along.

Silence does not always mark wisdom.

Many can argue; not many converse.

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.

Nothing is permanent in this wicked world, not even our troubles.

If you don't have time to do it right, when will you have time to do it over?

True friendship is like sound health; the value of it is seldom known until it be lost.

Success is dependent upon the glands -- the sweat glands.

A habit cannot be tossed out the window; it must be coaxed down the stairs a step at a time.

Facts are facts and will not disappear on account of your likes or dislikes.

When one door closes another door opens; but we so often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door, that we do not see the ones which open for us.

Even if you are on the right track, you will get run over if you just sit there.

If you do what you've always done, you'll get what you've always got.

The best way to have what you want, is to want what you have.

There are two kinds of people, those who do the work and those who take the credit.

Try to be in the first group; there is less competition there.

Happiness is an attitude of mind, born of the simple determination to be happy under all outward circumstances.

One generation's innovation becomes the next one's tradition which in turn becomes the next one's sacred cow.

On the Internet you can be anything you want. It's strange that so many people choose to be stupid.

Don't tell me what others said about me; tell me instead why they felt comfortable enough to say it to you.

I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it.

The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear.

Take a deep breath. It's just a bad day, not a bad life.

A bad attitude is like a flat tire, you can't go anywhere until you change it.

A smooth sea never made a skilled sailor.

Mostly it is loss that teaches us the worth of things.

Consider how hard it is to change yourself, and you will understand how difficult it will be to change others.