

“Life is often filled with many challenges and difficulties. We cannot always control our circumstances but we can control our thoughts and reactions to the situations we encounter. The realities of our life often results from outside factors, most of which we cannot control. Our attitudes however reflect the way we deal with situations and how we think about ourselves. Our realities then become a product of negative and defeated thinking, which often lead to a negative outcome, *Life’s Not a Rehearsal* is a collection of motivational and inspirational thoughts filled with practical advice and wisdom for everyday use. There are practical ways to brighten our days and lift our spirits to help us succeed and find fulfillment in life as we open ourselves to our God-given purposes.”

—Lucy Willis, PH,D., R.N.

“It doesn’t matter who you are or where you may find yourself on your journey of life, there is something for everyone in this compilation of quotes . . . it is like a gold mine-full of nuggets of wisdom to help guide you along your way.”

—Karen Douglas, Psy.D

“David Ellis’s book, *Life’s Not a Rehearsal*, is a refreshingly delightful compilation of succinct, dynamic and logical expressions of common sense, proverbs, and humorous discourse that offer good counsel for all who seek and are willing to work at becoming productive. The book contains motivational messages for those who desire and/or need to work at becoming successful. *Life’s Not a Rehearsal* is for everyone from the novice to the professional.”

—Elnora Wiggins, ED.D, Professor
Business Administration and Office Administration
Mississippi Valley State University, (Retired)

“I enjoyed reading your book. I find it very fulfilling, yet challenging. I predict those persons reading this book will be inspired to reach and stretch for greater accomplishments. I endorse it without any reservation.”

—Eddie A. Holloway, PH. D.
Dean of Students

University of Southern Mississippi

To be successful in life means to have weathered the storms of living. The storms are sometimes dark balls of fire with strong winds preceding the furious downpours of rain. The clouds hang heavy blinding the sunshine.” Your book is filled with encouragement that can be used in almost every stormy situation. The scriptures as connection to our Savior who sustains us during our entire life.

Peggy Answorth, Ed.D.

LIFE'S NOT A
REHEARSAL

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DAVID ELLIS

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This book is dedicated to my lovely daughter, Kristan J. Ellis, with my deepest love.

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He has extensive experience in the transportation industry, developing and directing sales forces, as well as in motivational and mentoring programs.

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HOW THIS BOOK CAN HELP YOU

This book is designed for quick and easy daily reading to rapidly cultivate your mind to say yes to your God-given purpose.

What road are you traveling on? Do you really know where you are going in life? Ask yourself one important question: What is my principal talent, the one thing I can concentrate on? Like the apostle Paul, you can say, “This one thing I do,” instead of, “These dozen things I *start*.” You can change your life in as short a span of time as thirty-one days.

In the short span of thirty-one days, the process of reading the daily phrases and scriptures will stretch your mind to a new dimension, propelling you on in your success journey. The daily readings will give you greater understanding by placing things into perspective, helping you visualize your life goals, and giving you self-encouragement and greater self-understanding.

In the daily readings, morning, noon, evening, and group discussions, you will discover:

- How to unlock your full potential
- See your opportunities
- Turn activity into energy

Life's Not a Rehearsal

- Gain more self-confidence
- Courage to look into the future
- Power to overcome life's defeats
- How to get out of the mental rut

Do it now. Get off the bench and quit standing on the sidelines of life; tell the coach to put you in the game now. With this book as your personal coach, you will be helped immeasurably in the next thirty-one days.

Knowledge and Wisdom

Take what you have, make what you want.

—Rosetta Hawkins-Wright

Start where you are, do what you can.

—Arthur Ashe

Don't let other people tell you what you want.

—Pat Riley

Your chances of succeeding in life are greater than you might believe. This booklet will give you a vision into your future possibilities and potential.

WHO CAN BENEFIT FROM THIS BOOK

- Mentoring programs: Have teens read and share their ideas. After completing the thirty-one-day program, you will see their expanded wisdom and knowledge.
- College students: Aid them in making the right decisions early on in life.
- Successful people: A reminder that success is a journey.
- Seniors: You are never too old to dream, nor too old to change.

GOOD SUCCESS PRINCIPLES

Teamwork

When we see geese flying south for the winter in a V-formation, we might consider why as each bird flies its wings create wind for the bird behind it to follow. By flying in a group, the entire flock adds nearly seventy-one percent greater range than if one flew alone.

When people work together to accomplish common goals, they can reach these goals easier and in less time.

- Accept responsibility for your decisions
- Encourage suggestions
- Carefully consider suggestions that might be of value
- Encourage feedback

I realize that none of us are perfect; however, we must strive for perfection in order to attain excellence.

—Vince Lombardi

Avoid People Without Purpose

Life's Not a Rehearsal

Never allow people without purpose to drift into your life. People traveling outside your assignment will distract you from accomplishing your goals.

Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's courage.

—Anais Nin

Be a People Builder

We build ourselves up by building others up. The harvest you reap from others will be determined by what you sow into their lives.

Treat people as if they were what they ought to be and you help them become what they are capable of being.

—Goethe

CHANGE YOUR LIFE IN THIRTY-ONE DAYS

DAY 1

Successful Living

Live life without limits; say yes to your God-given dreams and potential.

Success is expected in God's children (Joshua 1:8), but nowhere does the Bible hint that self is the power.

For with God nothing shall be impossible.

(Luke 1:37 KJV)

DAY 2

The Success Road

The road to success is always under construction. Roadblocks and detours are a part of the journey.

Our feelings are revealed by our action.

—John Haggai

And let us not lose heart and grow weary and faint in acting nobly and doing right, for in due time and at the appointed season we shall reap, if we do not loosen and relax our courage and faint (quit).

(Galatians 6:9 AMP)