

Welcome to Monday's Motivational Message
A program of the George Snow Scholarship Fund

Happy Fall Semester! Each Monday we will send you motivational quotes and messages that we hope will energize your spirit and set the tone for the week ahead.

This Week's Message: Beginning
By Ellie Lingner

Beginning: n. 1. a starting or commencing 2. the time or place of starting: birth; origin; source. 3. the first part (the beginning of a book) 4. an early stage or example (the beginnings of scientific agriculture).

Do you remember your first day in kindergarten? Most kids are around five years old. Some cry. Some, who have older siblings, can't wait to get to school and be a "big kid." Some cling to mom or dad for dear life.

Which were you?

Do you remember your first day in high school? Some kids were terrified. Others couldn't wait to try out for sports or the theater productions, the debate team or the yearbook staff. Which were you?

Beginnings are exciting and daunting. Where are you now? Beginning college? Beginning a new semester? Or a new school? New courses? New dorm or apartment? New roommates?

With beginnings come doubts. They will always be there, perhaps tucked into the pit of your stomach. How will I do? Will I like it? Who will I meet? Will I like them? Will they like me? Will I look good?

But also present will be the tingling thrill of anticipation and untold possibilities of what lies around the corner of this new beginning.

Beginnings are opportunities for growth, learning, change and improvement. No matter what came before, this is the time when things can be different...when you can make them different...when YOU can be different.

Were you sloppy about your life last year? That was last year. Were you lazy? Were you such an overachiever that you had no time for fun? Were you in a good or bad relationship that has ended? The beauty of a beginning is that you can look back on what was past and look forward to something new.

Take advantage of every beginning. See it as a positive challenge for which you are ready. Seize the challenge. Embrace it. Enjoy it. Work hard. And every so often, look

back and see how far you've come. Pat yourself on the back or decide to make changes.

And look forward to the next beginning.

Week's Quotes:

"Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end." Seneca, Roman philosopher, mid-1st century A.C.

"The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide that you are not going to stay where you are."

"A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step." Lao Tzu, Chinese Taoist philosopher, founder of Taoism, 600-531 B.C.

"The beginning is the most important part of the work." Plato, ancient Greek philosopher, 428-348 B.C.

"So many fail because they don't get started. They don't go. They don't overcome inertia. They don't begin." W. Clement Stone, American best selling author, 1902-2002.

"From small beginnings come great things." Proverb.

"He who chooses the beginning of the road chooses the place it leads to. It is the means that determines the end." Harry Emerson Fosdick, American cleric, 1878-1969.

Make it a great year!!!!

Tim Snow