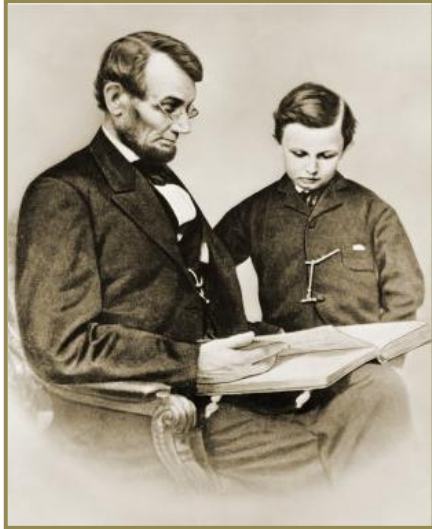


## Lincoln's Habit of Reading

After experiencing failures in business and politics, Abraham Lincoln still maintained his daily habit of reading.



A critic once scoffed, “What good is all that education? It has never earned you a decent living.”

Lincoln replied, “Education is not given for the purpose of earning a living; it’s learning what to do with a living after you earn it that counts.”

This is National Employee Learning Week (Dec. 2-6), focusing attention on the important connection between learning and achieving organizational results. Life Care is blessed with wonderful resources for education; in particular, Life Care University, with a wide array of instructional opportunities providing CEUs and enhancing professional advancement. Turn to it regularly.

At any age or time in our lives, however, the pursuit of knowledge – how each new day can contribute to our personal growth – should be a high priority.

One of America’s advocates of reading as the foundation of education is Jim Trelease. He has devoted three decades to promoting what he considers the most important social factor in our lives today. The author and educator preaches the value of reading aloud to children as a way to instill in them the love of literature.

Trelease believes: “The more you read, the smarter you grow. The smarter you grow, the longer you stay in school. The longer you stay in school, the more money you earn. The more you earn, the better your children will do. So if you hook a child with reading, you influence not only his future but also that of the next generation.”

Reading researchers agree. They have long seen a correlation between the time a person spends reading and the number of innovative ideas and creative solutions a person has. Reading affects a person’s ability to reason and his ability to communicate by providing an extended and accurate vocabulary.

Spend some time reading, even today. It will be time well spent, investing in your personal growth, which affects your future success. And, of course, the best source of wisdom and how to live successfully is the Holy Bible. Read it often.

(more)

Abraham Lincoln realized that the worth of reading is beyond measure. He sets for us a great example.

As the poster often seen hanging in libraries and classrooms proclaims: *Succeed ... Read!*

*Apply your heart to instruction, and your ears to words of knowledge* (Proverbs 23:12 NKJV).

– Beecher Hunter