

January 20, 2019

Scott's Thoughts



What is the greatest skill I have ever learned in my life? That is a tremendous question. Is it driving, walking, the honing of my woodworking skills? No, it is none of

those. If I had to list one great skill in my life, it is the ability to read.

Over the Christmas holidays my two-year-old grand daughter brought me several books and wanted me to read them to her. Now would it surprise you to know at two years of age she can already read some? No, she does not yet, know all the letters of the alphabet. What she does do is recognize certain symbols. She may not understand all she knows about those symbols.

I'll give you an example, if we are driving and she sees the golden arches she knows what that is. We pass Braum's and she knows what that is. Now you may think that recognizing the trademark of different companies is not reading but it is. Letters and numbers are just symbols that we slowly over a period of time learn to recognize and combine into written words. Do you want to thrill a child? Show them that they, no matter what age, are already learning to read.

Now why do I say that reading is the greatest skill I have ever acquired? Because the ability to read has opened more doors in my life than any

thing else. It was about fourth grade that I began to really enjoy reading. I have always liked historical figures and read numerous biographies at that point in time about the lives of Lincoln, Eisenhower, Clara Barton, Walter Chrysler and many others. I was fascinated how many of them started with nothing and with persistence and hard work rose to the top to become some of the most admired people in the world.

About 5th grade, I started reading the Hardy Boy Mystery series. From there I branched out in several different directions. I found my entertainment lasting for hours and costing nothing, just check out a book and read. As a young man I found that reading could teach me a multitude of other skills a constant broadening of my horizons.

Finally, at age 30 I sat down and began to read the Bible with the goal of understanding it. I found that once again reading was teaching me. As I read, I began to question many of the beliefs that I was comfortable with at that point in my life. I still read the Bible and continue to learn. It is the book of books the one that no man will ever master. The more I read it and study it, the richer my life becomes, so I invite you to read and study. Lets get rich together.

Thanks for listening and keep on shining.

—Scott