



Finding Inspiration

SMILE

A smile costs nothing but gives much. It enriches those who receive without making poorer those who give. It takes but a moment, but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever. None is so rich or mighty that he cannot get along without it and none is so poor that he cannot be made rich by it. Yet a smile cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen, for it is something that is of no value to anyone until it is given away. Some people are too tired to give you a smile. Give them one of yours, as none needs a smile as much as he who has no more to give.

Author Unknown but believed to be based on the writings of Rabbi Samson Rafael Hirsch (1808-1888)

TODAY I WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE by [Max Lucado](#)

*Today I will make a difference. I will begin by controlling my thoughts.
A person is the product of his thoughts. I want to be happy and hopeful.
Therefore, I will have thoughts that are happy and hopeful.
I refuse to be victimized by my circumstances. I will not let petty
inconveniences such as stoplights, long lines, and traffic jams be my masters.
I will avoid negativism and gossip. Optimism will be my companion,
and victory will be my hallmark. Today I will make a difference.*

*I will be grateful for the twenty-four hours that are before me.
Time is a precious commodity. I refuse to allow what little time
I have to be contaminated by self-pity, anxiety, or boredom.
I will face this day with the joy of a child and the courage
of a giant. I will drink each minute as though it is my last.
When tomorrow comes, today will be gone forever. While it is here,
I will use it for loving and giving. Today I will make a difference.*

*I will not let past failures haunt me. Even though my life is scarred with mistakes,
I refuse to rummage through my trash heap of failures. I will admit them.
I will correct them. I will press on. Victoriously. No failure is fatal.
It's OK to stumble... I will get up. It's OK to fail... I will rise again.
Today I will make a difference.*

*I will spend time with those I love. My spouse, my children, my family.
A man can own the world but be poor for the lack of love. A man can own
nothing and yet be wealthy in relationships. Today I will spend at least five
minutes with the significant people in my world. Five quality minutes of talking
or hugging or thanking or listening. Five undiluted minutes with my mate, children, and friends.
Today I will make a difference.*

*Even though my life is scarred with mistakes, I refuse to rummage through
my trash heap of failure. I will admit them. I will correct them. I will press on.*

From **On the Anvil** ©1985 [Max Lucado](#)