Quotations for Our Unit on Success

“Si, Se Puede!”
(Yes, we are able!)

**Cesar Chavez**
Farm Worker, Labor Leader

"If you hear a voice within you say ‘you cannot paint,’ then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced."

**Vincent Van Gogh**
Dutch Post-Impressionist Painter

To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and to endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded.

**Ralph Waldo Emerson**
American Poet

"Seldom does an individual exceed his own expectations."
**Unknown**

Your work is to discover your world and then with all your heart give yourself to it.

**The Buddha**
The "Enlightened One"

One hundred percent of the shots you don't take don't go in.

**Wayne Gretzky**
Canadian Ice Hockey Player

"When you plant lettuce, if it does not grow well, you don't blame the lettuce. You look for reasons it is not doing well. It may need fertilizer, or more water, or less sun. You never blame
the lettuce. Yet if we have problems with our friends or family, we blame the other person. But if we know how to take care of them, they will grow well, like the lettuce. Blaming has no positive effect at all, nor does trying to persuade using reason and argument. That is my experience. No blame, no reasoning, no argument, just understanding. If you understand, and you show that you understand, you can love, and the situation will change."

**Thich Nhat Hanh**  
Vietnamese Zen Master and Spiritual Leader  
From his book: *Peace Is Every Step*

"Try not to become a man of success.  
Rather become a man of value."

**Albert Einstein**  
American Theoretical Physicist

"Don't let the fear of the time it will take to accomplish something stand in the way of your doing it. The time will pass anyway; we might just as well put that passing time to the best possible use."

**Earl Nightingale**  
Motivational Speaker

"If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as Michelangelo painted, or Beethoven played music, or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say, here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well."

**Martin Luther King Jr.**  
American Civil Rights Leader

"If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them."

**Henry David Thoreau**  
American Author, Naturalist

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude to me is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than success, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, gift, or skill. It will make or break a company...a church...a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past...we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10 percent what happens to me and 90 percent how I react to it. And so it is with you...we are in charge of our attitudes.

**Charles Swindoll**
"Man's mind, once stretched by a new idea, never regains its original dimensions."

**Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.**  
US Supreme Court Justice

Your vision will become clear only when you look into your heart. Who looks outside, dreams. Who looks inside, awakens.

**Carl Jung**  
Swiss Psychologist

"It takes as much stress to be a success as it does to be a failure."

**Emilio James Trujillo**  
Haight Street Armchair Philosopher

"The best way to predict your future is to create it."

**Unknown**

"In any moment of decision the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing."

**Theodore Roosevelt**  
26th President of the United States

"Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing in the world is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent..."

**Calvin Coolidge**  
30th President of the United States