

It's Your Choice...

Each day when you wake you have a choice how the day will be...what will you do for those around you.

Yesterday I had a very challenging day working with those in leadership roles trying to encourage them to lead and not just be on the COVID-19 bus to wherever it takes us. With many days like this, I spent much reflection in whether time defines our character or if our character defines the time we live. I choose the later as I hope that my character will help to shape the time we are living. I am one who is not just willing to be on the bus and go wherever it takes us, but rather help, even in some small way, provide assistance in the direction of that bus or at least make the ride not so bumpy.

That led me thinking about choice. We have the choice to be victim or to be the champion. ...And though there is a time where we are victims, there are also times in every one of those instances to be the champion. I think of Mother Theresa and we know that she decided to be the champion. She worked in some of the worst and poorest slums in the world in Calcutta. She herself had little, but she did not see herself as the victim. Her very character helped to shape in positive ways the time she lived and became a champion through all of time. She made a choice...Though we may not be called upon to make such sacrifices or to endure such hardships, we can make the choice to shape in positive ways where 2020 is taking us.

Whoever would have thought a year ago that 2020 would be as it has been. Yet, though we find ourselves on this challenging road, I find everyday there are ways to be champions. We may not be the mayors, the elected officials, the sheriffs, the Governor, but we are on this road and how our bus goes down it is in part controlled by our choices. I see such much beauty around me in the character of some who have stepped out of their normal roles and become champions. I am not talking about just our healthcare workers or other "essential workers." I am talking about neighbors, community members, OES sisters and brothers, who have chosen to do something beyond what they normally do. I see food drives, calling trees, senior meal preparation and drop-off, shopping for others, and standing up for others and causes (whether we agree with them all or not). Choices are being made by some and others, sadly, are just on the bus to wherever it takes us, letting time decide the defining course.

I so encourage each of you to make the choice today and each day to be that champion in some small way. I encourage you that instead of saying no one has called me to check on me, to turn that around and call someone. If you are alone, if you are sad, reach out. It is okay to feel the stresses and sadness of the times, but I encourage you to make the choice to change it. Live by example. We need more people to step up and know they are important, that they can be champions...they are champions.



I love each of my OES brothers and sisters and together we can absolutely do great things as we have always done. We don't have to "wait" until this pandemic is over to get back to "normal." We can make the new "normal" something amazing so when we look back we know that the character of OES was defined by us not just the happenings of the time we lived. Look for ways to connect and stay connected to our causes, our beliefs and find strength in our fellowship as we refuse to let that fade even though we are living in a different world today than last year.

If you have not called someone lately outside your closest circles, find someone on the next circle out and call them. If you have not seen the neighbor down the street, stop by and leave a warm note on the door, even if you have never met them. Just maybe they are feeling very alone and though they don't know you, you could make all the difference to them getting through 2020. Call your OES sisters and brothers. Look down your yearbook lists and pull a name of someone you may never have seen in Chapter or even know and give them a call, write them a letter, reach out. We have this amazing network. Let us strengthen it. Let us make the choice to be more now than we have ever been. It is your choice...

Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin." (Mother Theresa)

Yours in Star Love,
Sabrina - Your Grand Conductress

