

# Don't Look Back



By Tom Cronin

Winning is not everything, but desiring to always be on top is. Continuous success shows us but one side of life; adversity can change the picture quickly. Positive results are what we look forward to, and consequences are what you find. If the truth be known, most successes are built on a whole host of failures. Sometimes we need to look back to the things we did in the past to get a perspective on the future. We are often caught off guard, then we are tested to determine our courage and ability to change; at such a moment, we must accept the challenge and confront our destiny. The challenge will not wait. Mistakes are a great teacher when we are straightforward enough to admit them and disposed to learn from them.

*"Look back, and smile on perils past."*

Sir Walter Scott

Life is a journey which allows us to choose the paths that we may take. The fork in the road and the path taken will determine our final destination. We must look back on our prior decisions and experiences and what we have learned in order to take the right road to lead us through life's journeys to the promised objective. We will make mistakes and feel the pains of our wrongdoings. Don't look back at your failures too long. Our errors are life's way of educating us. We can't always win them all; our mistakes are part of our development. As my coach would tell me after a big hit in the game, shake it off, get up to fight again.

*"We ought not to look back, unless it is to derive useful lessons from past errors and for the purpose of profiting by dear bought experience."*

George Washington

The only things in life to be distressed over are the risks you would not take. We are given opportunities and only the brave accept the challenge and heed the call. In this recession we have undue duress due to the slow economic recovery. Many unemployed are attempting to start new businesses. You need to properly plan for success in order to have a chance. The first critical attribute for success is the ability to apply your physical, mental, and spiritual vigor to the task at hand without growing fatigued. Successful leaders have the audacity to take action where others vacillate. Procrastination is the grave in which opportunity is hidden. You may delay, but time will not. When trouble comes, and it will, those who have wisdom from past trials, will be prepared for the test upon them—if they have learned from their prior mistakes they will be the stronger decision maker when destiny calls.

*"If one advances confidently in the direction of one's dreams, and endeavors to live the life which one has imagined, one will meet with a success unexpected in common hours."*

Thoreau

