# **American Inspiration**

### Thoughts for today and every day . . .

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 $\checkmark$  "The test of courage comes when we are in the minority. The test of tolerance comes when we are in the majority." Ralph W. Sockman

√"There are too many people who get degrees and think that they're educated. In order to be truly knowledgeable person one has got to be engaged in serious, systematic, lifelong learning." Benjamin Payton

√"If a man is not faithful to his own individuality, he cannot be loyal to anything." Claude McKay

√"You can't get ahead when you're trying to get even." Author unknown

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## 🐣 American Update

We had a great week at the TDEA convention in Houston last week and saw many friends in the industry. This week, teams are super busy deciding on contests to attend and putting the finishing touches on their contest choreography. We look forward to seeing the fabulous teams in Kansas next weekend on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> ! Make sure to go to our web site on the 21<sup>st</sup> to watch the competition live from Olathe, Kansas! (DanceADTS.com)

Inspiration of the Week

### What's the Score? John C. Maxwell author of "The 17 Indisputable Laws of Teamwork"

Every endeavor or "game" in life has its own rules and its own definition of what it means to win. Some teams measure their success in points scored, others in profits. Still others may look at the number of people they serve. But no matter what the game is, there is always a scoreboard. And if a team is to accomplish its goals, it has to know the score.

Why is the score so important? Because teams that succeed make adjustments to continually improve themselves and their situations. In preparation, teams come up with a detailed game plan or list of goals. But, as the game goes on, the game plan and goals mean less and less, while the scores become more important. Why? Because the game is constantly changing. You see, the game plan (or goals) tells you what you *want* to happen. But the scores tell you what *is* happening.

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