

THE WISDOM OF



DILIGENT PERSISTENCE

ON THE WIND: THE WRIGHT BROTHERS



NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM • SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION • WASHINGTON, D.C.

Commemorating Man's First Powered Flight by Orville and Wilbur Wright • December 17, 1903

Kitty Hawk, North Carolina

"This flight lasted only 12 seconds, but it was unquestionably the first in the history of the world in which a machine carrying a man had raised itself by its own power into the air in full flight, had sailed forward without aid of wings, and had finally landed at a point as high as that from which it started."

—THE NEW YORK TIMES, "How the Men Made the First Flight"





“Many of life’s failures are people who did not realise how close they were to success when they gave up.”

– Thomas Edison

Diligent persistence in pursuing
the correct goals in life



is

the key to success.

Did I miss something?

Is it just me?

Is there a shortcut?

Maybe, I should try “name it and
claim it”?

Or maybe, my faith is just too weak?

Perhaps, I should just...give up.

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How you respond to setbacks
will determine your ultimate
success or failure.

A **slack** hand causes poverty,
but the hand of the **diligent** makes rich.
He who gathers in summer is a **prudent**
son,
but he who sleeps in harvest is a son
who brings **shame**

Proverbs 10:4-5

The hand of the diligent will rule,
while the slothful will be put to
forced labor.

Proverbs 12:24

The soul of the **sluggard**
craves and gets nothing,
while the soul of the **diligent**
is richly supplied.

Proverbs 13:4

The **sluggard** says, “There is a lion
in the road!

There is a lion in the streets!”

As a door turns on its hinges,
so does a **sluggard** on his bed

Proverbs 26:13-14

Proverbs' Contrast on Success and Failure

Not

- ❖ Clever vs Stupid
- ❖ Beautiful vs Ugly
- ❖ Rich vs Poor
- ❖ Lucky vs Unlucky

But

- ❖ **Diligent** vs Lazy
- ❖ **Wise** vs Foolish
- ❖ **Persistent** vs
Quitter





10 Lessons Learned From the Resignation of Mark Driscoll

11:00 EDT 10/16/2014 | JOSEPH...

3) Love is more important than achievement and results.

First Corinthians 13 teaches us, the greatest of all attributes is love! God is not impressed with what we accomplish as much as He is interested in why and how we do the things we do. When we objectify the people in our church to get the results we want we are de-humanizing them and are missing the point—even if we seem to get great short-term results!

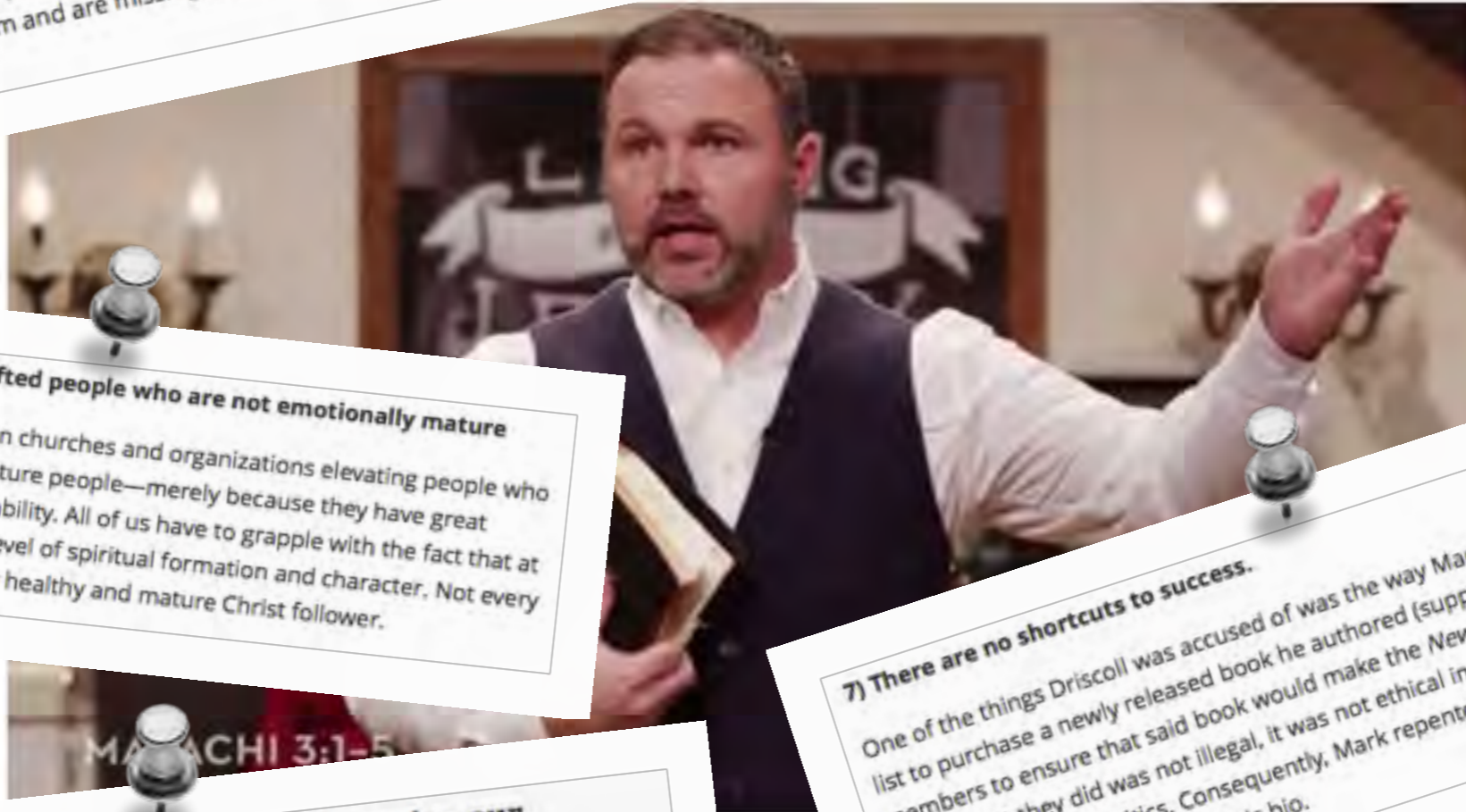
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5) The church often elevates gifted people who are not emotionally mature

Over and over again I see Christian churches and organizations elevating people who are emotionally broken and immature people—merely because they have great charisma or preaching or singing ability. All of us have to grapple with the fact that at times our talent can outpace our level of spiritual formation and character. Not every popular preacher is an emotionally healthy and mature Christ follower.

6) When we do not build on character and integrity, our foundation is sand.

We need to build our life upon the foundation of character and integrity—not our gifts and talent. Jesus speaks about the "be attitudes" before He calls us to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world (Matt. 5:1-16). A life built upon gifts and talents without commensurate integrity and character will not finish well; it is a train wreck waiting to happen!

7) There are no shortcuts to success.

One of the things Driscoll was accused of was the way Mars Hill used its vast mailing list to purchase a newly released book he authored (supposedly) from church members to ensure that said book would make the *New York Times* best-seller list. While what they did was not illegal, it was not ethical in regard to the biblical ethic according to some critics. Consequently, Mark repented of this and took the *NY Times* best-seller status off of his bio.

or of Ma... Seattle,
ch. While... involved with him denied
ing board of Mars Hill concluded Driscoll
conflict with a quick temper and harsh
domineering manner," but had "never

any immorality, illegality or heresy. Most of the charges involved
attitudes and behaviors reflected by a domineering style of leadership."

For you have **need of
endurance**, so that when you
have done the will of God you
may receive what is promised.

Hebrews 10:36

for you know that the testing of
your faith produces steadfastness.
And **let steadfastness have its full
effect**, that you may be perfect and
complete, lacking in nothing

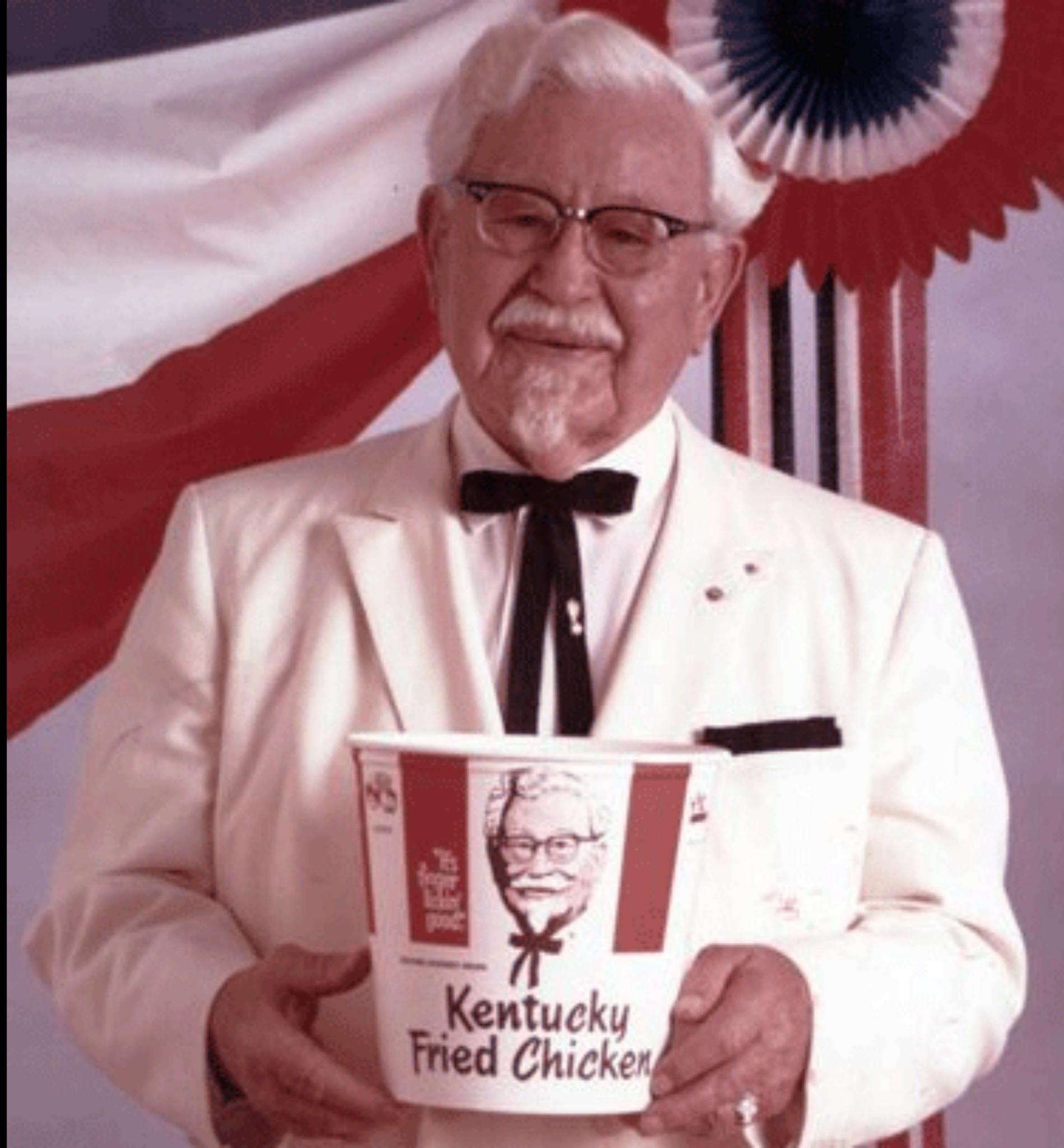
James 1:3-4



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1. Let go of the past



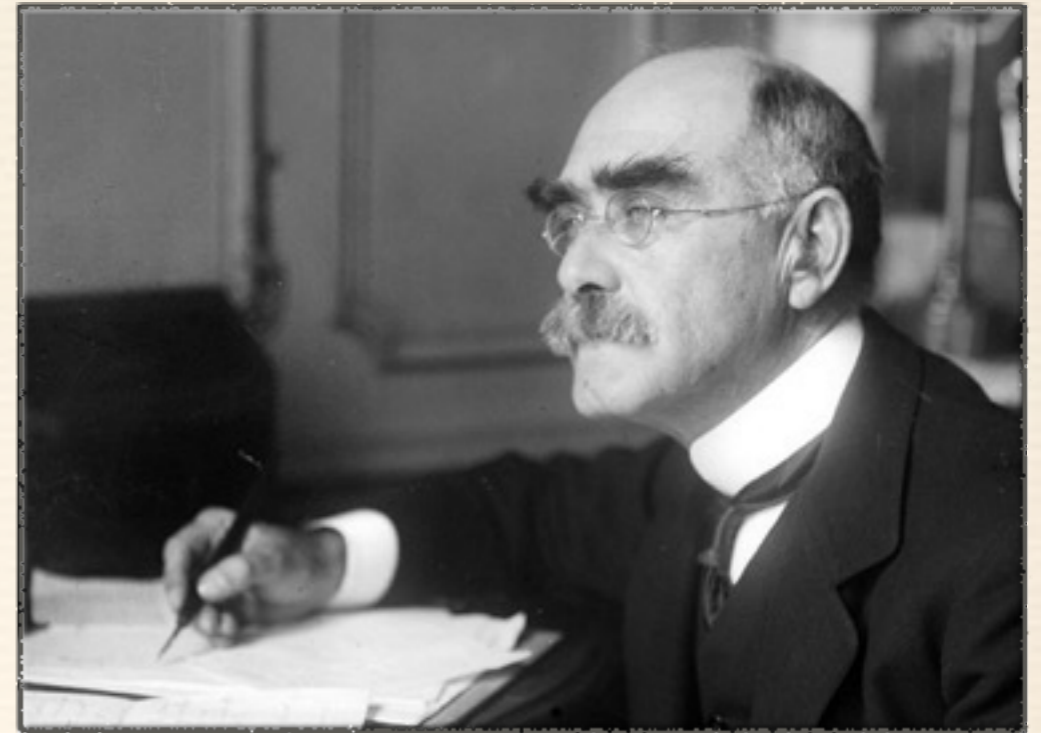
Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus

Philippians 3:13-14

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1. Let go of the past
2. Anticipate Setbacks



Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also **lay aside every weight**, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

Hebrews 12:1

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1. Let go of the past
2. Anticipate Setbacks
3. Pursue the right goals

Remember also your Creator **in the days of your youth**, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, “I have no pleasure in them”;

Ecclesiastes 12:1

1. Does my goals violate any commands or principles in God's Word?
2. Is my goal in keeping with God's general purpose for my life?
3. How will the achievement of my goal honor God?

WHAT IF YOUR
BLESSINGS
COME THROUGH RAINDROPS?
WHAT IF YOUR
HEALING
COMES THROUGH TEARS?
WHAT IF A THOUSAND SLEEPLESS NIGHTS
ARE WHAT IT TAKES
TO KNOW YOU'RE NEAR?
WHAT IF TRIALS OF THIS LIFE ARE YOUR
MERCIES
IN DIGUISE?

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18



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in pursuing the right goals in life



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