

ONE HOUR EACH DAY MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

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You've gone as far as you can with what you now know. Any progress you make from this moment onward will require that you learn and practice something new.

COMMIT TO LIFELONG LEARNING

One quality of leaders and high achievers in every area seems to be a commitment to ongoing personal and professional development. They look upon themselves as self-made people, as “works in progress.” They never become complacent or satisfied. They are always striving toward ever greater heights of knowledge and understanding.

GET TO THE TOP IN FIVE YEARS

Earl Nightingale said many years ago that one hour per day of study in your chosen field was all it takes. One hour per day of study will put you at the top of your field within three years. Within five years you'll be a national authority. In seven years, you can be one of the best people in the world at what you do.

READ EVERYTHING YOU CAN

Read all you can about your field. Subscribe to the executive book clubs and book summaries. Build your own library of important books in your field. Never be cheap about your education.

In fact, if you make a decision today to invest 3 percent of your annual income back into yourself, back into your own personal and professional development, you will probably never have to worry about money again.

GO THROUGH 50 BOOKS PER YEAR

If you read one hour per day in your field, that will translate into about one book per week. One book per week translates into about 50 books per year. Fifty books per year will translate into about 500 books over the next 10 years.

JOIN THE TOP 1 PERCENT OF MONEY EARNERS

If you read only one book per month, that will put you into the top 1 percent of income earners in our society. But if you read one book per week, 50 books per year, that will make you one of the best-educated, smartest, most capable and highest-paid people in your field. Regular reading will transform your life completely.

ACTION EXERCISES

Here are two things you can do immediately to put these ideas into practice.

First, ask the successful people around you for their best book recommendations. Whatever advice they give you, immediately go out and buy those books, take them home and begin reading for one hour every morning before you start work.

Second, when you read, underline and take notes when you find important ideas that you can use. Implement them immediately. Take action of some kind on good ideas. You will be amazed at the change in your career.

The few who do care are the envy of the many who only watch." – Jim Rohn