

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



44 Ordinary vs. Extraordinary – Your Choice

Is extraordinary success simply a matter of intellect, or talent, or luck, or divine intervention? I'm Jerry Roberts, we look at ordinary vs. extraordinary, next on The Extra Point.

I was reading a commentary that considered General Colin Powell, Walt Disney, and Michael Jordan, and the fact none of them gave any indications of greatness in their earlier years.

These three powerful forces in politics and statesmanship, motion pictures and building family entertainment venues, and professional sports — all looked pretty much average to anyone who may have bothered to look.

Powell was, at best a C student. Disney was fired from his first job for perceived lack of creativity. Jordan didn't make his high school varsity team the first time he tried out.

So how did these three people go from run of the mill to top of the line?

These three legendary figures did not "want" to succeed. They "chose" to succeed. Day after day, year after year, they made the choices that brought them progress, and closer to their goals.

They multiplied what God-given talents they had by a heaping helping of grit. G.R.I.T — guts, resilience, initiative, tenacity.

Through unbridled perseverance, unquenchable determination, coming up with new ways to do old things, and a sheer refusal to be held back by anything, they plowed forward.

Today, the media fawns over celebrities in entertainment, sports, and business, especially those who burst onto the scene seemingly out of nowhere and become instant stars. The truth is, most of those successful people struggled in obscurity for years before there was any reason for someone to notice. They paid the price in sweat and long hours.

Powell served two tours with the Army in Vietnam and fought his way up the ranks, taking on tough assignments, often in high stakes situations.

Disney had failure after failure, bankruptcy included, and was urged to quit many times. Then he introduced Mickey Mouse. Movies, theme parks and more.

Jordan eventually starred at the University of North Carolina. Then, joining the Chicago Bulls in the NBA, he unleashed an incredible work ethic and desire to win; developing into the sport's most powerful force during a time when basketball was a rougher and more physically demanding game.

Now the good news. Everyone has grit, built in. The only question is whether you decide to fire it up and use it. And anyone can choose to succeed.

What's your choice today?

That's The Extra Point. Get out there and make something good happen today. For 93.3, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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