



# Adversity.....Opportunity

Written by Rob Zarrilli; presentation adapted by  
Tom Cuskey



"Inspiring Dreams, Realizing Potential"



## Adversity to Opportunity

*Prosperity makes  
friends, adversity  
tries them.*

*Publius Syrus*

## Tom C. from Syracuse....



*If you live long enough, you'll make mistakes. But if you learn from them, you'll be a better person. It's how you handle adversity, not how it affects you. The main thing is never quit, never quit, never quit.*

*William J. Clinton*



## Adversity to Opportunity

# You think you've had it bad?



The Leadership Institute

*Lighting the Way*

# Adversity to Opportunity

*Always seek  
out  
the seed of  
triumph  
in every  
adversity.*

*Og Mandino*

## Today's program goals:

1. Adversity – is it all bad news?
2. Who are you?
3. Building a better attitude
4. Benefits of adversity



# Adversity to Opportunity

*Always seek  
out  
the seed of  
triumph  
in every  
adversity.*

*Og Mandino*



*I went down to the crossroads...*

## Adversity to Opportunity

*Always seek  
out  
the seed of  
triumph  
in every  
adversity.*

*Og Mandino*



*Daddy says money can't spend itself!"*



## Adversity to Opportunity

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When you think of facing adversity...

*One who gains  
strength by  
overcoming  
obstacles  
possesses  
the only strength  
which can  
overcome  
adversity.*

*Albert Schweitzer*



## Adversity to Opportunity

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*Every adversity,  
every failure,  
every  
heartache carries  
with it the seed of  
an equal or  
greater  
benefit.*

*Napoleon Hill*



## Adversity to Opportunity

# When you think of facing adversity...



## Adversity to Opportunity

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What's the difference?

# ATTITUDE!

*Adversity  
causes  
some men to  
break; others to  
break records.*

*William Arthur  
Ward*



*When adversity  
strikes, that's  
when  
you have to be  
the  
most calm. Take  
a  
step back, stay  
strong, stay  
grounded and  
press  
on.*

*LL Cool J*



## Adversity to Opportunity

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### Attitude is a choice...

“Words can never adequately convey the incredible impact of our attitudes toward life. The longer I live the more convinced I become that life is 10% what happens to us and 90% how we respond to it.”

*Charles R. Swindoll*

*Actions speak louder than words...*



*Adversity has  
the  
effect of eliciting  
talents, which in  
prosperous  
circumstances  
would have lain  
dormant.*

*Horace*



## Adversity to Opportunity

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Attitude is an equation for success...

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

**ATTITUDE = ?**

1+20+20+9+20+21+ 4 + 5= 100%

# Adversity to Opportunity

*Education is an  
ornament in  
prosperity and a  
refuge in  
adversity.*

*Aristotle*



## Adversity to Opportunity

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Life can be traumatic...

***PTSD?***

***or***

***PTGD?***

*Adversity is the state in which man most easily becomes acquainted with himself, being especially free of admirers then.*

*John Wooden*





## Adversity to Opportunity

*I can better trust  
those who  
helped to  
relieve the  
gloom of my  
dark hours than  
those who are  
so ready to  
enjoy with me  
the sunshine of  
my prosperity.*

*Ulysses S.  
Grant*



Cpl. Justin Gaerther and Sgt. Gabriel Martinez

*Let me embrace  
thee, sour  
adversity, for  
wise  
men say it is the  
wisest course.*

*William  
Shakespeare*



## Adversity to Opportunity

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Adversity reorganizes priorities...

*Jim Valvano 1993*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PNKJNNbPCEc>



*Adversity  
reveals  
genius,  
prosperity  
conceals it.*

*Horace*

## Adversity to Opportunity

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**10 little words...**

**If it is to be,  
it is up to me.**



## Adversity to Opportunity

# Failure is...

*Fire is the test  
of  
gold; adversity,  
of  
strong men*

*Martha  
Graham*

**REMEMBER THAT  
FAILURE IS NOT  
THE OPPOSITE OF  
SUCCESS, IT IS A  
PART OF SUCCESS.**

What defines us is  
how well we rise  
after falling.

"Success consists of  
going from failure to  
failure without loss of  
enthusiasm."

Winston Churchill



# Adversity to Opportunity

*In prosperity,  
our  
friends know us;  
in  
adversity, we  
know  
our friends.*

*John Churton  
Collins*

## Michael Jordan

After being cut from his high school basketball team, he went home locked himself in his room and cried.

## The Beatles

Rejected by Decca Recording studios, who said "we don't like their sound"... "They have no future in show business"

## Eminem

A High School dropout, whose personal struggles with drugs and poverty culminated in an unsuccessful suicide attempt...

## Steve Jobs

At 30 years old he was left devastated and depressed after being unceremoniously removed from the company he started.

## Walt Disney

Fired from a newspaper for "lacking imagination" and "having no original ideas"...

## Oprah Winfrey

Was demoted from her job as a news anchor because she... "Wasn't fit for television."

## Albert Einstein

He wasn't able to speak until he was almost 4 years old and his teachers said he would "never amount to much"

"If you've Never Failed, You've Never Tried Anything New"



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prosperity and a  
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adversity.

Aristotle



## Adversity to Opportunity

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# What about business adversity?

**My territory is different.**

I have lost my best customer.

**The economy is terrible.**

**The weather is killing me.**

*The company doesn't get it.*

My boss is an idiot.

**We don't promote ourselves**



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## Adversity to Opportunity

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### TOP TEN...

- 10. Adversity creates opportunity**
- 9. It affects...enhances...all your relationships**
- 8. It takes courage**
- 7. It takes resilience**
- 6. Perspective...you alter it or it alters you**



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## Adversity to Opportunity

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### TOP TEN...

5. It creates change; embrace it before it embraces you
4. RESPECT!
3. It creates strength
2. You will discover empathy
1. You will find humility

*Adversity is the  
diamond dust  
Heaven  
polishes its  
jewels with.*

*Thomas Carlyle*



## Adversity to Opportunity

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# Remember...

Your thoughts dictate your beliefs;  
your beliefs dictate your actions.

Your attitude impacts your life and  
the life of each person you touch.

# Adversity to Opportunity

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*Publilius Syrus*

In review...today's goals:

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2. Who are you?
3. Building a better attitude
4. Benefits of adversity



# Adversity to Opportunity

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## Questions & Discussion

SUMMARY

On behalf of The Leadership Institute, I would like to thank you for attending this training and wish you the best of luck with all of your future endeavors.

