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Knowing What is Right and Doing It (Chicago)

C. William Pollard

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ServiceMaster Franchise Convention
Chicago IL
July 23, 2004
C. William Pollard
“Knowing What Is Right and Doing It”

Introduction:

In the movie **City Slickers**, Billy Crystal plays the part of a man facing a mid-life crisis. He wonders if there is real meaning in life, work no longer has satisfaction for him, and then he finds himself addressing his son’s fourth grade class on career day. He is supposed to talk about work and his career. He starts out stumbling around and then he begins to wax eloquent as he tells the kids to really value this time in their life. He emphasizes that they have so many choices before them and that life goes by so quickly.

He says when you are a teenager, you think you can do anything and everything and you do it.

Your twenties are pretty much of a blur. You get married and find that there is someone else who participates in making the choices.

In your thirties, you make some money, raise a family, and say: “What happened to my twenties?”

In your forties, you grow a pot belly and another chin. The music starts to get too loud, and one of your old girl friends becomes a grandmother.

In your fifties, you have minor surgery and call it a procedure.

In your sixties, you have major surgery and the music is still loud but it doesn’t matter because you can’t hear it.

In your seventies, you and your wife move to Florida. You have dinner at 2 o’clock in the afternoon, lunch at 10, and breakfast the night before. You spend a lot of your time wandering around air conditioned malls for exercise and looking for the latest in yogurts.

In your eighties, you have a stroke and die.

What is the meaning of life? What is the meaning of work? Do we know what is right and are we doing it?