**Appreciation**

**Success is terrifying. Like happiness, it is often appreciated in retrospect. *(Julie Andrews, actress and singer)***

**It is only when the rigidity of advanced pregnancy sets in that you appreciate fully how useful it was to be able to bend at the waist. *(Audrey Hull)***

**The best way to show appreciation for a favor is to enjoy it. Don’t be in a rush to reciprocate immediately. Let your benefactor enjoy the knowledge that he or she has done you a valuable service for which you are grateful*. (Bits & Pieces)***

**All charming people have something to conceal, usually their total dependence on the appreciation of others. (Cyril Connolly)**

**He who is carried on another's back does not appreciate how far off the town is. *(A Treasury of African Folklore, edited by Harold Courlander)***

**As the fair-weather season approaches, Egyptians observe a holiday which is not marked by any formal ceremonies, speeches or parades. It is simply known as "Smell the Breezes Day." The custom is to assemble food and family, and then to head for the country, for the sole purpose of appreciating the joys of being outdoors. (Nuggets)**

**Sometimes I feel like I was born to play basketball. I’ve known a lot of people who worked just as long, just as hard, to develop the same skills I did, and yet it’s just not there for them. So I accept it as a gift. But I don’t take it for granted, and I guard it jealously. I feel you should be a caretaker, a steward, of that which is given to you. Remember that what can be given can be taken away. *(Julius “Dr. J” Erving, pro basketball player)***

**Giving thanks, expressing thanks, appreciation, praise and blessing will enhance and enrich your daily life. But more than that, expressing these qualities of Spirit will enlighten your consciousness. You will leap forward in spiritual transformation, all because you increased your thanks-ability! (Rev. Gerry Comstock, Unity minister)**

**Most human beings have an almost infinite capacity for taking things for granted. (Aldous Huxley)**

**Appreciation is like an insurance policy. It has to be renewed every now and then. (Dave McIntyre, quoted in National Enquirer)**

**The deepest principle of human nature is the craving to be appreciated. (William James)**

**As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them. (John F. Kennedy)**

**Pacific Gas and Electric Company received this letter from a customer: "There I was on the highway, standing bewildered in front of my wrecked-by-a-deer car. Along came a PG&E lineman. He radioed for the highway patrol. It was a very cold night. He offered his jacket, then turned on the heater in the pickup. After the highway patrol came, he drove me home to a worried wife. He was very helpful, thoughtful and considerate. He would accept nothing. So the least I can do is write a letter of appreciation. "P.S. To help pay for the gasoline, oil and pickup depreciation, I left our front porch light on all night." *(PG&E Life, as it appeared in Reader's Digest, March, 1972 issue on page 78)***

**Appreciation is the memory of the heart. *(Quoted by Bill Beattie in A Treasury of Business Beatitudes)***

**A Canadian woman who was woken in the middle of the night by a loud crash was shocked to discover that a softball-size meteorite had smashed through her roof – and landed on a pillow just inches from her face. “I’ve never been so scared,” said Ruth Hamilton. The Golden, B. C. resident called police, who determined that the 2.8 pound rock was part of a meteor shower that had lit up the sky. Hamilton says the experience has given her a new appreciation for the fragility of life. “You’re sound asleep, safe, you think, in your bed, and you can get taken out by a meteorite, apparently.” *(The Week magazine, October 29, 2021)***

***Husband*: “Well, I found out something at work today that didn’t surprise me. The boss has absolutely no appreciation for hard work.” Wife: “So that turned out to be the hot topic at the water cooler all day long!” *(Dean Young & John Marshall, in Blondie comic strip)***

**Record number of curtain calls after an opera performance: Luciano Pavarotti, with 165. (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 253)***

**I'd rather be appreciated a little while I'm here than missed a lot when I'm gone. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Commonplaces never become tiresome. It is we who become tired when we cease to be curious and appreciative. *(Norman Rockwell)***

**Only someone whose been as broke as I was could appreciate how happy I am. I appreciate every day not having to worry. (J. K. Rowling, Harry Potter author, in Newsweek)**

**It's a healthy thing now and then to hang a question mark on the things you have long taken for granted. (Bertrand Russell)**

**Snoopy: “This is our Thanksgiving Day dance. It symbolizes our appreciation for all things good. It’s sort of a dance of gladness. Woodstock is glad that he tastes terrible with cranberry sauce.” (Charles Schulz, in Peanuts comic strip)**

**Arnold Bennett, the novelist, had a publisher who boasted about the extraordinary efficiency of his secretary. One day while visiting the publisher’s office, Bennett asked her: “Your boss claims you’re extremely efficient. What’s your secret?” “It’s not my secret,” said the secretary, “it’s his.” Each time she did something for him, no matter how insignificant, she explained, he never failed to acknowledge and appreciate it. Because of this, she took infinite pains with her work. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Tipping for the holidays: "December is prime tipping time," said Jillian Eugenios in CNN.com. But who should get what? Given how many people we rely on, the list can get quite long, with house cleaners, nannies, hairstylists, building superintendents, dog walkers, personal trainers, and school-bus drivers typical recipients. "For nannies, the recommended holiday tip is one to two weeks' pay. For day-care workers, it's $25-$50, plus a small gift from your child." If you are wondering where to draw the line, "it's simple: If you wouldn't gift that person, don't tip them." And if "a cash tip isn't possible, send a handwritten note or a homemade food item" to show your appreciation instead. *(The Week magazine, December 26, 2014)***

**Why did Scotland pick the purple thistle for its national flower? Invading Danes, barefoot in attack, squealed mightily when they hit the thistles, so retreated. This, 1,000 years ago. The Scots appreciated it. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**A two-week vacation with four kids in a tent makes you appreciate the serenity of the work place. (Doug Larson, United Feature Syndicate)**

**We realize the importance of our voices only when we are silenced. (Malala Yousafzai)**

**Hagar: “Sleeping out on a night like this makes me appreciate the warmth and comfort of my home even more! Maybe if I knock on the door and try to apologize one more time she'll let me in.” (*Chris Browne, in Hagar The Horrible comic strip)***

**California's new attitude about water: "California is weathering its drought with remarkable resilience," said Charles Fishman. After the driest four-year period in state history, Californians are aggressively reducing their use of water, recycling it, replacing grass lawns with desert landscaping, and learning to do more with less. Farmers are rapidly moving to drip- or micro-irrigation that enables them to keep supplying half the nation's produce, with far less water. Urban communities are succeeding in cutting water use to the point where a Southern California district is saving 1 billion gallons per day -- as much as New York City uses in a day. Serious problems continue, of course, including raging wildfires and farmers' over-pumping of aquifers. But the state's economy "is doing fabulously," with 27 percent growth in 2014 and 462,000 jobs created over the past year -- far more than any other state. Water supplies are becoming a problem in other parts of the country, so California is providing an important example. Californians now regard water as a scarce and precious resource, "and it's that attitude that will save the state -- and the rest of us as well." *(The Week magazine, August 28, 2015)***

**The best way to appreciate your job is to imagine yourself without one. *(Oscar Wilde)***

**John Wooden, the great U.C.L.A. coach, told his players that when they scored, they were to smile, wink or nod to the player who passed them the ball. A team member asked, “What if he's not looking?” “I guarantee he'll look,” Wooden replied. (Mark R. Littleton, in Reader's Digest)**

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