

KRISH'S CORNER

BACK TO THE BEGINNING

The shades are drawn to keep the light out and the cabin is silent. All I can hear is the distant hum of the engines as the airplane flies silently to another destination. This flight is different as I am returning to the beginning. The destination South Korea, where I am scheduled to conduct a seminar alongside the great motivator, Zig Ziglar. It seems so long ago in a time so far away when the innocence of my childhood experienced the majesty of this very land. As a young lad of seven I made a voyage to this very country. Growing up in the doubt filled corridors of the second most populous nation in the world, I had come to Korea from India. Never knowing if I would ever get on a plane again, I cherished every moment of those glorious six months.

By the time I left Korea to return to India, I was hooked on what would become my solution for escape. That escape would be a home forever in the West. That time it was different because I knew not what I know now. Home is where the heart is. Thirty-four years later the dreams of a home in the West are a reality. Financed by credit and filled with the abundance of things really not needed, the West has become the place where I hang my desires, doubts and deep-rooted feelings of "what if." The escape from poverty was made possible only by running to solutions half a world away. That time it was different because I knew not what the future would hold.

Since that first trip in 1969, I have flown again. More than two million miles. Many countries, many destinations, many goals and many a memory created. However the place that I began the process of learning about a new and improved world has now become the arena where those lessons will be showcased. From a spectator in the coliseums of dreams, I will move for a brief but shining moment into the role of gladiator and matador. People will pay to hear about the lessons learned that can inspire other cycles of growth. This time it will be different because the student has returned to the beginning as a teacher. Following my heart's desires did produce a three-decades in the making "overnight success." This is what I will tell the audiences who want me to show them how to make a difference.

Go back to the beginnings in your own life and seek to fulfill the unfinished promises you made to yourself in your youth. Remind yourself of the rainbows you chased as you followed the path of the paper boat you made through the streams caused by a sudden downpour. Rekindle in your soul the passion you had as you shared your victories with the family pet underneath a makeshift tree-house where you pretended to be John Wayne, killing all the bad guys, or Mickey Mantle, getting the walk off home run to win the seventh and deciding game of the World Series. Make it different this time and you will make a difference this time. Don't let anyone tell you that you cannot fulfill your goals.

THOUGHTS TO PONDER

If Gandhi waited for societal accolades, India would have had to wait much longer for her freedom. If Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had waited for people to praise his oratorical brilliance before he became passionate about his cause, the civil rights movement in this country would not have started when it did. All worthwhile causes had at the helm

people who recognized their value before societal salutations became popular.

"Our greatest glory is not in never failing, but in rising every time we fail." *Confucius*