

Proverb 27:17 says "Iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." My observation is that marshmallows don't sharpen marshmallows.

When iron sharpens iron, there will be sparks. And that's okay. In fact, it's great, especially once we learn that sparks are the only way we can see the blind spots that we all have, and the only way we can smooth off the rough edges that we all have.

Followers won't follow when leaders don't lead. How can they?

To hate change is to hate improvement. It's also to frustrate the dickens out of those you love.

If you haven't done something differently in 6 months, congratulations. You are now 2 years behind your competition.

Scripture tells us that Satan is the ruler of this world (for now). That explains why I find it extraordinarily difficult to be simultaneously politically correct and speak the truth in love.

Before starting any big effort, investigate if there is 20% of the effort that can give you 80% of the value. And, if you are real busy (who isn't?) before you start on the 20%, do another investigation of it. Perhaps you'll discover a way to do 4% of the effort for 64% of the value. That's the truly low-hanging fruit.

Make masterpieces! Take great pride in your work, but not in yourself. An arrogant servant of the meek and lowly Jesus is the ultimate non-starter.

Someone once advised: "Learn from the mistakes of others...you can't possibly live long enough to make them all yourself." Sometimes I forget that and try anyway.

At times I groan a lot. Afterward I (usually) realize that I've grown a lot. And I find that next time I'm (usually) able to not groan so darn much.

Sometimes as a leader I feel like I'm on a motorcycle going full throttle, and those I'm trying to lead are valiantly trying to keep up on their single-speed bicycles. It's then I need to stop and ask what's wrong with this picture and who's fault is it?

Smart leaders see what's wrong; Courageous leaders take action; Mature leaders take wise actions to correct wrongs.

Smart leaders tend to live in their head; Courageous leaders tend to be foolhardy; Mature leaders tend to get lazy.

Sometimes I feel like a bull in a china shop. Then I remember that's what iconoclasts are born to be.

When I was younger, I came across as an ersatz curmudgeon and an erstwhile contrarian. That's still my tendency, although lately I seem to be learning how to hide it more and more.

Think of your best memory, and your worst—chances are both are about relationships. You'd better figure out quickly how to get along with people, and start making more best memories.

My goal while I'm on this earthly stage is to play to an audience of one—my heavenly Father. I do it with the confidence that comes from the authority of my brother—Jesus Christ. I count on the amazing power of the one who comes along side and comforts—the Holy Spirit. And, I do it in supporting community of my loving family—the church.

"Either I will find a way, or I will make one."

"Never trust a skinny chef." "Never trust a leader who walks without a limp."

"Where there are strengths, there are weaknesses. The key is to make weaknesses irrelevant."
[P. Drucker]

"He who chooses the beginning of a road chooses its destination also."

"Half of our mistakes in life arise from feeling where we ought to think and thinking where we ought to feel."

"If 50 million people say a foolish thing, it is still a foolish thing."

"What we really are matters more than what other people think of us."

"It is better to be old fashioned and right than to be up-to-date and wrong."

"A mentor is someone whose hindsight can become your foresight."

"When I work, I work. When I pray, God works."