

# PATRIOT

# PRESS

## MARCHING TO THE DRUMBEAT OF FREEDOM

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### **SELF-DISCIPLINE: A LESSON IN LEADERSHIP**

Self-discipline; it's not an easy thing to do. I'm not that great at it myself, but it is an important skill to have, especially if you are going to be a good leader. I have a passion for our country, for the future of this nation, for preserving and passing the Torch of Freedom from generation to generation, for making sure this great nation becomes the best it can possibly be, and for leading the change. I've learned a lot from Patriot Academy and from life about leadership, but more and more I'm seeing just how important it is for a leader to be self-disciplined.

Hebrews 12:12-13 says, *"Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed."* So what does this verse have to do with being self-disciplined and being a leader? It shows us that we have to be disciplined in finding our own shortcomings and improving them as well as helping others to improve their skills. God gives us our initial strength to help us get on our feet, but we have to be dedicated to continually strengthen our relationship with Him. Our relationship with Christ is an example of the life we lead and the skills we have as a leader. If we aren't able to be self-disciplined in our relationship with Christ, how can we lead the change in this country and be that shining light on a hill?

John Maxwell said, *"People follow leaders primarily because they see a life they believe they can trust and one they want to emulate. We are to welcome God's discipline and respond with self-discipline. Once we yield both to God's discipline and our own, we produce a life worth following."* God tells us how we are to live; it is up to us to take this to heart and be disciplined in following it. I know this seems like a lot of rules and believe me, I'm not a big fan of rules. I'd much rather think of them as guidelines and open to interpretation, but the fact of the matter is that they're not. God's rules are steadfast and should be followed. When we follow them and take them to heart, we will have His blessing.

If we are called by God to be leaders and to lead the change in this country, we must be self-disciplined. We must follow God's Word and lead a life worth following. Being a leader comes with many responsibilities and challenges. If you stay in God's Word and commit to being self-disciplined, I have no doubt that God will bless your commitment and carry you forward. So let us be self-disciplined, live a life worth following, and lead the change!

In His Service,

Michael Bullock

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### FOUNDING FATHERS

The city of Philadelphia has been the setting for greatness through the history of the United States of America. Among so many other things, it is the hometown of George Clymer. He was born there on March 16, 1739. Before he was a year old he was orphaned and being raised by his paternal uncle. His uncle provided him with a good education and an apprenticeship in his counting room. He died while Clymer was still young, but left him with an inheritance that enabled him to become a successful merchant.

Clymer was one of the first to support complete independence from Great Britain. He was an organizer of protests and demonstrations. In 1773 he became a member of the Philadelphia Committee of Safety and when two members of the Pennsylvania delegation to the Continental Congress proved to be against the movement for independence, he and Benjamin Rush were elected into their positions.

During the threat of occupation from the British, Clymer stayed in his hometown to continue congressional business. Troops went out of their way to destroy his home. His family was saved only by their choice to hide in the woods.

Clymer served not only in the Continental Congress and the Pennsylvania Legislature, but also in the US House and the Constitutional Convention. He was the president of the Philadelphia Bank and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine arts as well as vice president of the Philadelphia Agricultural Society. He negotiated peace treaties with Indians in Georgia.

He led a full life and set an example to all who came after him. He died at his estate in Philadelphia on January 23, 1813.

### IN THEIR WORDS

Clarence Darrow, a civil liberties lawyer, once said, *'You can protect your liberties in this world only by protecting the other man's freedom. You can be free only if I am free.'*

We are currently living in a time where different value is placed on human life. An embryo or fetus is something that is easily disposed of. A third party can choose whether or not to continue life support on a patient who can't make their own decisions. A crime committed against a minority can be labeled a 'Hate Crime' and punished differently than if the same crime was committed against a white person.

Life and liberty are sacred. It doesn't matter the age or race. That is a fact that does not change.

People value their personal freedom and fight to keep it. However, the same people will not lift a hand in defense of the people who cannot defend themselves. What they do not realize is that if basic freedoms can be stripped from the fringes (the unborn, the elderly, the sick), it follows that the same liberties can be stripped from them.

A value of life, a value of freedom has to be across the board because every person and their freedom are interconnected. Like in a game of Jenga, if you pull out too many of the blocks that support the tower, the entire structure comes tumbling down.

It is time, it is always time, to stand in the gap for those who can not stand for themselves. By preserving the liberties of others, we preserve our own.

### REPARATION

*It is the highest form of self respect to admit our errors and mistakes and make amends for them. To make a mistake is only an error in judgment, but to adhere to it when it is discovered shows infirmity of character.*

Dale E Turner

I know I tend to pound one particular life lesson, but I figure if you don't have it by now, you need to hear it again. You'll mess up. It's the human condition, an irrefutable truth. It is what you do afterward that makes the difference.

We're taught as children that when you do something wrong, you say 'I'm sorry.' You apologize to the offended person and move on. Sorry's not enough.

'Sorry' does not rebuild the tumbled down block tower or sand castle. 'Sorry' doesn't heal bruises or smooth upset emotions. Saying 'sorry' doesn't actually fix the problem.

Fixing a problem is more than saying a few words. The act of being contrite and helping to repair what is broken is required. You get the boss the correct information instead of making him gather it himself. You pick up the broken pieces. You help recreate what has been destroyed. You work to regain trust and faith in your ability to do what you were supposed to do in the first place. You don't leave the person you let down pick up his pieces and the pieces you left scattered around.

Fixing the mistake you make takes more than a word and even when you put in the effort, things aren't going to be perfect. The tower of blocks will never be like it was before it was knocked down. However, people see the reparations you are willing to make and that is what will show your good character.

### KATHI'S QUOTES

*Everything has beauty,  
but not everyone sees it.*

From A Fortune Cookie

### MY PRIVILEGE

It isn't often that I take an opportunity to let you know how proud I am of each one of you Patriots. You truly are a group of young people who are committed to learning and making the change within the government that is needed. What I am most impressed with is the manner in which you go about it. I was recently at an event where I overheard a woman bragging about a group of Young Conservatives who were having a fund raiser by selling eggs to throw at a picture of our President. I was happy that I know a group of young people who would never be that disrespectful to their elected leader in their effort to make a difference. (Either you have the respect or fear what Mama Seay's reaction would be.) I'm proud of you guys and your integrity.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

If there is any information you would like to see in the Patriot Press or if you would like to stop receiving the newsletter, contact us at [tof.patriotpress@gmail.com](mailto:tof.patriotpress@gmail.com).

We would love to hear your suggestion, stories, opinions, and notable achievements throughout the year.