

Passion + Education + Practice = Success

Have you ever wondered why things just didn't turn out the way you thought or planned? Not me! The reason is clear and always the same. One, or more, of the key ingredients to SUCCESS: PASSION + EDUCATION + PRACTICE were missing, completely or partially.

Take, for example, the child who watches his sister ride a bicycle and desires to do the same. He jumps onto her bike, goes three feet, if lucky, and falls. It is pretty clear that both education and practice were missing. Well, with passion still in his heart, he enlists his sister or parent to teach and help him practice so that one day he will ride, hands free. This, of course, happens only when committed - to the highest degree - until he reaches his success.

In business we face the same challenges, everyday. And, do you have the passion to learn and develop yourself before you engage? When you do, success comes frequently and inner happiness and confidence abounds.

PASSION resides in your heart and is an integral part of your being. Without it, your potential and life would be quite limited. EDUCATION is all around us; in schools, in corporate training departments, in religions, in libraries, on the web, in our, and others, experiences. It is easily accessible and readily

available, 24/7. PRACTICE is often associated to developing physical skills, rehearsing for a performance, learning to drive, etc. Rarely, if ever, does a person practice to develop leadership skills.

When I say PRACTICE, I mean a dedication to getting it right before using it (in "the" game). What does an NFL football team do before each game? That's right, they practice! And, they do so strategically. Game day is the time to execute successfully what you have learned and developed in practice. In business, executing successful leadership happens after you educate and practice. That is, of course, if you have the passion.

The key to successful leadership is PRACTICE. There is plenty of good material, including courses, seminars, workshops, and more on leadership. The difference for you will be to find a "practice field" where you can take chances and make mistakes that will not cost you in the game.

Lawrence Keating, entrepreneur and leadership coach, founded Corpath Inc. in 1996 on the sole vision to help business leaders align their behaviors with their intentions. Corpath has successfully collaborated with companies, from Fortune 100 to sole proprietorships, to raise their human capital performance and bottom line.