

Siyaphambili Motivational Organization

# NOMAKANJANI

## Special points of interest:

- Be thankful of what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have. You will never, ever have enough.
- Be thankful for hard times in your life. Try not to look at them as bad things, but as opportunities to grow and learn.
- A man may fail many times, but he won't be a failure until he says someone pushed him.
- To be prepared is half the victory.

## BE THANKFUL

It was mid 1988 my mother tells me I need to attend night school to improve on my physics marks. I take it lightly as usual but I agree to do it. All I knew was that this would give me an excuse to come home late at night. On that Tuesday I started heading to the night school in Vosloorus. We started classes around 6pm. I get in class and wait for my other classmates to come in. One by one they start coming in. Everyone is old enough to be my mother or father. I am the youngest in class. I look around one more time to make sure I am not dreaming. Yes indeed I am attending classes with adults.

The teacher comes in class. The teacher is even younger than most of our class mates. I thought I would at least meet one person my age, but no, we went on with the class and still no one my age showed up. When we started asking questions and the teacher was explaining things, it was clear that this was very important to my class mates.

I have often heard my mother talk about how difficult it is to study when you are older. And ..

I heard those words so many times but for the first time today, they really hit a nerve. As we finished the class and we were walking out and they were treating me like their equals. I got scared. As I walked home after the class I had time to think. So, this is what it was like studying as an older person. This is what it is like to battle with matric when you were older. I admired them for the courage to take the step to make their lives better.

When I walked home that day I knew there was food on the table. I had left school at 2pm that day, had time to play and then was ready for night school. Unlike them, I did not have children to worry about. I did not have work to worry about. My night school—*Cont. Page2*



Somebody out there is far worse than you. Be thankful always.

## Inside this issue:

A success story

2

## Tip of the month:

**Take full responsibility for everything that happens or does not happen to your plan.** Never blame anyone because half the time it's your fault something did not happen as you planned. If the school stops for a month and you fail at the end of the year. It is still your fault. Remember who wants to pass at the end of the year? It's you. What did you do when the school stopped. Did you read all chapters ahead or not when you had free time? Did you ask a friend from another school to borrow your notes if they covered that section? If you start thinking this

way. You will force your mind to come up with backup plans, you will not say, "This is just bad luck", "I don't have good luck". When something goes wrong today, ask yourself these questions; What can I do to fix this, What have I learned from this; How could I have prevented this from happening; What will I do better next time. After answering these questions, never let that mistake happen again. Always think of a backup plan in case something goes wrong. Remember this quote: **"Plan for the worst and hope for the best"**.

## BE THANKFUL

classmates (adults), probably woke up at 6am to get to work at 8am, worked until 5pm took at taxi that dropped them off at the night school at 6pm. At 8pm when they get home they were probably tired but had to make sure everyone was fed and had clothes for school the next day.

What scared me as you can tell was my life was very easy compared to theirs. I had time on my hands. I was fortunate and I had no responsibilities. I realized that I had a choice. I can either work as hard as I can so I don't deal with matric when I'm older or ignore the opportunities that were right in front of me and live to regret everything later. I had no excuses. I did not want to have regrets. I chose to make the best of what was given to me.

Today take a few minutes and **be thankful** to the person who encourages you to go school, be thankful to the person that buys you clothes, that gave you pocket money to come to school today. This person or these people are doing you a huge favor. Yes, if you still think by coming to school, you are doing someone a favor. You are mistaken. Your parents might get a chance to boast about you going to school to their friends but make no mistake, the person who will benefit today and years to come is you. There is no day that goes by when I am not thankful to my mother that she encouraged me to go and stay in school.

Realize when an opportunity is given to you. Realize when people make a sacrifice for you to succeed. **And the best thank you can give them is by proving them RIGHT.** Don't wait till you are very old to appreciate the good things in your life today.

## Continued ...



*Gratitude is merely the secret hope of further favors.*

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## A SUCCESS STORY

I want to share a story about a friend who attended matric in KwaZulu-Natal. He could not finish matric, due to riots. He had to repeat matric at Vosloorus. When I asked him why he didn't just give up. In his words he told me this "I had an easy choice, my brother went to university, my sister went to University. If I did not go back to school

I would be the only one in my family who didn't go to University. So, I decided I'd rather repeat matric." He passed his matric the following year, and then went on to the University of Fort Hare to acquire a BSc. Today, he has a nice house, he owns several cars, he started a company with several partners, he has traveled to several countries including Brazil, Mauritius and USA. I am amazed when he tells me he simply bought one of the cars to be able to take his mother and her friends wherever they want to go for

church on weekends. I bet you, everyone who was in his class forgot he ever repeated matric. And ... I am sure he is thankful to a lot of people.

***"NOMAKANJANI, I will pass Matric"***

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### About: Siyaphambili and Nomakanjani:

*Siyaphambili is the name of the organization formed by South Africans who live either in South Africa or United States of America. They studied in your school or a school just like yours. They believe most students have the potential to reach bigger dreams. Nomakanjani is the name of the news letter meaning "No matter what!" This was taken from a USA based business organization that teaches people that they will reach their dreams as soon as they make "no matter what" decisions.*