

SAMPLE

INTRODUCTION

I have always been attracted to “self help” books, cassettes, authors, videos, you name it and if it is inspirational, motivational or oriented to success in any way, than you can be sure that I’m interested. I’m also a Christian and have always believed that a successful life must be one that has God in it.

Back in the 1980’s, due to the type of job I held at a Baltimore printing company where I spent much of my time in a cubicle, I began listening to a huge amount of audio cassettes by successful authors such as Tony Robbins, Jim Rohn, Earl Nightingale, Zig Ziglar, Norman Vincent Peale, Denis Waitley, Og Mandino and the list goes on. I still have a large collection of those cassette programs today on my bookshelf.

At about that same time, on Sunday mornings I began watching a few preachers on television and I began to notice that there seemed to be a very clear correlation between what the preachers were saying and the principles that were taught by the self help authors that I was listening to daily.

I actually remember telling my wife (Sandy) about it. I felt as though I had discovered something that perhaps no one else had realized (how naïve I was back then, lol). I began to imagine how cool it would be if the two could come together in one person. Do you know what I mean?

I began to wonder... what if either a self help author would show how their teachings were supported scripturally (although they occasionally would reference one or two universal ones, like the golden rule), **OR** if a preacher would emphasize and present examples of success as a result of following God's word.

Well, if you know who Joel Osteen is and didn't just somehow find yourself reading this, than you know where I'm going with this.

Joel Osteen is that person!

I was probably the only one in my circle of friends and relatives that watched television preachers at that time, so of course it was only natural that I was the first to discover him. He became my favorite preacher almost immediately and I started telling others about him and encouraging them to tune in to his broadcasts.

I have now watched him religiously (no pun intended) since his broadcasts first appeared in my area and quite frankly they are one of the highlights of my week. We are all three dimensional beings, physical, mental and spiritual. And as such we must feed all three. Many folks on the planet seem to think that they can be all they can be without feeding their spirits.

I suppose that most people that will read this book will already be Joel Osteen fans and *IF that is you* then we have that in common because in case you haven't noticed already, I AM a BIG Joel Osteen fan. If you've seen

him in person or just seen him on TV, then you already know that his messages are positive, inspirational, loving, sincere and at times very funny. And if you expose yourself to his messages long enough and often enough then he'll have you becoming positive too!

Joel has been referred to as "America's Voice of Hope". In publishing this book it is my hope that I can help in some way to spread his message and I can think of no better person that could you choose to learn from or expose yourself to, than Joel Osteen.

I have organized these quotes into groups but I'm sure that you'll see that many of these quotes could just as easily been classified under other groups as well. In my opinion, that's just the nature of quotes. They can be perceived in a different light depending on your frame of mind or what's going on in your life at that time. The first time you read them, some may not seem to mean much and yet at a later time may strike you as exactly what you needed.

It is my hope that you will enjoy reading them at least as much as I do!

Don Pasco

GRATITUDE

“The seeds of discouragement, cannot take root in a grateful heart”

“If you’re not happy today... if you’re down or when you’re tempted to get discouraged, the quickest way out of that is to stop focusing on what you don’t have and start thanking God

For what you do have.”

“When we get up in the morning,
before we read the newspaper,
before we turn on the TV,
before we think about our problems,
the first thing we should do is
thank God that we’re alive.”

“You cannot go through the day
negative and depressed
as long as you have a spirit
of thanksgiving in your heart.”

“We have to realize that every day is
a gift from God.

Once this day is gone,
we can never get it back.

How are you going to choose
to live it?”

“If you see somebody living
on the streets;

Pray for them and then learn to say
Father Thank You that I have a home.

If you see somebody in a wheel chair,

Bless them and then say
Father Thank You that I am able to walk.

If you're “IN” a wheel chair and
not able to walk;

Thank God that you can see.

If you don't have legs,
thank God that you have arms.

Find some reason to be grateful.

We can all find some reason
to give thanks, and being grateful
Is the key to living a happy life.”

“Are you going to go
through the day negative?

Discouraged?

Focused on your problems?

What you Don't have

and Who hurt you?

Get away from that junk and find
some reason to be grateful.”

“Don't take for granted the fact
that you were able to get out of bed
this morning without any assistance.

When you opened your eyes,
you were able to see.

When told your legs to walk,
they obeyed.

When you went to the kitchen
you had food to eat.
some of you had too much of it
(said jokingly)

Don't take your health for granted.
Be grateful that you can breathe
without any problem."

"Get your mind off of
what you don't have
and use what you do have
to make somebody else feel better,
to brighten their day.
If you do that,
God will always brighten your day."

"When you have a heart
full of gratitude,
it leaves no room for complaining.
There is always something
to thank God for,
no matter what kind of adversity

you have in your life.”

ENCOURAGEMENT

“Get your fire back.
It's not over until God says it's over.
Start believing again.
Start dreaming again.
Start pursuing what God put in your heart.”

“Stop focusing on your flaws
And comparing
yourself to someone else.
God has made you unique and special
just the way you are.”

"Your value doesn't come from
what you look like, or what you do
or who you know.
Every morning, remind yourself that
you are God's creation.
God created everything about you
on purpose...

your looks, your skin color,
your height, your personality,
your talents and gifts.

If you see yourself as strong,
talented and valuable,
then that's the way
other people will see you."

"It's up to you to get in agreement
with God
and realize how much He loves you
and how special He made you."

"Quit lookin' back. This is a new day.

It may seem like
those dreams have died,
But God can resurrect
your dead dreams.

He is a Supernatural God."

Joel's Gems
“Joel Osteen Jokes”
Hilarious Collection
of Joel Osteen's Funniest, Short, Clean Jokes

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SAMPLE

LADIES JOEL HEARD ABOUT

I heard about this kindergarten teacher.
She wanted to teach her students about self esteem.

She said to her class
"Everyone who thinks you are dumb, please stand up."

She didn't think anybody would stand
and she'd make the point how no one was dumb.

But about that time little Jonny stood up.
She didn't quite know what to do.

She said
"Now Jonny do you really think that you're dumb?"

He said "No Maam,

I just hate to see you standing there
All by yourself."

I heard about this 85 year old woman.
She went on a blind date with a 92 year old man.
She came home very frustrated and her daughter said
"Mom, what's wrong?"
She said "I had to slap him three times."
The daughter said "You mean he tried to get fresh?"
She said "No. I thought he was dead."

This was sent to me (Joel) from a senior citizen's home.
It's about this 84 year old woman.
She'd gotten out of shape and knew
she needed to start exercising.

So she decided to join an aerobics class for seniors.
And the first day,
she bent and twisted and gyrated back and forth,
jumped up and down, perspired for over an hour.
But she said by the time she got her leotards on
the class was over.

I heard about this Mother,
One Sunday morning
she went into her son's bedroom and she said
"Son, wake up. It's time to go to church."

He kinda groaned and rolled over and said
"No Mom, I'm not going to church today."

She said "What do you mean you're not going?
Why not?"

He said "Mom, I'll give you two good reasons.
Number one, I don't like those people.
And number two, they don't like me."

She said "Son, that's no excuse.
I'll give you two Better reasons why you SHOULD go.
Number one, you're fifty-nine years old
and number two, you're the Pastor."

I heard about this kindergarten teacher.
She was walking around her classroom
as her students drew pictures.

She noticed this one little girl drawing so intently
she asked her what she was drawing.

The little girl said she was drawing a picture of God.
The teacher kind of laughed.
She said "Oh Honey nobody really knows what God looks like.

The little girl without missing a beat said
"They will in a minute."

I heard about this lady
that was shopping with her husband.

He had asked her to not buy any new clothes.
Well she saw this dress in the window and decided to try it on.

She liked it so much, she bought it in secret.
Couple of days later the husband discovered it
and he was so upset.

And she explained to him that when she tried it on
it looked so good that Satan tempted her to buy it
and she just couldn't resist it.

He said "Well, why didn't you do what the scripture says
and say "get behind me Satan?"

She said "I did and he told me
it looked even better from a distance."

I heard about this elderly lady.
She came into church one Sunday morning
and a friendly usher greeted her
and said "Maam where would you like to sit?"

She said "I would like to sit in the very front row."
And he said, "Oh no Maam, you don't want to do that.
Our Pastor is very boring. He'll put you to sleep.

Let me seat you somewhere else."

She was appalled.

She said "Sir, do you know who I am?"

He said "no."

She said "I am the Pastor's Mother."

He hung his head in embarrassment
and finally he looked up and said
"Maam, do you know who I am."

She said "no."

He said "Thank God."

MEN JOEL HEARD ABOUT

I heard about these three men
that were out hiking through the wilderness.

They came upon this very violent, raging river
and they needed to get to the other side.

The first man prayed
"Please God give me the strength to make it across."

And POOF!

God gave him big arms and strong legs
and he was able to swim across in 2 hours.

Seeing this the next man said
"God please give me the strength
and the tools I need to make it across."

And POOF!

God gave him a boat.

He was able to row across in 30 minutes.

The next man said

"God give me the strength, the tools and the intelligence
to make it across."

And POOF!

God turned him into a woman.

She looked at the map,
hiked 5 minutes up stream
and then walked across the bridge.

This was sent to me (Joel) from a senior citizen's home.

It's about a 92 year old man.

He wasn't feeling well one day and so he decided to go
to the doctor and have a check-up.

A few days later the doctor saw him out
walking down the street
with a beautiful young lady by his side.

And he seemed to be just as happy as could be.

The Doctor was kind of surprised.

He said "Wow you sure are doing a lot better."

The man said "Yes Doctor, I just took your orders."

You said get a hot momma and stay cheerful."

The Doctor said "I didn't say that!
I said you got a heart murmur. Be careful!"

A man called the church office and said
"Can I speak to the head hog at the troth?"

The secretary was offended.
She said "If you mean the Pastor
then you need to refer to him as
"The Pastor", but ***you may not*** call him
the head hog at the troth!"

The man said that's fine.
I was just planning on giving
\$10,000 dollars to the building fund.
The lady replied "Hold on.
Porky just walked in."

The End

WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED THIS SAMPLE OF JOEL'S GEMS COMBO