

FRANKLIN C. EDWARDS



Lessons to Empower You



TRANSFORMATIVE MESSAGES FOR A LIFE

Lessons to Empower You:

Transformative Messages for a Life
Well-Lived

FRANKLIN C. EDWARDS

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Table of Contents

Dedication.....	1
A Choice and a Chance.....	2
1. Wisdom Hurts.....	3
2. What Is Wisdom?.....	5
3. Peace over Money.....	7
4. Walk by Faith, Not by Sight.....	9
5. Discipline Is the Key to Life	10
6. Everything Costs.....	12
7. Procrastination Is Disrespectful to God.....	15
8. How You Do Anything Is How You Do Everything.....	16
9. Losses Are Lessons (Poem)	18
10. Two Things Can Be True	20
11. Every End Is a Beginning	21
12. Everyone Is Selfish	23
13. Fitting in vs. Standing Out	25
14. Are You Lonely or Are You Alone?	26
15. The Thin Line Between Darkness and Light.....	28
16. Loyalty over Love.....	29
17. Spiritual Beings in Human Flesh.....	31
18. The Duality of Death.....	33

19. Every Curse Comes With a Blessing (Poem)	34
20. Truth or Perspective	36
21. Money Rents Happiness (Poem)	38
22. This Life Was Rigged from the Start	40
23. Stay Even-Keeled	41
24. Choose Your Hard	42
25. What Matters Most In Life	43
Postface	45

Dedication

This book is dedicated to everyone who never felt like they fit in. Anyone who has never felt a genuine connection with another being. I want you to know that you're important and you matter. I wrote this book to help you because one of my biggest missions is to help as many people as possible through writing. If you ever felt like you didn't belong, maybe it's because you don't. Maybe you're not actually from Earth. Maybe you're an angel disguised as a human.

John 15:19

New International Version

19 If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.

-Words from Jesus Christ himself

Preface

A Choice and a Chance

Every day you wake up, you're blessed with two things: a choice and a chance. You get to choose the life you want to live, and you get a chance at life in general. Once you realize and accept that everything that's gone wrong in your life is 100% your fault because YOU make your own choices and YOU take your chances, it'll be easier for you to navigate through this crazy world. Make choices and take chances wisely, and never forget to follow Christ.

Do you want to live an ordinary life or not?

I'm sorry, let me rephrase that:

Do you want to *die* ordinary or not?

The truth is, every day you wake up, you have two things:

A chance and a choice.

This means that every day, you have the opportunity to be great—you just have to make the choice to *want* to be great.

To die ordinary would be to choose not to be great despite having the chance your entire life. So take my advice: choose to be great—whatever greatness looks like to you because to have a chance and make the wrong choice would be a disservice to your soul.

1

Wisdom Hurts

The Bible says that wisdom is worth more than gold, yet it also tells us that wisdom brings sorrow. So, what does that tell you?

The more you know, the more you hurt.

The wiser you are, the more painful life becomes.

The more you understand, the sadder you feel. Wisdom brings sorrow (Ecclesiastes 1:18)

Isn't that interesting?

You've always been told that the truth is good. You've always been taught that "telling the truth" is the right thing to do.

You've always heard that the truth will set you free and that it's something positive. You've been taught to associate truth with goodness and positivity.

So, if the truth brings understanding, goodness, and positivity, then why is it that the more truth you acquire, the sadder you become?

The answer is that while our Lord Jesus Christ watches over mankind, Satan works viciously to destroy it, for we are God's sacred creation.

I hope this book will help you understand why your life is both amazing and challenging. Let's be honest—we all have parts of our lives that we cherish, and we all have parts we wish could just disappear.

2

What Is Wisdom?

My definition is the complete understanding of right and wrong in life. When, in any given situation, you are wise enough to discern what is right and what is wrong, you are likely the smartest person in the room because wisdom from the Holy Spirit is on your side.

But wisdom can hurt deeply, often because you realize that nine times out of ten, the "right" thing to do brings pain.

For example, if you get punched in the face, the wise choice is not to fight back. The Bible advises turning the other cheek, forgiving those who wrong you, and loving your enemies.

Yet, if you choose not to fight back, many will call you weak, scared, or a coward. You will face ridicule and shame for not standing up for yourself.

It's fascinating how the spiritually right choice can often be seen as the socially wrong one.

The answer lies in the fact that Satan has polluted this earth from the beginning. He knows the Bible; he was a powerful angel who fell from heaven. Satan deceived Eve in the very first book of the Bible and has been a part of it from start to finish.

That should remind you that no matter what you do in life, negativity, hatred, and evil will likely be a part of everything you do, achieve, and become, whether you like it or not. Satan's one and only mission is to destroy God's precious creations—human beings. If you're reading this, there's a 100% chance you are one of Satan's targets.

So be prepared to fight every day. Fight with prayers to Jesus. Keep your chin held high because you will always have problems—whether they are rich problems or poor problems, sick problems or healthy problems, happy problems or sad problems.

Life is an eternal spiritual battle between you and Satan. You can always find evil in things that are good, and you can always find good in things that are evil, although everything good comes from God. The level of peace of mind you experience depends on which entity you choose to serve. Will you spend most of your time on earth giving yourself to God (good) or to Satan (evil)? Choose wisely.

Wisdom is like a mathematical equation:

Truth over Life equals Wisdom.

Once you realize that you have been conditioned to value life above truth, you will understand that almost nothing truly matters.

3

Peace over Money

If I were to offer you 10 million dollars, but in order to get the money, you had to develop cancer and only live for one more week, you probably wouldn't take it. That means health is more important than money.

If I offered you 10 million dollars, but everyone in your family—everyone you're related to who's still alive—would have to die for you to receive it, you'd probably say no. That shows family and loved ones are more important than money.

If I offered you 10 million dollars, but you had to spend 40 years of your life in prison, you'd likely turn it down. So, time is more important than money.

If I offered you 10 million dollars, but you'd never have peace of mind and would battle mental demons every single day, you wouldn't want the money. That means peace of mind is more important than money.

Money only solves financial problems sometimes. It doesn't fix your physical health, mental health, or the relationships you've broken. Money doesn't fix your maturity issues, and it can't buy you true respect. Most importantly, money can't fix your relationship with God.

You think you want money, but you really just want peace of mind. You've been tricked into believing that money will bring you peace of mind, but in reality, it will only solve your financial problems sometimes. So you chase money when, in actuality, you should be chasing peace. Peace of mind and financial relief can be synonymous, but not always. You can become financially free and still have many internal battles that haunt you. Only the Holy Spirit can bring you true peace.

4

Walk by Faith, Not by Sight

You can only see so far as a human, but God sees all things because He is eternal. Walking through life by sight will hinder you because you cannot see into the future—but God can. You cannot see the evil spirits working against you—but God can. You cannot see people's true intentions and desires in their hearts—but God can. When you walk by faith, you are fully trusting God with your life, putting your life in His hands and allowing Him to carry you. I assure you; your life is much safer in God's hands than in your hands.

5

Discipline Is the Key to Life

Everything you want—your biggest desires—are rooted largely in discipline. A major factor in dominating life is confidence, and confidence comes mostly from discipline. When you wake up every day knowing that you practice discipline in every aspect of your life—from your finances to your health and most importantly, growing your relationship with God—you naturally walk through life more confidently.

The most important attribute to success is confidence because without it, you could surely fail. Confidence is first rooted in discipline. The money you want to make, the heights you want to reach, the things you want to purchase, the freedom you want to have, the person you want to be with, the control over your life you feel you deserve, the relationships you want to grow—everything starts with consistent, daily discipline. Without discipline, your life will surely be miserable.

It's almost funny how easy it is to get what you want in life by simply having discipline, but like most things in life, it's easier said than done. 100% of people have the ability to be successful, but 99% lack the necessary discipline it takes. So, if you want

to change your life for the better or reach that goal you've been dreaming of, step up your discipline.

6

Everything Costs

You will eventually have to pay a price for every decision you make. Remember, in everything that is of this earth: there is good found in evil, and there is evil found in good. So, for every action you take, be prepared to pay the price it costs. I'll give you a very extreme and dramatic example. Let's say every Friday after school, a woman picks up her 7-year-old grandchild and they go get ice cream. The grandmother and grandchild consider these special moments as bonding time. They laugh, smile, and enjoy each other's company every time. They build memories that will last forever every Friday. Years go by, and that once 7-year-old is now 17.

One day, that 17-year-old visits the doctor and finds out he has diabetes. The doctor says the weekly ice cream trips aided in the grandchild getting the disease. Do you think the grandma knew that the cost of making all those wonderful memories with her only grandchild since he was a child would be a disease? No, but everything has a price to pay. I used this over-the-top example to show you that no matter how small your actions and decisions are, they can have major implications, so please be thoughtful and choose wisely. I'll give you one more

example that's a bit more realistic. There's a young girl who doesn't like her smile. She feels her teeth are crooked, so she really wanted to get braces. Because she doesn't like her teeth, she lacks confidence and, on occasion, gets bullied for her smile. On her 15th birthday, her parents finally got her braces, and she has had them on for 1 year. On her 16th birthday, her braces came off, her teeth were straight, and she got a newfound confidence. Her beautiful set of teeth gave her the confidence she's never had, and she starts receiving attention that she's not used to getting.

Every boy wants her, including her crush! Fast forward a couple of months; her crush asked her to the homecoming dance, and of course, she said yes. That night after the dance, things get intense, and they end up having sex. She's young and has never gotten his attention, so it was hard for her to turn it down, especially from a boy she really liked. A month goes by, and she finds out she's pregnant and her crush has completely abandoned her with the child. She went from getting bullied for having a crooked smile to getting bullied for being the only pregnant girl at her school. Now she's left to raise the child all alone. Who would've thought that the price to fix her smile and gain confidence would be this expensive? But everything has a price. Jesus Christ is the perfect example of how you can find positivity in a negative situation. Jesus Christ was arrested by his own people, beaten, hung on a cross, and killed in front of his mother, and the crazy part is he didn't even do anything wrong. I don't know how you feel, but in my opinion, that's a pretty bad day. Despite the suffering Jesus endured on that dreadful day, the beauty and positivity lie in the fact that His sacrifice offered eternal life in heaven to all who believe. Arguably, the worst day in human history

resulted in the greatest gift to humanity. In my opinion, you can always find positivity in negative situations, and you can always find negativity in positive situations. So, don't be too hard on yourself because even God himself said that he regretted making humans -his own special creation.

Genesis 6:6-7 New International Version tells us that 6) The Lord regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled. 7) So the Lord said, "I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them."

7

Procrastination Is Disrespectful to God

When you procrastinate, you're assuming God will grant you another chance. Tomorrow is never promised, and the Lord Almighty has the power to take your life at any moment. When you put off what you could do today, you're assuming you'll wake up tomorrow and get another chance, but in reality, tomorrow is never promised. God does not have to bless you with another opportunity to wake up. So, that thing you've been putting off? Get it done because God doesn't like to be disrespected. What is more arrogant or disrespectful than assuming He'll give you another chance at life?

8

How You Do Anything Is How You Do Everything

If you're slow in one area of your life, you will likely be slow in all areas of your life.

If you are disciplined in one area of your life, you will likely be disciplined in all areas of your life.

First, let me give you some negative examples:

- If you are usually late to work, then more often than not, you are usually late to church, the gym, and social gatherings.
- If you often lie to your significant other, then you more than likely lie to your boss, your friends, and your family members.
- If you gossip about your friends, you are likely to gossip about your family, enemies, and even strangers.

Now, here are some positive examples:

- If you keep a clean house, you probably also keep a clean workplace, clean car, and maintain good personal hygiene.

- If you're always early or on time to work, you're probably also on time for church, school, and social gatherings.
- If you're usually honest with your significant other, you're probably honest with your friends, family, and even strangers.

My point is, if you want to change everything in your life, just change one thing because how you do anything in your life is how you do everything in your life.

9

Losses Are Lessons (Poem)

Wins mean everything, but be prepared to take a loss

If you learned something from your loss, then what did it really cost?

Sometimes losses are just wins hidden in disguise

Because the lesson you learned from losing can be the ultimate prize.

Yes, for obvious reasons, the loss will hurt, but you should embrace that pain

Failure is a part of everyone's story; you must pick yourself up and continue to maintain.

Don't dwell on your loss for too long because there are better days ahead

Use it as motivation to change your future outcomes instead.

You can't change the past because time doesn't go back, it moves forward

So, when you take a loss, don't run from the pain—go toward it.

You become a winner once you embrace it

So, face it because you can't erase it.

Don't get too high when you win

Don't go too low when you lose

Don't get too excited about the cheers

And don't get too upset at the boos.

No matter the outcome, get up the next day and be better than
you were the day before

Because you truly never know what God has in store.

10

Two Things Can Be True

You're living proof that two things can be true. Whether you like it or not, you have some bad qualities and some good qualities that make you who you are. Does that make you a bad person? A good person? Or both? It just makes you human. Because two things can be true. Yes, you can be both bad and good.

Everything isn't as one-sided as society wants you to believe it is.

11

Every End Is a Beginning

The worst and best part about life is that everything must come to an end. The end can be everyone's biggest fear. Many fear the end of their life, or in other words, death. But that's also the best part about everything. You can't wait for that storm in your life to end—the period when you aren't financially stable, the period when you and a loved one are on bad terms, or the time when you're battling depression. You can't wait for all those phases of your life to end. All things must eventually come to an end.

You might fear that the good feelings you're experiencing won't last. If you're making a lot of good money consistently, you don't want that to stop. If you're deeply in love, you don't want that stage of life to end. If you're in a genuinely good mood, you don't want it to ever end. All things must come to an end, whether they are good or bad. That's why I never fall too deeply in love with anything or grow hatred for anything in this world. No matter how you feel about whatever you're experiencing—no matter how big or small—it will inevitably end, and that's the beauty of life.

But remember, all endings are new beginnings. Even the worst ending that we all fear — death — is the start of a new beginning. Death is the beginning of eternal life with Jesus Christ, and you can't start eternal life until after you die. I find it interesting that death, often considered one of humanity's greatest fear is also the only way to begin our biggest blessing, which is eternal life. Not only that, but the end of a marriage is the start of a new single life, the end of a drug addiction is the start of a new sober life, and the end of time behind bars is a new life in a society where you're free. Every end has a beginning, so it's up to you to decide whether endings are good or bad. Personally, I love endings because I'm always looking for the positive things that are the start of something new.

12

Everyone Is Selfish

As humans, it is our default nature to do whatever it takes to survive, no matter how selfish our actions may be. Whether it's social or societal, all humans think about themselves first. This isn't necessarily a bad thing, but it's the reason I can forgive people easily. Putting yourself in other people's shoes and seeing life from their point of view makes forgiveness easier.

For example, let's say I give my all to my partner. I am loving, caring, kind, respectful, a provider, and a protector. But after ten years of giving my partner my all, they left me for no good reason. The truth is it wouldn't bother me. Would it confuse me? Absolutely. But I understand that humans are inherently selfish, so I know the reason she left was because, at the end of the day, she felt it was the best thing for her. You honestly can't be mad at that. That's what society always preaches, right? "Do what's best for you." Unfortunately, no matter what the situation is, a person doing what's best for them may hurt your feelings.

But that's why I put myself in other people's shoes. I understand that if a person was making me unhappy, no matter how long we'd been together, I'd probably leave too. So how can I be mad at someone else's selfishness when I am inherently a little selfish myself? Like I said earlier, humans

are selfish. I'm using romantic relationships as an example, but this logic can be applied to any situation where someone feels they were wronged. I can understand others' selfishness because I understand mine, and that's why it's easy for me to put myself in other people's shoes and forgive them.

Never let someone make you feel bad for taking care of yourself. You must at least try. You won't earn respect until you try. You won't change if you don't try. You'll never grow if you don't try.

13

Fitting in vs. Standing Out

Standing out doesn't mean drawing attention to yourself. It means embracing the attributes that make you who you are. It's about having no insecurities because you love yourself too much to be insecure.

The difference between God and the Devil is that the Devil seeks you out while God waits for you to come to Him. For example, your friends might reach out to you on Saturday to party, but nobody reaches out to you on Sunday to go to church.

They say art imitates life, but I disagree. I believe art *is* life. Just as you create art, you can create life. Create your own reality. If you don't like your current situation, create a new one.

14

Are You Lonely or Are You Alone?

Sometimes in life, you must let people go, and that's okay. Without positivity, you can't have negativity, and without negativity, there would be no positivity. The two opposites balance each other out, and this balance is what we call life. You must accept the bad that comes with the good and the good that comes with the bad because, unfortunately (or fortunately, depending on your perspective), nothing is perfect. One realization that comes when you are successful is that you can't take everybody with you. It's lonely at the top, but for some of us, it was lonely at the bottom too—so what's the difference?

What does it mean to be lonely? What's the difference between being lonely and enjoying solitude? In my opinion, the difference lies in how much you love yourself. If you truly love yourself, you're never alone because you're always with yourself, even if no one else is around. Personally, I go everywhere by myself, meaning I'm always with someone I trust.

One day, you might start talking to the people you love and realize you're mentally more mature than they are, and that's how you know it's time to move on. The worst person to lie to is yourself. You must be able to look in the mirror and tell yourself the honest truth every day.

The ironic part is that once you realize that life becomes easier. The truth hurts and in reality, it just is what it is—for better or for worse.

15

The Thin Line Between Darkness and Light

The truth can be one of the most frightening, painful, and overwhelming things to face. Its full weight is only revealed when it's brought into the light. In a way, the more the truth is exposed, the darker and heavier it can seem. This is why lies often feel more comforting—they shield us from the harshness of reality.

16

Loyalty over Love

Disclaimer:

When I wrote the reflection below, I was 22 years old, meaning I was younger, and with youth comes ignorance. Today, I am 24, and I want to say that I now think that reflection was misguided. I now believe that love is the most important thing in the world. I recently attended a church service where the guest pastor said that God wants you to LOVE Him with all your heart, mind, and soul, and to LOVE your neighbor as you LOVE yourself. By obeying these two simple commandments, you are fulfilling the majority of what God wants you to do. Also, love conquers everything, so nothing is more important than love.

I still wanted to share this reflection with you because I believe it shows how we, as people, can grow, change, and reflect on our former flawed ways of thinking. I have no problem taking accountability and admitting when I'm wrong. Additionally, the words I wrote could potentially move or inspire someone. Before you read this, I just wanted to let you know that I've had a change of heart regarding this topic. Here's the reflection that I wrote at age 22:

Love isn't what matters; it's honestly all about loyalty. It doesn't take much to hurt someone you love, while it's impossible to hurt someone you're loyal to. It's a thin line

between love and hate, just as easy as it is to love someone, it's that easy to hate them. Love comes and goes, but loyalty lasts forever. It's easy to love but hard to be loyal because loyalty doesn't change under any circumstances. Plus, you can love anything. You can love people, movies, music, animals, and books, but how many of these things are you truly loyal to?

For me, love is a hollow word because you can love me today, then hate me tomorrow and turn your back on me. However, if you're loyal to me, regardless of whether you love or hate me, you will still have my back. Like I said before, love is just a word that expresses a feeling, but loyalty is an action, and actions always speak louder than words. There's unconditional love, true love, and tough love, but there's only one loyalty. You can fall in and out of love, but once you're truly loyal to someone, you're committed no matter what. The rewards and consequences of loyalty are much deeper than love. Being in love with the wrong person can cost you your feelings, but being loyal to the wrong person can cost you your life.

Spiritual Beings in Human Flesh

We are simply physical beings living in a spiritual realm. Every decision you make is the result of spiritual warfare. Every time you make a good decision, the angels are winning; every time you make a bad decision, the demons are winning—no matter how big or small. The question is, whose side are you on?

Satan's goal is to destroy you, God's beautiful creation. He wants you to ruin your life, but more importantly, he wants to damage your soul. Because while your life will end, your soul is eternal. Your soul is the spiritual aspect of yourself. All humans are an eternal soul trapped inside temporary flesh.

The problem is that your flesh loves to sin. While sin temporarily satisfies your flesh, it damages your soul—but you don't realize it because you're trapped in your flesh. What you do to your flesh impacts your soul, whether that impact is good or bad.

It is cheap and easy to satisfy your flesh, but it takes much more time, effort, and energy to satisfy your soul. That's why slothfulness (laziness) is one of the seven deadly sins. If you are

too lazy to take the time to ensure your soul is aligned with Christ, you will surely die. Let's be honest: it's always easier to do the wrong thing.

It's easier to cheat than to stay loyal. It's easier to go out and drink alcohol with friends than to sit in the house, bored. It's easier to hurt someone when they've hurt you than it is to turn the other cheek.

Start doing the hard thing—your soul will appreciate it.

18

The Duality of Death

The duality of death is interesting. It's ironic how death is the very thing most fear, yet it's the only way to escape the evil world we were born into. Death is the only way out of this trap. It makes me think that death must be easy and peaceful because life is so hard and chaotic. The truth is death is the absolute opposite of peace for those that live a faithless life. I guess we'll both find out one day.

19

Every Curse Comes With a Blessing (Poem)

Every curse comes with a blessing

Every blessing comes with a curse

Everything that is good for you is bad for you, whether that's
for better or for worse.

Everything that's bad for you is good for you

One way or another

You can't have good without bad

If you know one, you must know the other.

There's the bad in the good

And there's the good in the bad

What makes one person happy

Might make another person sad.

Because life is all about perspective

And we each have our own

What you know for certain

The next man might say it is unknown.

Who decides what's positive and what's negative?

Who's to tell you what's right from wrong?

If your answer is not God, then your answer is wrong.

But see, who am I to tell you the answer?

That's for your perspective to decide

So, think for yourself at all times

Because whoever said that life comes with a rule book lied.

Truth or Perspective

The sad thing about life is that the truth doesn't matter; only what people perceive matters. Personally, I don't care about perception; I only care about the truth. The truth doesn't care about your feelings, and that's why people don't like it. Lies, however, comfort your feelings, which is why people prefer a comforting lie over the painful truth. When you value the truth, you see everything clearly. The truth allows freedom, while lies blind your vision and make living harder.

The scary part about lying is that once you do it enough, you start to believe it's the truth—whether you're lying to yourself or to someone else. What people fail to realize is that the truth is hidden in perspective. Let's take eating unhealthy food as an example. Drinking alcohol frequently makes you happy because it's how you choose to relax, socialize, and have a good time, which is the truth. However, drinking frequently can also be bad for your liver, overall health, and in some cases, can lead to alcoholism, which is also the truth. Two things can be true at the same time, but it's all about how you perceive them. That's why, in the end, the truth doesn't matter to the world; regardless, the world is going to tell you that you drink too much—for better or for worse. I've never cared

about perception, just the truth. That's why the world does not affect me, and I can live my life every day with a smile.

Perception is what the world thinks, while the truth is a fact. Perception only matters if you let the world judge you, which is the main reason it doesn't matter to me—only God can judge me.

Money Rents Happiness (Poem)

Money can't buy happiness; it can only rent it

Money can't buy happiness, no matter how much you spend it

The love for money is the root of all evil, so how could it possibly buy happiness?

When you have peace, love, and joy, that's when you're at your happiest.

Money can't buy you real loyalty

Money can't buy you real love

Money can't buy you a relationship with the man up above.

People get too much money and start to believe that they're God

But God doesn't care how rich you are,

So never let your ego run too far.

When you get money, stay humble because everything given to you can easily be taken away

Stay true to who you are and never lose yourself in this game of life that we play.

Use your blessings to bless others because the ability to help others is a blessing,

And when you get money, please don't use it to impress people who aren't worth impressing.

Some people are so poor that money is all they have

Never sell your soul for a dollar; I encourage you to take a different path.

Money can rent happiness, but it can't buy it. It rents happiness just long enough for you to realize that deep down, you're not truly happy.

With that being said, chase your passion, not the money. You'll have more peace of mind.

22

This Life Was Rigged from the Start

The world you were born into was cursed long before you entered it. That's why people hurt, lie, and disappoint you. That's why, even though you try your absolute hardest, you still fail (Romans 7:14-25 (NIV)). You were never given a fair chance from the beginning. As soon as you left your mother's womb and opened your eyes, you opened them to a polluted world.

It's not your fault that life can suck, and it's not your fault that the world is cold. You had no control over the circumstances you were born into. So, keep your head up, and keep putting one foot in front of the other.

The good news is that it will all be over one day.

23

Stay Even-Keeled

Stay even-keeled because one day, people will love you, and the next day, they will hate you. Then, they will say they love you again. I never let people's judgments of me get to me, even those I love. If I end up successful in their eyes, they'll say they knew I was special and take all the credit. But if I fail in their eyes, they'll say it was all my fault and have nothing to do with me. That's why I only measure success through my eyes, and you should do the same.

24

Choose Your Hard

Being broke is hard, working all day is hard... choose your hard.

Being injured is hard, going through physical therapy is hard... choose your hard.

Living a life full of sin is hard, and changing your ways to become a better person is hard... choose your hard.

Working for someone else is hard, entrepreneurship is hard... choose your hard.

Getting bullied is hard, standing up for yourself is hard... choose your hard.

Being single is hard, working to better your relationship with your partner is hard... choose your hard.

Chasing your dreams is hard, living with regret for never pursuing them is hard... choose your hard.

Never starting a family is hard, being a great parent is hard... choose your hard.

Failing your class is hard, studying for your test is hard... choose your hard.

Battling depression is hard, going to therapy is hard... choose your hard.

What Matters Most In Life

No matter the moves you make or how you affect people, mankind will eventually move on from you.

I can't tell you who the most relevant athletes, musicians, artists, actors, leaders, successful business owners, philosophers, or authors were 700 years ago. I'm sure the heights they reached were incredible, and the impact they had on the world was significant. But 700 years later, time has moved on, and what they did simply doesn't matter anymore.

The same will be true for you and me.

No matter what your decisions, mankind will eventually move on, and you will become unknown to future generations.

The first president of my country did many great things, as well as many horrible ones. Some of his decisions may even affect my life today. However, if you ask me about his achievements and failures, it ultimately doesn't matter because there's nothing you can do about it.

The dangerous realization is this: when nothing really matters, you must ask yourself a question.

What will I do with myself in a world where nothing matters?

Will I use my influence for good or for evil? If nothing matters, what's the point? Why shouldn't I live freely and do whatever I want, whenever I want—whether it's good or evil? It's your life, so why wouldn't you be as selfish as possible? Right?

It's because the answer to life isn't about what you can do for yourself but what you can do for others. True fulfillment comes from living for others, not just for yourself.

Postface

As the reader of this book, you are one of the few people I have to talk to. I mean that in a very personal way—almost like you’re an imaginary friend. I’ll be honest with you, there aren’t too many people on this earth that I trust, so I typically stay to myself and keep my thoughts and feelings private. I don’t have anyone else to talk to besides God, so here I am, talking to you...the reader. Just know that every question I asked is personal, and I want it to resonate with your soul.