

Enthusiasm

Emerson said, “*Nothing great is ever achieved without enthusiasm.*” I see enthusiasm as the critical trait, component, ingredient in the personality of successful people. Enthusiasm is the gas that drives your engine on your journey towards SEEKING EXCELLENCE. With enthusiasm, you will forever have the chance to succeed, without it you have failed before you ever started. Some people show it differently than others, but that doesn’t mean it is any less powerful or they are any less committed. Webster’s defines it this way:

enthusiasm: 1. originally, supernatural inspiration or possession. 2. intense or eager interest; zeal; fervor. — *SYN.* see passion.

zeal: ardent endeavor or devotion. — *SYN.* see passion.

fervor: 1. intense heat. 2. great warmth of emotion; ardor; zeal.— *SYN.* see passion.

emotion: 1. Strong, generalized feeling; physical excitement.— *SYN.* see feeling

ardor: 1. Emotional warmth; passion; eagerness; enthusiasm; zeal. — *SYN.* see passion.

passion: 5. Extreme, compelling, emotion; intense emotional drive or excitement. — *SYN.* fervor, ardor, enthusiasm, zeal.

In looking at how Webster’s defines enthusiasm and the words associated to the term, it is obvious to see a pattern developing towards another word, PASSION; they go hand-in-hand. You can’t have one without the other. And so it is with Success — you can’t have success without enthusiasm; they go hand-in-hand. Enthusiasm is but a state of mind, the combination between mental and physical energy; your belief (the mental) put into action (physical energy).

ã 2001 Robert Stevenson, *Seeking Excellence Publishing*

*Enthusiasm is the yeast that makes
your hope rise to the stars.
Enthusiasm is the sparkle in your eyes,
it is the swing in your gait,
the grip of your hand,
the irresistible surge of your will and
your energy to execute your ideas.
Enthusiasts are fighters.
They have fortitude.
They have staying qualities.
Enthusiasm is at the bottom
of all progress!
With it there is accomplishment.
Without it there are only alibis.*

Henry Ford's Fireplace Motto