



Don't Quit!

The difference between winners and losers is not talent but determination. One of Andrew Jackson's boyhood friends said, "I could throw Andrew nine times out of ten, but he wouldn't stay thrown." In other words, he wouldn't quit. He kept getting up.

A football coach put two players on the field and asked one to tackle the other, then instructed the other to do his best to keep from being tackled. The one instructed to do the tackling knocked his opponent down in a moment. The opponent got up again and was immediately knocked down. As fast as he could get up, the bigger, stronger boy knocked him down.

He was knocked down so many times that he could hardly get up, but he kept getting up. Finally the coach stopped the two and then addressed the football team and said, "Now, that's the way I want you to be."

One young man excitedly said, "You mean like Bill?" who could tackle Jim immediately and kept tackling him time and time again?

"No," said the coach, "I want you to be like Jim. Keep getting up no matter how many times you're tackled."

There's a little statement I remember reading in one of my school

books forty years ago. It simply said, “If at first you don’t succeed, try and try again.”

Abraham Lincoln said, “I do the very best I know how—the very best I can—and I mean to keep doing so.” His life is the best example of his own words. Consider the chronology of his career:

1831—Failed in business
1832—Defeated for legislature
1833—Again failed in business
1834—Elected to legislature
1 835—Sweetheart died
1 836—Had nervous breakdown
1 838—Defeated for speaker
1840—Defeated for elector
1843—Defeated for Congress
1846—Elected to Congress
1848—Defeated for Congress
1855—Defeated for Senate
1 86—Defeated for Vice-President
1858—Defeated for Senate
1860—ELECTED PRESIDENT

Dr. Lee Roberson said that Dr. Faulkner visited one family more than sixty times, trying to get them to come to church. After sixty-something visits, the couple finally came. They were both saved. As a result, many others were won to the Saviour.

I recall witnessing to one man fifteen or twenty times. As a matter of fact, I had almost given up on him. I decided to go by and make one more visit. When he answered the door, I said, “Bill, I felt I should come by and visit you one more time. Don’t you think it’s about time you trusted Christ as your Saviour?”

To which he replied, "I don't see why I should wait any longer." Then and there he trusted Christ. The next Sunday he joined the church, and I baptized him. He made a faithful member, donated money to the church and helped us with many important projects.

When Mohammed Ali fought Joe Frazier in Manila, a fight which became known as "the thriller in Manila," he barely pulled out a victory. After the fight Ali said that Frazier had hit him so hard and so many times that he felt he was completely gone. He had hardly any strength left.

Near the end of the fight he almost gave up. With only a few rounds left, Ali said, "I went to the well one more time." In other words, he refused to quit and in the last few rounds edged out a victory.

Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., wisely said, "The test of a man's character is what it takes to stop him." Refuse to give up. Keep trying. Don't quit.

It's not the size of the dog in the fight but the size of the fight in the dog that matters.