

## **TRUSTWORTHINESS, PERSEVERANCE & HONESTY**

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*“Life is what happens to you while you’re busy making other plans.”*

-John Lennon

In life, we all have plans envisioned in our minds. We might want to go to a special college or live in a certain state. We might have goals to marry and have a family. Sometimes, life may take a surprising or unplanned turn. You may need to rely on your values or laws of life to guide you through your obstacles. There are three values or laws of life that I would use as my flashlight to help me navigate the darkness life can bring in those unplanned moments. These values are trustworthiness, perseverance, and honesty.

Being able to trust someone can get me through even the toughest of times. For example, a few years ago, a man was trying to get into our house when I was home alone. I called my mom, who then called the police. The police kept me on the phone to calm me down. I had to trust the police to handle the whole situation and keep me safe. After the police arrived, they told me that the elderly man had Alzheimer’s disease. I knew that the man meant no harm, but when there is a threat of danger, you must be able to trust people to keep you safe. Trust can get me through even the scariest of events.

Perseverance is persistence in anything undertaken. My grandma was a great example of a person who showed great perseverance. When she was dying of cancer, she kept fighting it. If I was not feeling good, she would notice right away and find ways to cheer me up. She babysat me, took trips, and played bingo and cards with her friends. She wasn’t going to go down without a fight and she lived about 10 months longer than the doctors expected because she kept fighting. My grandma taught me that when life drops me in a ditch, I need to keep on digging until I get out. She taught me that perseverance is a very important law of life.

Just as trustworthiness and perseverance are laws of life, telling the truth is also a major life law. You can always rely on honesty to help get you out of a problem that life may throw at you. For example, in first grade, my teacher gave me a note for my mom. Instead of being honest and giving it to her and explaining what happened, I threw it away. If I would have just given it to her, the punishment would have been a lot less severe. In another example, if you fail a really big test, you are better off telling your mom than telling a lie and having her find out about the test on her own. Telling the truth about the test might reduce or free you of punishments. These are two of many reasons why honesty is the best policy.

When John Lennon said “Life is what happens to you while you’re busy making other plans,” I think he meant problems arise when you least expect them. You can’t always plan for these problems, but you can use your laws of life to be prepared. I believe that if you practice trustworthiness, perseverance, and honesty in every day life, you will be able to overcome any obstacles that come your way.

