

20140319 quote presentation scripts

柯馨怡 Mother Teresa was a Roman Catholic sister and missionary who founded the Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta, India. The charity was devoted to running hospices and homes for people with Leprosy and AIDS. She once said "We shall never know all the good that a simple smile can do." Smile, is the symbol of friendliness. It can bring warmth to sorrowful people; it can turn two indifferent strangers into familiar friends; it can bring hope to people in despair. When I searched for the pictures of Mother Teresa, she was always photographed with a warm smile on her face. The smile had comforted numerous patients who were suffering from terrible pains and had been deserted by others. The power of this simple smile is totally beyond our expectations.

蔡鈞如 Bono is an Irish singer; he is also the songwriter and guitarist of famous rock band U2. His real name is Paul David Hewson. He is enthusiastic in charities for Africa and has even been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. He once said that "Whenever you see darkness, there is extraordinary opportunity for the light to burn brighter." It means that we might experience many difficulties before we become stronger and more powerful. Our power is like a candle; it burns brighter and becomes all the more useful in darkness. Likewise, people become wiser when they face difficulties and try hard to overcome them. The sense of crisis will push them to try harder. So, do not be afraid of darkness, it is an opportunity for you to develop your potentials.

洪詩涵 I would like to share a quotation from Seymour Cray who is the father of supercomputing. He once said, "If you were plowing a field, which would you rather use? Two strong oxen or 1024 chickens?" There is no doubt that oxen can plow better than chickens. But I think the real lesson here is to use the right people to do the right thing. Employers can hire ten thousand employees, but if his employees do not have the right abilities, they still cannot help the company. "Amount" is not the crux of success; the key is to know how to choose the best and most efficient way to do things.

黃郁容 Now that the 86th Academy Awards were given out, debates over who is more qualified to be the best actor rose fiercely on the internet. Leonardo DiCaprio's fans were especially outraged that he had been nominated four times and lost all four despite his brilliant performances. But DeCaprio himself said, "I'm really moved by all the people on the internet demanding that I should win an Oscar, but to be honest, I do this job because I love it, not to win prizes." I have admired his excellent

performance since his leading role in the film “Titanic,” but his wholehearted devotion to his acting career and what he loves is what I think should be regarded as truly admirable.

翁子涵 “One is not born, but rather becomes, a woman.” This quotation from Simone de Beauvoir, the great French philosopher and feminist, revealed that society represses and confines women into certain stereotypes. And women have long lived behind, under, and beneath men, while trying to please and satisfy them. Lilith Saintcrow, the author of *Strange Angels* once said, “Better to be strong than pretty and useless.” It’s time for women to make some noise and be themselves, for you can no longer depend on fairy tales where superman or prince-charming or other such heroes are waiting to save you. You need to value yourself; you need to fight for yourself. Nora Ephron, screenwriter best known for her romantic comedy *When Harry Met Sally*, reminds all women: “Above all, be the heroine of your life, not the victim.”

李佳霓 I have chosen an interesting quote from a novel, *Anne of green gables*. It goes like this: “I believe I rather like superstitious people. They lend color to life. Wouldn't it be a rather drab world if everybody was wise and sensible . . . and good? What would we find to talk about?” Nowadays, we believe in science and technology; we tend to ask for a reason and proof in everything. When we see older people pray or worship in the temples, we may laugh at their folly. But this quote teaches me one thing, it says: if everybody is sensible, life would not be interesting at all! The little silliness and unreasonableness actually makes our society more interesting. To give you an example, I have two aunts, and one is very superstitious. She respects gods, but at the same time, she is afraid of gods, so she does everything carefully and decently. The other aunt believes gods are not so important to her life, so she doesn't have the timidity like the other superstitious aunt. In fact, she appears to be indifferent and cold at times. I believe she is not bad, but it is so much more fun to be with my other charming and superstitious aunt.

徐郁蕙 “Most people do not really want freedom, because freedom involves responsibility, and most people are frightened of responsibility.” This was said by Sigmund Freud. As a student at the University of Vienna, he had to study hard to qualify as a doctor of medicine; as a doctor, he must fulfill his obligation to treat his patients and to do research in pathology. And as a father, he needed to work hard to support his family. It seems that Freud himself was bound by various kinds of responsibilities and wasn't free at all. However, if we put Freud into his own words, he should be considered one of the freest man in the world because he took up his responsibilities and did them well. That reminds me of a quotation from Ku Hong-Ming (辜鴻銘), a pioneer of Western learning in China, that nicely

complements Freud's point. Ku says, "Real freedom doesn't mean that you can just follow your inclinations, but being free to do the right thing." Thus, if we want to be truly free, we should do what we think is right after finishing the duties of being a social man or woman.

劉婷昀 Many people complain about the unfairness in their lives. Sometimes, I also wonder if justice still exists. However, an Irish writer and poet Oscar Wilde tells us the plain truth. He said, "Life is never fair, and perhaps it is a good thing for most of us that it is not." I think he was saying that the differences between us can encourage us to struggle harder for our goals. Take Beethoven the great musician as an example. He lost his hearing in his old age. For most people, it would mean the end of a composing career. Yet, to everyone's surprise, his most famous composition, Symphony No.5, Op.67, was completed in this difficult period. Perhaps, Beethoven also felt life was not unfair in his suffering, but it didn't keep him away from pursuing his favorite music.

鄭雅方 Today I'm going to share something about Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, the wife of the 35th US president John F. Kennedy. To me, she is the strongest, most admirable woman in the world. After the assassination of her husband in 1963, she lived and raised their children on her own. Several years later, in spite of criticism from the public, she married a Greek shipping magnate named Aristotle Onassis because he was rich enough to offer her and her children a better life. Jacqueline once said, "One must not let oneself be overwhelmed by sadness", which really depicts her later life. Although she might not be considered a competent first lady, she is a good mother without a doubt. She never surrendered to the grief of her husband's death, but courageously pursued the future for her children. This is why I respect her so much.

林詩賢 We live in a world where we have to care about how we look because we fear that others would dislike us and we will be left alone. Sometimes we even change our appearances according to what others say. But there is one person who can't change his appearance at all—Nick Vujicic, 32 years old, born without arms or legs. He visits schools to talk about how he was depressed that twelve peers teased him on one day when he was a young boy. However, now he travels around the world and encourages young people with his energetic voice: "You're awesome just the way that you are." Turning away from suicide to live a colorful life, Vujicic has found the meaning of life and he always reminds young people to live not in despair but in hope and satisfaction.

廖元儷 Plato, a famous philosopher and mathematician in Classical Greece, once said, "We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the light." I think what this statement means is that it is understandable that a child may be afraid of the dark because he does not know what lies in the dark. But when an adult sees the light and knows what truth is, and still tries to avoid the light so as to refuse knowledge, then his choice to voluntarily go back into the dark is even worse than a child who is eager to absorb knowledge while being afraid of ignorance.

徐少婕 Martin Luther King Jr. was a freedom fighter for civil rights in the 1960s. In the process of fighting against racial discrimination, he had to face lots of opposition and attack, and he realized, "Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity." Those who discriminated against and attacked African Americans couldn't truly know the value of racial equity. They were blind to racial oppression and insisted on its continuance. That made them real idiots. I think the most terrifying thing is not really doing something wrong, but not knowing they are wrong and staying ignorant and stupid. That might cause a lot of human tragedies.

黃子維 "If man does his best, what else is there?" This is the quote I choose from George S. Patton, who was a famous general in the United States Army. In WW2, he commanded the Third Army in the invasion of Normandy, France in 1944 and advanced his army into Nazi Germany by the end of the war. I think General Patton is saying that if a man has done things to the utmost of his abilities, then we cannot ask for anything more from him. He has given it all, and there is nothing more to give. So if you have done your best, then there is no regret or shame. But if you haven't done your best, then it's time to do something about that.