

Over the Top

By
Zig Ziglar

One of my favorite quotes comes from Tom Ziglar:

- We are all on a journey. From survival to stability. From stability to success. From success to significance.

It's clear that Tom borrowed heavily from his Dad – Zig Ziglar – who has produced a wonderful book in *Over the Top*. Ziglar walks the reader through a number of stories and ideas to describe what he sees “The Top” as. “The Top” is how he defines significance. I can't begin to do the book justice, but I do think that his summary of when you are at the top speaks very well to the topic:

You are at the top when...

1. You clearly understand that failure is an event, not a person; that yesterday ended last night, and today is *your* brand-new day.
2. You have made friends with your past, are focused on the present, and optimistic about your future.
3. You know that success (a win) doesn't make you, and failure (a loss) doesn't break you.
4. You are filled with faith, hope, and love; and live without anger, greed, envy or thoughts of revenge.
5. You are mature enough to delay gratification and shift your focus from your *rights* to your *responsibilities*.
6. You know that failure to stand for what is morally right is the prelude to being the victim of what is criminally wrong.
7. You are secure in who you are, so you are at peace with God and fellowship with man.
8. You have made friends with your adversaries, and have gained the love and respect of those who know you best.
9. You understand that others can give you pleasure, but genuine happiness comes when you do things *for* others.
10. You are pleasant to the grouch, courteous to the rude, and generous to the needy.
11. You love the unlovable, give hope to the hopeless, friendship to the friendless, and encouragement to the discouraged.
12. You can look back in forgiveness, forward in hope, down in compassion, and up with gratitude.
13. You know that “he who would be the greatest among you must become the servant of all.”
14. You recognize, confess, develop, and use your God-given physical, mental and spiritual abilities to the glory of God and for the benefit of mankind.

15. You stand in front of the Creator of the universe, and He says to you, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant.”

It is VERY clear from reading the book that Ziglar is close to Christ as that comes through in his philosophies and approach. While those that have a strong relationship with Christ may take away a bit more from the book, anyone will gain by investing a few hours of their time to read this wonderful book.