

# *The Recipe for Achieving Success*

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As my wife and I prepare to celebrate our son's graduation from Boston College (Carroll School of Management) it occurred to me that I should share some advice with young scholars who are about to embark on the next chapter of their life. The following guidance has been gleaned from years of living, experiencing, and learning from those whom I greatly admire and respect, including my own father.

## **Advice for Graduates:**

Here are my recommendations for achieving success in life and in one's chosen profession:

- **Aim High and be Willing to Fail**
  - You can achieve anything you want and the sky is the limit!
  - Learn from failures – yours and others
- **Never Lose Sight of Your Goal**
  - Always have a goal and have Faith in yourself, and your abilities!
  - Have a success mindset that conjures thoughts and images that are conducive to growth, innovation and success.
- **Be Proactive rather than Reactive**
  - Make your break, instead of waiting for your break.
  - Demonstrate a stellar work ethic that gets you noticed and produces excellent results.
- **Persevere through Adversity**
  - If at first you don't succeed, be willing to try a second or third time to reach your goal.
  - Never accept defeat!
- **Act with Humility and Gratitude**
  - It's amazing what you can accomplish when you do not care who gets the credit!
  - Be grateful for what you have and be of service to others.
- **Maintain your Values and Integrity**
  - Through good times and difficult times, stay true to your principles and values.
  - This is what builds your reputation, which is worth everything!

## **What is the impact?**

Although the advice offered above seems straightforward and rather simple, it has the added benefit of helping to form the principles that guide your thinking and actions every day, regardless of the situation. It also becomes the framework that enables you to overcome the challenges and hurdles that stand in the way of success.

The key is to make this part of your DNA as you develop a success mindset and build confidence in your skills and abilities with every achievement.

Finally, as you achieve success, it is important to celebrate your accomplishment in order to memorialize the milestone and reward yourself for attaining your goal. Whether you celebrate by having a drink with friends or a fine dining experience with your family, celebrating success reinforces the positive aspects of what you have done and allows you to feel good about the work effort put forth to achieve success.

If you are looking for ways to achieve success in life and work, and need help translating my advice into a Plan of Action, please contact us at [jeff@17gormanadvisors.com](mailto:jeff@17gormanadvisors.com).