"Old Man's Advice"

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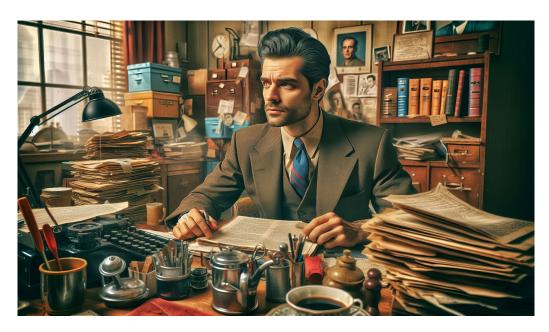


"Gather 'round, young ones," the old man said, his eyes twinkling with the wisdom of his 97 years. "I've lived through almost a century of change, and I've learned a few things about living a life of meaning and purpose.

I was born in a small town on a remote island. Life was hard, but it taught me resilience. I've climbed mountains of adversity and traversed deep valleys of sorrow. Through it all, I've learned that each day is a precious gift, an opportunity to grow, to love, and to make a difference.



In my youth, I chased success. I worked tirelessly to build a business, to provide for my family. But in that pursuit, I nearly lost sight of what truly mattered.



It wasn't until I faced a health scare in my 50s that I realized the true wealth in life isn't measured in dollars, but in the lives we touch and the love we share.



It is important to prioritize spiritual wealth over earthly possessions. Learn to be a giver. The only things you can take with you when you die are the things you give away.



I urge you to embrace the art of giving! It's not just about helping others; it's about enriching your own life. Generosity boosts your happiness, reduces stress, and can even improve your health. Giving strengthens your relationships, fosters a sense of purpose, and promotes gratitude. It frees you from materialism and creates positive momentum in your life. Even small acts of kindness can make a big difference. So, give freely and generously, for in giving, you truly receive!

Always treat others as you would like others to treat you. In other words, do not treat others in ways that you would not like to be treated. This not only means treating others as you would like to be treated in our physical actions, but also in our thoughts. For example, don't wish upon others what you would not wish upon yourself. So even in our thoughts, we must think of others as we would like them to think about us, because thoughts lead to action, and every action begins with a thought.

My friends, be mindful of what you allow to enter your mind through your physical senses, that include your eyes and ears. The things we see and hear have a profound impact on our thoughts and actions. Our brains process images and words in ways that can shape our decisions, trigger emotions, and influence our behavior without us even realizing it. Over time, consistent exposure to certain types of content can mold our perceptions of reality and affect our attitudes. We often learn by observing and may unconsciously mimic what we see in media. Moreover, visual and auditory information can create lasting memories and influence how we process complex ideas. Therefore, I urge you to be selective about the reading material, audio and video, and other types of media you may consume, such as video games, etc. Choose positive, uplifting, and educational media and activities. In life, not everyone and everything you come in contact with will be positive and uplifting.

In an imperfect world, we must vigilantly guard against letting negative experiences lead us astray. Always choose right over wrong, even when it's difficult. This unwavering commitment to doing what's right is the cornerstone of a principled life. Transform negative experiences into lessons on how not to live, rather than allowing them to degrade your life and diminish your ability to be a positive role model for others.

Being mindful of what you allow to enter your mind through your physical senses, that include your eyes and ears, will not only shape your thoughts in beneficial ways but also guide your actions towards more constructive and fulfilling paths in life. Remember, what you repeatedly see and hear becomes a part of who you are.

Time, my dear friends, is our most valuable asset. It flies by so swiftly! Learn to be present in each moment, to savor the now while still planting seeds for tomorrow. Live as if you were to die tomorrow, but learn as if you were to live forever. This balance is key to a life well-lived.

Cultivate kindness and compassion. Kindness and compassion can mend bridges, heal wounds, and light up the darkest of days. Make it your mission to spread kindness wherever you go, to forgive those who've wronged you, and to stand up for what's right, even when it's difficult.

Embrace change and continuous learning. The world evolves rapidly, and adaptability is crucial. But while you adapt, never compromise your core values. Integrity and authenticity will carry you through life's storms.

Find your passion and purpose. It's not just about being happy; it's about being useful, honorable, and compassionate. Strive to make a positive difference, no matter how small. Remember, every act of kindness ripples through the world in ways we may never fully comprehend.

Take care of your health - both physical and mental. A sound mind in a sound body will serve you well throughout life's journey. Live in and cherish every moment, exercise regularly, and nourish your body with good food and your mind with good thoughts.

Cherish your relationships. Foster deep connections with family and friends. These bonds will sustain you through life's challenges and multiply your joys.



Be brave. Step off the beaten path and forge your own trail. Life expands in proportion to one's courage. Take calculated risks, embrace failures as learning opportunities, and never stop growing.

Lastly, remember that life is like a canvas. Each day brings a new opportunity to paint it with vibrant colors. It's not about the years in your life, but the life in your years. Make them count, make them meaningful, and above all, make them kind.



In the end, a life well-lived is one where you've loved deeply, learned continuously, and left the world a little better than you found it. Leave a legacy of good deeds, love, and kindness you gave to others during your lifetime. That, my young friends, is my advice on how to live a truly fulfilling life."

The old man's voice faded, but his words lingered, an example of a life rich with wisdom, purpose, and love. His advice, guiding others for generations to come.

The end.

"Old Man's Advice"

[Verse 1]

In the twilight of my years, I've got a story to share
Of mountains climbed and valleys deep, my thoughts to you I bare.
Each day's a gift, to unwrap with care, a chance to start anew
So listen close, my dear young friends, these words I leave with you

[Chorus]

Live each day like it's your last, while planting trees for tomorrow
Love deeply, laugh often, and learn from your sorrow
Be kind to strangers, forgive those who wrong you
For life's too short for hatred, let compassion guide you through

[Verse 2]

Chase your dreams with passion, but don't forget to rest Give your all in all you do, always strive to be your best But remember that true wealth lies not in gold or fame But in the lives you've touched, the lives you've helped reclaim

[Bridge]

Time flies by so swiftly, don't waste a single hour
In every moment there's a chance to grow, to learn, to flower
Be present in the now, but plan for days ahead
For wisdom's found in balance, avoiding fear and dread.

[Verse 3]

Embrace the joy of giving, find purpose in each day
Stand up for what is right and true, no matter what people say
Cultivate your garden, both in mind and in the earth
For in the seeds of knowledge lies the key to your true worth

[Chorus]

Live each day like it's your last, but plant trees for tomorrow
Love deeply, laugh often, and learn from your sorrow
Be kind to strangers, forgive those who wrong you
For life's too short for hatred, let compassion guide you through

[Outro]

As my journey nears its end, I pass this torch to you May you find your path, your light, in all you say and do Remember that each sunrise brings a canvas fresh and new Paint it with the colors of a life both rich and true

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