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I can do no better than to offer you the counsel ~~which~~ of which ~~the~~ the late Adlai Stevenson was fond. It ~~was found on his bedside table~~ is contained ~~in~~ in a printed page found on his bedside table in New York after he died. ~~It reads in part:~~ Particularly suitable for members of Congress, it reads in part:

"Go placidly amid the noise and the haste and learn what peace there may be in silence. ~~xxx~~Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even the dull and ignorant; they too have their story. ~~xxx~~If you compare yourself with others you may become vain and bitter; for ~~there~~ always ~~there~~ there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.

"Be at peace with God, whatever you conceive him to be. And whatever your labors and aspirations in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace with ~~tax~~ your soul. With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world."

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PRAYER BREAKFAST JUNE 24, 1965
FEB. 8, 1967
Gerald R. Ford

M.C.

Prayer Breakfast

June 24

also Feb. 18, 1967



MICHIGAN.

— Prayer Breakfast —

After tension of last few days

Preceding the problems of next weeks
with travel problems,

I retreat into the quotation from
the Bible which has stuck with me.

Trust in the Lord etc.

Innumerable incidents
Military
activities
family
business.

INCIDENT

This is One Man's Way — Each has his own

We believe in God

I have faith in the Teachings of the Bible

I desperately want my children,

my colleagues, my country & the
World to do the same

At the same time & in the context
of what we are talking about today
I feel it appropriate to quote

Aristocracy is of the soul not of
the cloth. - What does this mean -

In the context of this discussion /

It doesn't mean going to church
regularly without the necessary
substance

It doesn't mean the ability
to quote from the bible
without translating those
words into action

DOING / NOT SAYING

It doesn't mean all of the
other things that may
create the surface but
not the substance

What I have liked about the
Prayer Breakfast group is -

It is a quite
personal
dedicated group.



Prayer breakfast

Proverb 3 chapter verses 5 and 6

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Faith / a Trust / a spiritual optimum



Prayer Breakfast

Bill Peterson--friend in Michigan---writer, philosopher

"Sooner or later, a man if he is wise discovers that life is a mixture of good and bad days, victory and defeat, give and take.

"He learns that it doesn't pay to be thin-skinned, that he should let some things go over his head like water on a duck's back.

"He learns that he who loses his temper--loses.

"He learns that carrying a chip on his shoulder is the ~~surest~~ easiest way to get ~~put~~ into a fight.

"He learns that the quickest way to become unpopular is to carry tales and gossip about others.

"He learns that buck-passing always turns out to be a boomerang and that it never pays/



"He learns that most of the other fellows are as ambitious as he is, that they have brains that are as good or better, and that hard work and not cleverness is the secret of success.

"He learns that getting along with others depends 90 percent upon his own behavior.

A
I've found my behavior goes
back to Proverb 3 - Trust in the
Lord

JERRY, ~~HERE'S~~ HERE'S GOOD CLOSING PRAYER ~~FOR~~ PRAYER BREAKFAST:

O God of all creation

Grant this our one request;

Help us to build a nation

Where no man is oppressed,

And so with peace and plenty

America may be blessed.

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Prayer Breakfast
Washington, D. C.

June 24, 1965

*Trout in the pond with all these heart;
and I can not make our understanding.
of all the ways acknowledge him
And he will know thy father
Dwight 3:56*

A long time ago I learned that a spirit of optimism--based on

spiritual conviction---gives meaning and direction to living.

One particular instance stands out. It occurred during my football playing days at the University of Michigan.

We faced Coach Bernie Biermans powerful Minnesota Gophers at ~~the~~ their homecoming game. Among members of that great ^{Big Ten} team were three All Americans.

The sportswriters and all the experts figured we ^{Michigan Wolverines} didn't have a chance.

We worked out the day ~~before~~ the game with all the spirit and optimism of winners. The great odds facing us only served to strengthen our faith that we could win that game the next day.

Well, a crowd of 60,000 saw us come out on the short end of a 34 to 0 score. But they saw a good football game. We may have lost that one, but we all were better young men for it---because we played the very best we could, ~~and~~ ^{refused to give up,} and kept our spirit of optimism. Because ~~the~~ ^{of} defeat I think ~~we became a better team~~ ^{we became a} better team. We accepted the 34 to 0 score without bitterness and looked ahead to next week's game and the remainder of the season....with optimism. We accepted defeat and planned on winning the next game.

After graduation, my philosophy of optimism was given a strong work-out at Yale Law School. It helped me through the rough times. Often I depended on my deep convictions when the ^{double} jobs of finishing law school while coaching football ~~appeared to be~~ were getting too big, too weighty, too overwhelming for me.

-more-



When the late Senator Arthur Vandenberg ^{counseled} ~~advised~~ me on the advisability of embarking on a career in politics---specifically in the Congress as a Representative from my home district in Michigan--- again I based my decision on faith.

I believe that each of us has a part in a Divinely-created plan. For a reason that is beyond me, I made the decision and was successful in winning election.

All of us that we face a great mass of confusion and strong divergent forces today. As public servants we are subjected to extreme pressures and criticism. All around us we see signs of social revolution--- irresponsible demonstrations---- rioting by outsiders who invade quiet and dignified communities--- a rising crime rate.

Our enemies abroad are generating strife, turmoil and war. We live in dangerous times.

~~And yet, I believe the darkness of the future, the uncertainties,~~
And yet, I believe the darkness of the future, the uncertainties,

the doubt, can be wiped away with ~~that~~ patient understanding based on ^{God's} belief in a Supreme plan. { Behind the dim unknown, standeth God, within the shadow, keeping watch above his own. }

The capriciousness of destiny is nonsense. We are not at the mercy of accidents, for there are none. Our own character ^{we must assume responsibility for} ~~makes~~ or ^{which makes} ~~breaks~~ us, ^{yet we} know that in the background is the omnipotent hand of God. This is true of an individual, of a nation, of a party, of any institution.

^{with the help of God}
We can build any quality into our ^{being} ~~mentality~~ by meditating upon that quality every day.

There is no true desire without faculty and no faculty without



opportunity.

When we ~~really~~ desire to be or to do something ~~it is a divine~~

assured ~~sign that the Supreme Power wants us to achieve an accomplishment.~~ *that will help us this goal.*

does mean that we will realize every
This is not ~~to be confused with~~ passing wishes---the boy in

summer wanting to be a professional baseball player and in the winter he's

changed his mind and wants to be a ski champion....or his sister going

to the Metropolitan opera and then wanting to be a singer and a month later

reads of a woman scientist winning the Nobel prize and then thinking she

wants a similar career.....these are passing ~~fancies~~ fancies.

A true desire stays. As time goes by it ~~increases~~ increases

It is steady and growing and real. *and we can believe that it*
in force. ~~It is steady and growing and real.~~

is in line with God's plan.

~~Prayer is the key to the secret of life.~~

~~Among the prayers in the Bible is the prayer of the man who~~

The secret of life then is to control our mental states,

for if we do this the rest will follow. Man is not limited by his environment.

help to
This he ~~created~~ *helps to* by his beliefs and feelings.

A splendid example of a person controlling his mental state by

deeply ~~believing~~ believing that the will of ~~the~~ God will be done is an experience

of a young couple in my home of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The man and woman had twin daughters. They were 3. One lies

in a coma--a tiny child dying in a hospital bed the victim of leukemia.

Her twin sister played around the bed, climbing on her mother's lap and

asking from time to time--"Is my sister going to play with me?---she's sleeping

all the time."

Both parents knew that the child in a coma would be dead by morning.
And they also knew the other little girl would pass away within a few weeks.
Yet the mother and father were steadfast in their belief.

The courageous young father reflected the strong spiritual strength
of himself and his wife when he said, "We accept this. It is His will. We
must not question it. Thank God for having these children with us if even for
~~short~~
so ~~short~~ a time."

Spiritual optimism?----- yes. With it came a great and towering strength
to meet life with courage and without questioning His will---asking only that
it be done.

~~Perhaps the philosophy of the writer, philosopher and gentle man---~~
A friend of mine in Michigan--- a writer, philosopher and gentle man---
~~expressed~~
has expressed a philosophy I have tried to follow to the best of my ability.
I am happy to share it with you.

"Sooner or later," he wrote, "a man if he is wise discovers that life is
a mixture of good and bad days, victory and defeat, give and take.

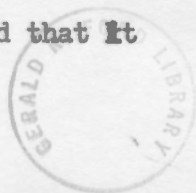
thin-skinned
"He learns that it doesn't pay to be a ~~sensitive~~ soul, that he should
let some things go over his head like water on a duck's back.

"He learns that he who loses his temper loses.

"He learns that carrying a chip on his shoulder is the easiest way to
get into a fight.

"He learns that the quickest way to become unpopular is to carry tales
and gossip about others.

"He learns that buck-passing always turns out to be a boomerang and that it
never pays.



"He learns that most of the other fellows are as ambitious as he is,
that they have brains that are as good or better, and that hard work and
not ~~the~~ cleverness is the secret of success."

"He learns that getting along with others depends 90 percent ~~upon~~
upon his own behavior."

*But behind the dem. union
standeth God... keeping watch above his own.*

And I conclude with his prayer—one I have said many, many times
in my church.

"Give us grateful hearts, our Father, for all thy blessings,

"And makes us mindful of the needs of others—through Jesus Christ,
our Lord,---amen."

#

*Conclude with Proverbs 3:5-6 in same manner
as at beginning*

