

Dr. Seuss Said It

Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel), best known for authoring more than 60 children's books, selling more than 600 million copies, said in his book *The Lorax*, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."



Read that quote again; let it make an impression on your mind.

Perhaps you've heard the inspiring story of former Mayor Anthony Williams. He was born to an unwed teenager who gave him up. He was known as a "problem child" in foster care.

By age 3, little Anthony had still never spoken a word. It seems that a pattern for his life was set; that is, until two warm and caring people took a chance on him.

Williams was taken in by an opera-singing postal clerk and her equally generous-hearted husband. The youngster soon began to speak and eventually thrived in their home. He excelled academically, and later attended both Harvard and Yale universities.

In 1998, Williams rose from obscurity to win 66 percent of the vote to become the fifth mayor of the District of Columbia, serving for two terms, 1999 to 2007.

In his inaugural address, Williams said, "Forty-four years ago, my parents adopted me and gave me a second chance. I feel this city has now adopted me, and I will give to it everything my parents taught me about love, service, commitment."

Williams had previously served as chief financial officer for the District, managing to balance the budget and achieve a surplus within two years of appointment. He is currently chief executive officer/executive director of the Federal City Council.

It is no doubt that, had Williams never been adopted into his particular family, his life would have been wholly different. He was saved by a second chance. He got a do-over on his birth family.

Which leads to these questions:

Haven't you been given do-overs on relationships, jobs, blown opportunities and the like? Haven't you benefited from the generosity of someone who cared? Hasn't God been generous toward you, granting you countless do-overs?

(more)

My answer to all three questions is a resounding yes!

What, then, is our responsibility? The answer, of course, is to pay those favors forward.

As Dr. Seuss put it: *Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not.*

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity (Colossians 3:12-14 NIV).

– Beecher Hunter