

Jeff Juhala's Top Ten Quotes

Not in order of importance.

Bonus: I'm going to start off with my bonus quote because I just found it and it is so profound:

0. **"Big dreams require big steps, but progress requires small steps."**

- Unknown

This one can be applied to most anyone and most anywhere in life. Who hasn't got a big dream of some kind and feels overwhelmed by the size and scope of it? Even moderately sized dreams can feel intimidating and keep us from even starting. It will still take some big steps, but mostly, it will just take small progressive steps. It really helps me break down the bigger ideas into smaller steps and start making progress.

1. **"I've got a great ambition to die of exhaustion rather than boredom."**

- Thomas Carlyle

This quote means to me that we need to be people of action and get things done. I do not want to get to the end of my life and wish I had done more. I'm sure we will all have some level of regret in life, but I don't want one of my regrets to be a failure to accomplish something or a failure to make a difference in this world. We are all going to die and I agree with what Thomas Carlyle says, "I'd rather die of exhaustion than boredom".

2. **"Courage is the first of human qualities because it is the quality which guarantees all others."** - Winston Churchill

I love the things that put other things in perspective, and this quote by Winston Churchill, does just that. We could list many great human qualities, but in this quote he believes that if you start with courage, then all of the other human qualities will fall into place or will at least be a part of the process of your life. I have found this to be true in many respects, that it takes courage to do small things as well as big things. The courage to make a phone call, the courage to confront a friend, the courage to change churches or the courage to try a new job. Courage is often like a muscle, if you begin to use it and continue to use it, you will be strong and courageous. But if you don't use courage, it becomes easier and easier to never be courageous.

3. "Don't seek success. Instead, seek excellence, and you will find both."

-John Mason

Many people seek success and in doing so compromise their character and excellence in the process. I love this quote because it talks about seeking excellence first and then you will also find success in the process.

Excellence has not been easy for me, I have often settled for mediocrity in the quality of things that I have produced. But there is a part of me that wants to seek excellence in life not just in products, so my goal is more excellence in the way I live and more success in the way I live, rather than just the things that I produce. It's like the scripture, "Seek first the kingdom of God, and all these other things will be added unto you".

4. "Nothing is so simple that it cannot be misunderstood."

- Freeman Teague, Jr.

This is a great quote because it talks about communication and that even simple communication can be misunderstood. Communication problems are usually the one of the top three problems of any business, organization, marriage, or family. We simply have a difficult time communicating well the things we really think and feel and expect. This short simple quote speaks volumes as to the need that we must continue to be better communicators at work at church and within her own families.

5. "Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all."

Aristotle

This great quote speaks to not only quality education of the mind, but total education of mind and body and soul and spirit. It's easy to push information as education, but true education comes when we have done more than fill the mind, it's when we have transformed the heart as well. When you educate the heart you capture the entire being. When you educate the heart you give a more expansive education, you explain the "why" and the "how", the "history" and the "purpose". You educate the student so that they become passionate about the topic rather than just informed about the topic. When you educate the heart the student becomes a teacher to other students.

6. **“Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.”** - Will Rogers

This great quote from Will Rogers can be applied to many things in life. Most people want to start out with good judgment, but most people only learn good judgment after experiencing bad judgment. Many people want to start with making good investments, but sometimes good investments are only made after making a few poor investments. We learn to make great decisions after we've had the experience of making poor decisions. It's our human nature to want to be successful and want to avoid mistakes. But too often we desire to avoid the great education that comes from the failure or the struggle of poor judgment. Poor judgment itself does not guarantee that we'll end up with good judgment. We have to learn, adjust and apply good perspective to get the positive education from any failing opportunity to improve ourselves and get better.

7. **"You can have everything in life you want if you will just help enough other people get what they want."** -Zig Ziglar

This quote only works if you believe it works. Many people don't believe that you get what you want from helping other people get what they want. Some people believe you get what you want from taking what you want and meeting your own needs. But if you believe in this type of life philosophy, and you believe that you "reap what you sow," then this is a quote you can believe in. Believing in this quote may mean you have a biblical or a selfless perspective. That you are willing to challenge yourself and what it is you really want in life. If the "everything in life you want" is millions of dollars and the only thing you spend time on is making money, then you'll never stop to help other people. But if the "what you want in life" is "reasonable financial security," then helping others get what they want can certainly be achieved. And in doing so you'll be building a network of people who will be eager to help you with the things that you want in life.

8. **"It's a rare person who wants to hear what he doesn't want to hear."**
Dick Cavett

This is a great quote about people who are willing to listen to negative or challenging feedback about who they are and how they can get better. Too many people are offended and take it too personal when someone

criticizes or challenges or simply tries to give positive feedback for improvement. People struggle receiving feedback for various reasons. But if we want to really improve in life then we need to not only be willing to hear feedback, but we need to seek it from others in ways that we can improve and end up “hearing what we don’t want to hear”.

9. **"People don't care how much you know--until they know how much you care."** -John C. Maxwell

You can make true statements that have no impact on people because they don’t know you. You can make incredibly profound statements, but people tend to give you less credit unless they know you or know something about you. If people know that you care about them, or care about someone or something they also care about, then they give your words and your intentions even greater credit. When people know who you are, where you’ve come from, what you have overcome, what your passions are and what you care about then your words and your impact have greater potential. You can preach religion or finances or love, but until people know how much you care then they don’t really care how much you know.

10. **"Two roads diverged in a wood, and I... I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference."** -Robert Frost

I heard this quote from the end of Robert Frost’s poem many years ago and I knew immediately that it represented my life. I felt like I have always taken the road less traveled. I feel my personality, my occupations and my interests have always been taking me down the road less traveled, taking me on a different path, giving me different interests and different perspectives. Not radical differences, but simple differences from the road less traveled. And to me, it has made all the difference. Many people have taken the easy road, the broad road or the common road and I have not particularly been interested in taking those roads. I have been more interested in taking the more difficult road, the uncommon path or the narrow way and I really believe it has made a difference and will continue to make a difference in my life. I believe the experience of the less traveled path, and the view and the destination truly does make a significant difference in who I am today and what I have accomplished.