



Take a Leap of Faith

It is unfortunate to meet people who say, “Steve, I gave up on that dream a long time ago.” True, I can’t picture anyone over the age of 80 playing center field for the Chicago Cubs, but you would be amazed at what you can do at most any age. All it takes is the right mindset and to follow some of the following “paths.”

1. You Don’t Need A Permission Slip – Many a person with great ideas, grand visions and incredible plans stops short of pursuing them because they are waiting for permission to try. It may not necessarily be “permission,” but instead someone’s approval. I am not suggesting you quit your job to invent the world’s best, low-calorie hot chocolate drink, but nothing is holding you back from getting started. Wilbur and Orville Wright owned a bicycle shop when they decided to take a flyer (sorry) and build an airplane, but they forged ahead with their dream. If you stop waiting for a permission slip, you don’t have to worry about apologizing for your success when you succeed.

2. Life is a Continuous Process of Adjustment – No, 40-year-old joggers probably won't wind up on the USA track team, nor might a 60-year-old animal lover with only a high school diploma make it through veterinary school. However, there are many other avenues. For example, in addition to Master's- or senior-level competitions, schools nationwide are begging for coaches and assistants. There is no better way to give back to a sport than learning to coach it. As for loving animals, there are numerous openings for veterinary assistants, shelter management professionals, groomers, show dog handlers and hundreds of other animal-related careers. If you have a passion for anything and feel it's too late, adjust a bit, and you'll be amazed at what doors might open.

3. Make Them Wonder Why You're Smiling – Unfortunately, there are those all too happy to persuade you to give up on your dreams. They might even be hugging you while they give you 100 reasons to not become an interior designer or write a crime thriller. When someone jokes about your passion, it is usually not established in love, but based in negativity. Those who are truly happy for you will support you. Don't abandon your dream for a negative person; just remain silent and smile.

4. No One Knows You Better Than You – You are the world's leading expert on you. Julia Child *just knew* she had it in her to be a great chef, though the French chefs around her told her otherwise. The great composer Duke Ellington initially thought his calling was baseball based on what his friends told him. Inopportunistly, he was only average at playing third base and wound up working at a baseball stadium. Deep within Ellington's soul, *he knew* he could compose music that no one had ever heard before. While selling peanuts, he wrote his first jazz pieces, and the rest is history. You know what you have inside of you. It is a powerful force when you harness it.

5. Don't Take Advice From The Past – Joe was a factory worker in the Atlanta area. He would put in as many as 70 hours a week of backbreaking work on the factory floor. Fast forward, he has recently graduated from medical school. On his journey, I can't imagine how many people gave him the advice to keep his factory job because he wasn't cut out to be a doctor. The past is ignorant of the present. Base your decisions on where you want to go, not on

where someone who is telling you has never been.

6. You Do Have a Prayer – Have you ever heard the saying *you don't have a prayer*? If you are holding tightly onto a dream and working at it, and it feels as though you are the only person in the world who believes in you, I suggest you take the time to share your heart with a power much higher than yourself. Don't ask for solutions or instant answers, but for guidance and the motivation to continue. There is a beautifully humbling thing about admitting you can't go it alone. Prayer will open your heart, strengthen your faith and provide you strength to open unforeseen doors.

Sometimes the toughest part of starting a new venture, or just starting anew, is the beginning. We often convince ourselves that we're not ready, not capable and not financially stable enough to go after what we want. A great philosopher once said, "You do, or you do not. There is no try." If you're going to change your life, you must take a leap of faith.

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EVENT SPOTLIGHT



“Our team's response was AWESOME! Impactful is one word I would add. I re-sent your link to all of the attendees, and the buzz continues.”

Ben Northey, Vice President of HR, Safety, Risk, Goodfellow Bros.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Steve's April 2019 Schedule

- 2 - Norman, OK
- 3 - Vancouver, BC, CANADA
- 11 - Sioux Falls, SD
- 13 - Coraopolis, PA
- 14 - Norfolk, VA
- 16 - York, PA

16 - Chattanooga, TN
24 - Vancouver, BC, CANADA
26 - Cape Coral, FL

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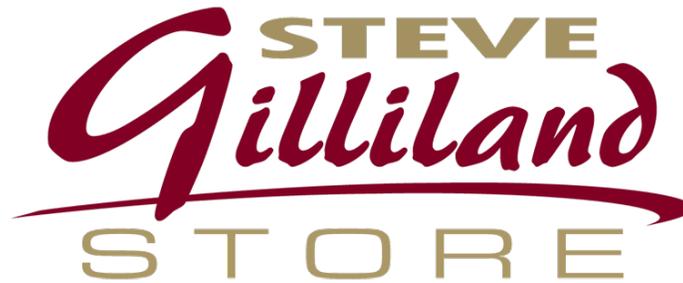
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