

Pyramid of Success: Day 2

Friendship

People make us better. It is easier to reach our potential when we learn the value of including others in our quest for "competitive greatness." We can accomplish so much more when we work with others. We were not designed to go through life alone. Others make us better, and we make them better, too. **Friendship goes both ways.**

Would you rather be successful in your own eyes or in the eyes of others? If you said, "Others," your reputation may be fine, but your character is suspect. Your reputation is what you are perceived, by others, to be. Your character is what you really are. **We should be much more concerned about our character than our reputation.** A good reputation isn't worth much if you have faulty character and don't have peace within yourself. If you use your friends (teammates) to advance a personal agenda, you'll never be at peace.

A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.
(Ecclesiastes 4:12)

Cooperation

*Listen if want to be heard. Be interested in finding the best way,
not in having your own way.*

Cooperation is working with others for the benefit of all. It is not sacrificing for someone else's benefit. If what you are doing doesn't help everyone involved, then it is something other than cooperation, perhaps you would call it service or selfishness.

Two lessons need to be learned: 1) **Gentleness** is a better method of getting cooperation than harshness is; 2) A **team** can accomplish much more when it **works together** than individuals can when they work alone.

The abilities of the players serve the team, as opposed to the players being used to serve an individual. **We are all parts of one body, and each of us has a different work to do.** That's cooperation.

Loyalty

To yourself and to all those depending upon you. Keep your self-respect.

**Loyalty is the force that forges individuals into a team.
It's the component that moves teams toward greatness.**

The depth of the word “loyalty” comes into play when we add concepts such as devotion, duty, faithfulness and commitment. These virtues can be given to people, teams, organizations, countries, ideals, rulers, religions and God.

Loyalty is the foundational quality that gets us through hard times. Will we compromise our integrity when temptation is great? Or will we remain loyal to our beliefs and core values? ***No individual or team will become great without loyalty.***