

RELENTLESSNESS

Definition

Showing no loss of intensity, strength, or pace.

Story

Tim Tebow sat on the Florida locker room floor, leaning his exhausted frame against coach Urban Meyer and replaying the crushing defeat over and over. The teary-eyed Tebow blamed himself for the No. 4 Gators' stunning 31-30 loss to unranked Ole Miss. The team's Heisman-winning quarterback knew he never wanted to feel this way again. He eventually composed himself, showered and headed toward post-game interviews, pausing next to the iconic gator head near the locker room to be alone with his thoughts one last time. Somewhere along the way, *"The Promise"* was born:

"To the fans and everybody in Gator Nation, I'm sorry. I'm extremely sorry. We were hoping for an undefeated season. That was my goal, something Florida has never done here. I promise you one thing, a lot of good will come out of this. You will never see any player in the entire country play as hard as I will play the rest of the season. You will never see someone push the rest of the team as hard as I will push everybody the rest of the season. You will never see a team play harder than we will the rest of the season. God Bless."

Tebow led his team to the SEC Championship game where he threw three touchdown passes in the defeat of the Alabama Crimson Tide. The Florida Gators went on to play the Oklahoma Sooners in the Orange Bowl; a game in which Tebow threw two touchdown passes that helped his team to win the College Football National Championship.

Quotes

"Don't quit. Suffer now and live the rest of your life as a champion." **Muhammad Ali**

"It's hard to beat a person who never gives up." **Babe Ruth**

"If you can't fly, then run. If you can't run, then walk. If you can't walk, then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward." **Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Interaction

1. In your life, what has you feeling defeated and how do you plan to overcome it?
2. If the team is as dedicated as you, how dedicated is it?

Main Idea

In every circumstance of life, whether it's personal relationships, family life, school, or sports, there will be times when you will want to consider giving up and quitting. It may seem that the end result is not worth the fight. However, one decision can make all the difference. You can be the difference. The key is to have your mind made up before the circumstances arrive. It is to wake up every day and prepare your mind to stay focused on the prize, or the desired outcome.

One of the most valuable things you can do to be relentless is to be honest with yourself and others. Take responsibility where you have failed and move forward with the determination to not make the same mistake again. Honesty about yourself can be one of the greatest motivators in your life. You are a champion, and champions find a way to overcome.

Take Away

Determination leads to destination!