Farewell Speech

By Bud Sugg

Next Steps Graduation

If I had to say one word right now, I would say wow. What a ride that me and my classmates have had over the past two years. It seems like yesterday we all went through Summer Institute together and walking on campus for the very first time as a Next Steps student. From that time on, we’ve had some fun times together, shared a few laughs here and there, but we’ve also had to go through times where we’ve had to work really hard.

That leads me to the main point I want to talk about. I want to talk about balance. Now we hear about balance all the time, but have we found that perfect balance between work and life. To me, finding that perfect balance is very critical in order to have a good successful lifestyle. We all know that we have to work hard, but if we work too hard we will be stressed out. That’s why we also have to find time to spend time with our families or simply just having fun. One example to me of what perfect balance is our whole entire Next Steps experience.

Think about what we’ve had to do on a week to week basis. We’ve had to write at least five journal entries, exercise at least three hours, we’ve had to do homework in all of our classes, and we’ve had to take on numerous projects. Last but not least, we’ve had to take on numerous tasks at our internships. Tasks like filing documents, cleaning equipment, shelving books, reading obituaries, and numerous other tasks. Through all that hard work though, we were rewarded with some fun experiences. Going on circle events with our great and wonderful ambassadors, going to sporting events, and certainly the senior trip to Huntsville, Alabama. That’s what I call a perfect balance.

Now as my classmates and I go about our daily lives, finding that perfect balance will be even harder because eventually we will be faced with more responsibilities. For me I’ll have to start making monthly payments on a car, a phone, and that’s only a small handful of payments. To make those payments I have to make money and the only way to make money is to work. Having said all that though, we don’t have to find that perfect balance alone, we’ve got our parents, and we’ve got each other to help out. My challenge to everyone is to find that perfect balance. If you find it successfully, I guarantee you that life will go so much smoother, even in times where you’re facing a lot of adversity.

One final note I want to make, is let’s not forget about each other. This goes to my classmates and to everyone in the crowd. We’ve developed way too many good memories to all of a sudden forget about each other. Post about your current job status, post some good memories that have happened recently, talk to each other. Of course don’t try stalking your friends. Come to Next Steps reunion events. To my classmates, and friends through Next Steps, I want to say good luck at whatever goals and ambitions that you have and may God Bless you all. That’s my speech.