



Teach them well and let them lead the way...

As I begin this article, I am reminded of the lyrics to Whitney Houston's song, "The Greatest Love of All." "I believe the children are our future. Teach them well and let them lead the way..." I couldn't remember all of the lyrics, so I Googled the song. After I did so, I was saddened. A few lines after the above lyrics comes "People need someone to look up to...I never found anyone who fulfill my needs. A lonely place to be, so I learned to depend on me."

I am a motivational speaker. I am not a minister. I am not a counselor, although I was a cosmetologist for 13 years-I often wonder if that counts...

Kindergartners know what they want to be. I ask them, "What do you want to do when you grow up?" I can't answer their hands fast enough. "Doctor, Teacher, Artist, and of course ¾ of the boys say "UND Hockey Player!"

By time I talk to Junior High Students maybe just 1 or 2 share their dreams. When I ask the question within businesses or church groups, not only do people feel they have to write the answer down, but they often cover their papers as well. People have been told so many times, "Who do you think you are? How is that going to work?"

There was a little boy sitting outside of his neighbor's window playing in the flower garden one night; no one knew he was there. This little boy overheard

a conversation the couple was having just within the kitchen window. The husband heard something on the radio and he said to his wife, "I'll believe that when the neighbor boy goes to the moon!" That little boy was John Glenn.....

Children will listen to what they hear. Recently at one of my seminars I told the group, "Believe in yourselves to go after your dreams and you can achieve the impossible. It is going to be hard work and seem as though you have many obstacles, but You Can Do It!!!" Someone raised their hand and said, "You mean to tell me that if a high school student is 5'8" and they want to be on a pro basketball team that you are going to tell them they can do it?" My friends that is what saddens me the most.....

There are so many people that only see one way to do something. I said, "You had better believe I will!" I asked this smart individual at my seminar, "Who is on a basketball team?" The answer was, "The players." I said, "Who else?" The person said, "A

coach." "Who else?" "Trainers." We listed off 5 positions other than the center position on the team. If your children want something don't discourage them. Help them find that hero or mentor that can help fulfill their needs, or be that person for them. **Show them what they possess inside. "Oh Yes I Can!"**

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