



Day 55

Beloved Peacekeepers,

Today, our practice is the wholeness of community. We look through the lens of responsibility..... and stepping into our fullness.

Today's Principle, Today's Practice - RESPONSIBILITY

The quality of your community starts with you. Take responsibility for the quality of your community wherever you are. Today, pick up trash that is not your own, whether at home, at the office, or on the street. Every little bit helps.

Ask yourself: Some people say that responsibility means "the ability to respond?" What does that mean? How does taking responsibility differ from taking the blame? In what areas of your life do you see yourself as responsible? In what areas do you feel you have too much responsibility for your age? What makes people take on responsibility for community? What makes people hold back? Who is the most responsible person you know? How can you tell? What qualities do they have that you may want to embody?

Activity - Review the types and kinds of responsibilities you have -- at work, at home, at church, other organizations you are involved in -- compare and contrast. We learn responsibility a little at a time. Starting at age three and continuing to the present, make an illustrated chart of the responsibilities you assumed as you developed into the person you are now. This week, listen to your language and to the language of the people around you -- how often do you hear yourself say, "If only," "I can't," or "But"? What is the state of being that these words reflect? What language have you heard that indicates personal responsibility?

Journal Activity: Journal your thoughts....today, use crayons or color pens - live differently and vibrantly!

Consider this Quotes on Responsibility:

Responsibility educates. - Wendell Phillips

Responsibility is the price of greatness. - Winston Churchill

Every human being has a work to carry on within, duties to perform abroad, influence to exert, which are peculiarly his, and which no conscience but his own can teach. - William Ellery Channing

You have to decide what your highest priorities are and have the courage--pleasantly, smilingly, nonapologetically--to say 'no' to other things. And the way you do that is by having a bigger 'yes' burning inside. The enemy of the 'best' is often the 'good.' - Stephen Covey

Living a life of integrity is one of the greatest missions we can undertake - Greg Anderson

Responsible choice involves consequences, not the least of which are relinquishments all along our way - Marsha Sinetar

Cause and effect, means and ends, seed and fruit cannot be severed; for the effect already blooms in the cause, the end preexists in the means, the fruit in the seed - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Events, circumstances, etc., have their origin in ourselves. They spring from seeds which we have sown - Henry David Thoreau

Until the great mass of the people shall be filled with the sense of responsibility for each other's welfare, social justice can never be attained - Helen Keller

The first duty of a human being is to assume the right relationship to society--more briefly, to find your real job, and do it - Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The history of free men is never really written by chance but by choice--their choice. - Dwight D. Eisenhower, Oct. 9 1956

We have come to a place now where our search for Truth must no longer be for the rewards; it must no longer



Day 55

be our seeking a creed to follow, but it must be our living a life. - H. Emilie Cady

Responsibility is the thing people dread most of all. Yet it is the one thing in the world that develops us, that gives us fiber - Frank Crane

It is not our part to master all the tides of the world, but to do what is in us for the succor of those years wherein we are set, uprooting the evil in the fields that we know, so that those who live after may have clean earth to till. What weather they shall have is not ours to rule - J R R Tolkien

We are all given a choice each day. We can react negatively to the demands made on us or we can choose to live abundantly, to transform the negative into the meaningful. Attitude is all. If I do not endow my life and my work with meaning, no one will ever be able to do it for me - Sarah Ban Breatnach

I believe we are solely responsible for our choices, and we have to accept the consequences of every deed, word, and thought throughout our lifetime - Elisabeth Kubler-Ross

When you have to make a choice and don't make it, that in itself is a choice - William James

Satisfaction lies in the effort, not in the attainment. Full effort is full victory. MK Gandhi

Make the best use of what is in your power, and take the rest as it happens - Epictetus

I have always tried to be true to myself, to pick those battles I felt were important. My ultimate responsibility is to myself. I could never be anything else. Author Ashe

Non-violence in the world -- is our individual responsibility. Walk in Grace this day, every day!

Blessings,

SNVOakland
www.snvoakland.org