

I QUIT

What have you quit? Why have you quit?

If you quit for a better opportunity, for something more fitting your skills, or for something you have always wanted to do, that's a positive change.

If you quit because you felt you failed, you thought it was too hard, or you were too frustrated, then it'll always bother you. Don't quit and you won't be beaten. You need to manage it on your own terms.

A client was tired of his business and wanted to move on. But, first, he had to prove to himself he could run it alone. He bought out his partner, ran it for three years profitably, proved to himself he could do it, and then he sold the business. For him, he had to run it alone profitably for him to be a success in his own mind.

Was it a good decision to buy out the partner and run it only to sell it later? Yes. Yes, because he did not want to quit, he wanted to leave knowing he could do it alone. He wanted to leave a success and not a quitter.

There is a big difference between quitting and facing the facts of human limitations. Steve Jobs, of Apple Computer fame, has relinquished the title of CEO of Apple Computer. He has been ill and on his third medical leave. He determined he can no longer do the job, so he transferred it to one who could. He remains as Chairman.

Sometimes we have to accept limitations; and that is not quitting. That is just being wise. Me, I go to the workout room at the gym, but I don't try to do what the twenty year old guys do. I'm not a body builder, so I don't pretend to be.

Think of a time you did something that was very hard or that you thought you might not be able to do. Wasn't the 'doing' a big rush, a great feeling? You have to push and stretch yourself. In the pushing and the stretching is the victory and the gratification.

When we quit, we know it. We can try to hide it with comments and justification but, deep down, we know if we quit. We know if we have given up. Let's face it, it doesn't feel good.

What's the solution? Go back and finish what you quit. Just go back and do it. Bring it to a successful conclusion. No, if it's not right for you, don't do it. But, if it's right, if it's of value to you, if the not doing it is bothering you, then do it. Keep doing it till you do it.

Your gut will guide you as to what is right and wrong. You know if you quit, or if you stopped because it was wrong. You may be able to fool me, but you can't fool yourself. You have to live with yourself and living with a quitter is not easy.

Don't quit, just work and practice at it till you do it. You'll be glad you did.