

The Dave Bing Story

Many people face the temptation to slack off once they have achieved a goal. At that point, it's easy to let go of yesterday's insecurities and insufficiencies and accept the illusion that one has arrived.

Professional athletes are especially aware of the danger of such complacency. Even while competing at their peak performance, they face the challenge of preparing themselves for the time when their skills fade and the adulation ends. Those who don't prepare often settle into marginal careers, and some hit bottom.

In the 1960s, Dave Bing was the National Basketball Association's leading scorer in his second year as a Detroit Piston. Today, he is still considered one of basketball's greatest players. Bing thought ahead. Before he went pro, he attended Syracuse University. His advisors suggested he skip the serious courses and earn an "easy" degree. Bing refused, and he took tough business classes instead.

During his pro years, he continued his education, reading voraciously on road trips and taking off-season jobs at a bank, a steel mill, and the Chrysler Corporation. Today, he is the chief executive officer of three multimillion-dollar companies that employ more than 300 people, and he is one of the most successful black businessmen in the nation. He is currently a candidate to become mayor of Detroit.

His story is a clear lesson for those of us in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home. Whatever our personal and professional goals may be, don't let one success keep you from pressing on to bigger and better things. Constantly set new goals, and you will attain objectives you never dreamed were possible.

And all through the process, seek the wisdom and guidance of God to find His purpose for you.

The mind of man plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps (Proverbs 16:9).

– Beecher Hunter