



The power of words

By: Dave Hibbard

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A true story of how words and belief in someone can create a life changing result

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(Me@ 7 / Mom center)

I'm living a fortunate life.....one that I never expected.

Dad left when I was 7. With nowhere to turn, Mom moved our family to Chicago where she was given an opportunity to run a Tavern on the South side of the city which was owned by her Stepfather. It was located in a Polish, Lithuanian neighborhood. At the end of the bar there was a doorway leading to a back room where I lived with my brother and sister. It was quite a drop from the modest home we had in Sacramento California, but Living in the Bar would become the foundation for a powerful mindset.

Two things happened that had a major impact on my thinking. One was what my Mother said to me in the bar one day, she said; *"David, someday you will be rich."* That's it, that's all she said, no detail just words. The other event came years later when showing my wife the bar on a visit to Chicago; she said; *"Wow, were you ever lucky, living in that bar gave you the foundation of strength and confidence that you have today, it was your gift."* Her words hit me powerfully. Two people, at two different points in my life, with deep caring for me and the words they spoke were all it took to shape my thinking. Today, my life *is rich* in many ways and the gift I received from life in the bar has directed my path.

Sometimes all a person needs is to have someone they trust see their potential and share that vision with words. Today, that's what I now get to do, it's what inspires me. The gift was given to me and interestingly enough I find myself in a career that allows me to transfer hope to others, to see what they themselves may not see or will not believe. It's my crusade, it's what I love.

Today, my joy is when I have the opportunity to share what I see in them. It may be a student graduating; a person who has to return to work and is overridden with fear or simply someone who has lost their way. I get to make a difference with those individuals each and every day. It's what I was born to do. What could be more rewarding than saying something authentic and supportive to someone you care about, knowing that it may be the very foundation they end up building their life on?

