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Are You Driven by Character or Emotion?

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Are You Driven by Character or Emotion?

APRIL 16, 2014 BY DANNY BLANTON



"The greatest gap in life is the one between knowing and doing."□- Dick Biggs

Life would certainly be easier – and success more simple – if all it took to achieve was to KNOW the right things and DECIDE to do them, right? But I think it's more accurate to say that a decision is just one bookend of achievement. The other is discipline. Decisions can only help us start. Discipline helps us finish. That's where character comes in. Emotion might drive us to make a decision. But character is what keeps us going, even when it gets hard. As we deliberate over the road ahead of us and how we can achieve our desired end state, I thought it might be worth talking about some differences between character-driven and emotion-driven people:

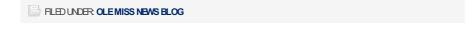
Character-driven people...

- 1. Do right, then feel good.
- 2. Are commitment driven.
- 3. Make principle-based decisions.
- 4. Let action control attitude.
- 5. Believe it, then see it.
- 6. Create momentum.
- 7. Ask, "What are my responsibilities?"
- 8. Continue when problems arise.
- 9. Are steady.
- 10. Are leaders

Emotion-driven people...

- 1. Feel good, then do right.
- 2. Are convenience-driven.
- 3. Make popular decisions.
- 4. Let attitude control action.
- 5. See it, then believe it.
- 6. Wait for momentum.
- 7. Ask, "What are my rights?"
- 8. Quit when problems arise.
- 9. Are moody.
- 10. Are followers.

The late Louis L'Amour is one of the best-selling authors of all time, with over 300 million copies of his popular western novels and short-story collections sold. When asked the key to his prolific writing, he responded, "Start writing, no matter what. The water does not flow until the faucet is turned on." Allow character and discipline to drive you, and you'll bridge the gap between knowing and doing. This will take you farther on the journey of success.



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OXFORD, Miss. – Eleven University of Mississippi students spent their winter break learning about the people who work behind the scenes of the American government in Washington, D.C. Lead by Jonathan Klingler, assistant professor of political science, the students of Pol 391: Applied Politics met not with candidates, but with the people who make candidates'

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