
Teaching the Code for Living

Series I: Quotations on the Code

Quotable quotes which illustrate
the Code for Living



***Winning More
Than The Game***

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***I will develop my skills to the best of my ability
and give my best effort in practice and competition.***

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." - Aristotle

"The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary." - Vidal Sassoon

"The will to win is important, but the will to prepare is vital." - Joe Paterno

"I tried to convince my players that they could never be truly successful or attain peace of mind unless they had the self-satisfaction of knowing they had done their best. Although I wanted them to work to win, I tried to convince them they had always won when they had done their best." - John Wooden

"Goals achieved with little effort are seldom appreciated and give no personal satisfaction." - John Wooden

"I don't think it makes sense to strive for perfection. Perfection is not attainable. I believe totally in striving for excellence, and I think there is a great deal of difference between the two. Although we strive for excellence, we set sensible goals because one of the most frustrating things in the world is to set our goals so high that we have no chance of reaching them." - Bart Starr

"I was out there to play and give it all I had. I looked at it like 'I'm doing my best.' If I got a hit, fine. I always felt good that I had given my best." - Joe DiMaggio

"Whether you think you can, or can't, you're right." - Henry Ford

"A dream is something you think about. A goal is something you are willing to work toward achieving. A dream becomes a goal when you start to make it come true." (Kramer, 1992)

"I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more I have of it." Thomas Jefferson

"There is no point at which you can say 'Well, I'm successful. I might as well take a nap.'" Carrie Fisher

"Defeat is not the worst of failures. Not to have tried is the true failure." George E. Wood

"It is better to shoot for the stars and miss than aim for the gutter and hit it." Anonymous

"It is the fight alone that pleases us, not the victory." Blaise Pascal

"Many a man has finally succeeded only because he has failed after repeated efforts. If he had never met defeat he would never have known any great victory." Orison Swett Marden

"Only those who dare to fail greatly can ever achieve greatly." Robert F. Kennedy

"The cheerful loser is the winner." Elbert Hubbard

"Success is peace of mind, which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best you are capable of becoming." - John Wooden

"The healthiest competition occurs when average people win by putting in above-average effort." - General Colin Powell

"You miss 100% of the shots you never take." Wayne Gretzky

continued...

"Leaders aren't born, they are made. And they are made just like anything else, through hard work. And that's the price we'll have to pay to achieve that goal, or any goal." - Vince Lombardi

"It's not whether you get knocked down; it's whether you get up." - Vince Lombardi

"I have always felt that although someone may defeat me, and I strike out in a ball game, the pitcher on the particular day was the best player. But I know when I see him again, I'm going to be ready for his curve ball. Failure is a part of success. There is no such thing as a bed of roses all your life. But failure will never stand in the way of success if you learn from it." - Hank Aaron

"Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising everytime we fall." - Confucius

"Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goal." - Henry Ford

"Experience shows that success is due less to ability than to zeal. The winner is he who gives himself to his work, body and soul." - Charles Buxton

"Never mind what others do; do better than yourself, beat your own record from day to day, and you are a success." - William J.H. Boetcker

"You wonder how they do it and you look to see the knack,
You watch the foot in action, or the shoulder, or the back,
But when you spot the answer where the higher glammers lurk,
You'll find in moving higher up the laurel covered spire,
That the most of it is practice and the rest of it is work."
- Grantland Rice, "How to Be a Champion."

"Remember this your lifetime through--
Tomorrow, there will be more to do . . .
And failure waits for all who stay
With some success made yesterday . . .
Tomorrow, you must try once more
And even harder than before."
- John Wooden

"Do not throw in the towel; use it for wiping the sweat off your face." -unknown

"I ran and ran and ran every day, and I acquired this sense of determination, this sense of spirit that I would never, never give up, no matter what else happened." - Wilma Rudolph

"It's not the will to win that matters – everyone has that. It's the will to prepare to win that matters."
- Paul 'Bear' Bryant

I will compete within the spirit and letter of the rules of my sport.

"Anybody who gets away with something will come back to get away with a little bit more." - Harold Schoenberg

"We who coach have great influence on the lives of all the young men who come under our supervision, and the lives we lead will play an important role in their future. It is essential that we regard this as a sacred trust and set the example that we know is right. We must try to prevent the pressures for winning scores from causing us to swerve from moral principles." - John Wooden

"If you keep too busy learning the tricks of the trade, you may never learn the trade." - John Wooden

"Men do not stumble over mountains, but over molehills." - Confucius

"Character may be manifested in the great moments, but it is made in the small ones." Phillip Brooks

"We didn't lose the game; we just ran out of time." Vince Lombardi

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I will respect the dignity of every human being, and will not be abusive or dehumanizing of another either as an athlete or as a fan.

"Treat people as if they were what they ought to be and you help them to become what they are capable of being." - Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

"It's pretty hard to expect a boy not to do something that he knows you do. I always tried to live the life I wanted them to follow." - John Wooden

"By inflection you can say much more than your words do." - Malcolm S. Forbes

"The other person is a person, just as I am." Albert Switzer

"No one can make you feel inferior without your consent." Eleanor Roosevelt

"The true measure of a man is how he treats someone who can do him no good."

"Talent develops in tranquility, character in the full current of human life." Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

"One man practicing sportsmanship is far better than a hundred teaching it." - Knute Rockne

"Continuous effort, not strength or intelligence, is the key to unlocking our potential." - Liane Cordes

"It's important that people know what you stand for--and what you won't stand for." - Mary Waldrip

"Be a gentleman at all times.

Never criticize, nag, or razz a teammate.

Be a team player always.

Never be selfish, jealous, envious, or egotistical.

Earn the right to be proud and confident.

Never expect favors, alibi or make excuses.

Never lose faith or patience.

Courtesy and politeness are a small price to pay for the good will and affection of others.

Acquire peace of mind by becoming the best that you are capable of becoming."

- from John Wooden's set of normal expectations.

I will place team goals ahead of personal goals.

"Ask not what your teammates can do for you. Ask what you can do for your teammates." - Magic Johnson

"The moment we break faith with one another, the sea engulfs us and the light goes out." - James Baldwin

"We must all hang together, else we shall all hang separately." - Benjamin Franklin, on the signing of the Declaration of Independence

"A team championship exposes the limits of self-reliance, selfishness, and irresponsibility. One man alone can't make it happen; in fact, the contrary is true: a single man can prevent it from happening. The success of the group assures the success of the individual, but not the other way around." - Bill Bradley

"It is amazing how much can be accomplished if no one cares who gets the credit." - John Wooden

"In order to have a winner, the team must have a feeling of unity; every player must put the team first ahead of personal glory." - Bear Bryant

"There is no 'I' in the word team." - unknown

"Some say you have to use your five best players, but I found out you win with the five who fit together best as a team." - Red Auerbach

"No two snowflakes are alike. It's inspiring that they work so well together on such joint projects as closing schools and making roads impassable."

"Success is just a matter of attitude." Darcy E. Gibbons

"Success is dependent on effort." Sophocles

"The way a team plays as a whole determines its success. You may have the greatest bunch of individual stars in the world, but if they don't play together, the club won't be worth a dime." Babe Ruth

"A leader is interested in finding the best way--not in having his own way." - Wilfred A. Peterson

"Teamwork teaches that each member of the organization must sacrifice for another--for the good of everyone." - Frank Leahy

"Teamwork means success--work together, win together." - unknown

"We don't play to one man, we play as a unit." - John Havlicek

"Everyone contributed, even the guys on the bench. It's a team."

"It's not fair to ask of others what you are unwilling to do yourself." Eleanor Roosevelt

"Teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to produce uncommon results." -unknown

I will be a positive influence on the relationships on the team.

"To be trusted is a greater compliment than to be loved." George MacDonald

"What really flatters a man is that you think him worth flattering." - George Bernard Shaw

"Alston is like a man handling a dove. If you squeeze it too tightly, you'll smother or kill it. If you hold it too loose, it'll fly away." - Al Campanis

"You can motivate players better with kind words than you can with a whip." - Bud Wilkinson

"A house divided against itself cannot stand." - Abraham Lincoln

"It isn't the plays or the system that gets the job done, it's the quality of the people in the system." - Joe Paterno

"A community is like a ship; everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm."

"Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm." Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Do the right thing. It will gratify some people and astonish the rest." Mark Twain

"I've worked too hard and too long to let anything stand in the way of my goals. I will not let my teammates down, and I will not let myself down." - Mia Hamm

I will follow the team rules established by the coach.

"A great manager has a knack for making ballplayers think they are better than they think they are." - Reggie Jackson

"It has always been my contention that controls must be placed on the boys, and controls must govern every facet of the program. Perhaps a better word than control would be organization. Without organization and leadership toward a realistic goal there is no chance of realizing more than a small percentage of your full potential." - John Wooden

"Leadership is getting someone to do what they don't want to do, to achieve what they want to achieve." Tom Landry

"The country is full of good coaches. What it takes to win is a bunch of interested players." Don Coryell

"Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishments."

"What I need is someone who will make me do what I can." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Pull the string, and it will follow wherever you wish. Push it, and it will go nowhere at all." - Dwight D. Eisenhower

"A leader is someone who helps improve the lives of other people or improve the system they live under." - Sam Ervin

"No person can be a great leader unless he takes genuine joy in the successes of those under him." W. A. Nance

"A good coach will make his players see what they can be rather than what they are." – Ara Parashegian

***I will display caring and honorable behavior off the field
and be a positive influence in my community and world.***

"The true athlete should have character, not be a character." - John Wooden

"It's pretty hard to expect a boy not to do something that he knows you do. I always tried to live the life I wanted them to follow." - John Wooden

"Young people need models, not critics." - John Wooden

"When the One Great Scorer comes to mark against your name He writes--not that you won nor lost--but how you played the game." -Grantland Rice

"The great thing in this world is not so much where we are, but in what direction we are moving." - O.W. Holmes

"You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do." Henry Ford

"Always be a first-rate version of yourself, rather than a second-rate version of someone else." Judy Garland

"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

"Integrity is doing the right thing, even if nobody is watching." - Jim Stovall

"Six essential qualities that are the key to success: Sincerity, personal integrity, humility, courtesy, wisdom, charity." - Dr. William Menninger

"Behavior is a mirror in which everyone displays his own image." - Goethe

"Giving is the secret of a healthy life. Not necessarily money, but whatever a man has of encouragement and sympathy and understanding." - John D. Rockefeller Jr.

"Ability may get you to the top, but it takes character to keep you there." - John Wooden

"The only thing which differentiates an athlete from other men is his performance on the court. When fans take that performance beyond its own legitimate boundaries, from the court to their fantasy land, they seem to create a monster that says more about their own lives than the athlete's. It is as though people, by transferring their personal dilemmas and problems to the athlete, seek to redirect their explosiveness. If a father fails to instill values in his child, and tells the boy to be like Willis Reed or Dave DeBusschere, trying to stretch the simple example of a normal person's professional excellence into the core of a boy's moral training, he possibly short-cuts his own responsibility to serve as a model. In so doing, he exploits the athlete who performs well on the court, out in the open, ripe for any fan's unarguable interpretation." - Bill Bradley

"We know what a person thinks not when he tells us what he thinks, but by his actions."
- Isaac Bashevis Singer

"Nobody will think you're somebody if you don't think so yourself." – African-American proverb

***I will give of my time, skills, and money as I am able
for the betterment of my community and world.***

"Action springs not from thought, but from a readiness for responsibility." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

"What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us. What we have done for others and the world remains immortal." - Albert Pine

"The best place to find a helping hand is at the end of your own arm." - Swedish proverb

"You cannot live a perfect day without doing something for someone who will never be able to repay you."
- John Wooden

"I shall pass through this world but once. Any good that I can do, or any kindness that I can show any human being, let me do it now and not defer it, for I shall not pass this way again."

"Do *all* the good you *can* by *all* the means you *can* in *all* the ways you *can*, in *all* the places you *can* at *all* the times you *can* to *all* the people you *can* as long as you *can*."

"A life has no value except in the impact it has on others." - Jackie Robinson

"Everybody can be great because anyone can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve...You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love." - Martin Luther King

"We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give." Winston Churchill

"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth." Muhammed Ali

"The human contribution is the essential ingredient. It is only in the giving to others that we truly live."
Ethel Percy Adams