

## PRIME INVESTMENTS

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Summer is here! The hills are full with their vibrant green foliage, kids are excited, school is at a close, and pools are opening, ready & waiting! We are all ready for a little change of pace. Whether you are like us and planning some college hunting trips or planning a 'stay-cation' or a vacation, anticipation of a break is upon us all! Unfortunately, most of our plans are being affected by our economy.

**The effect of reduced finances has resulted in down-sizing plans.** Whether, reducing our normal vacation plans, or doing some strategic college scholarship hunting, we are all making adjustments. In this economy, adjustments are necessary for us all. As we make adjustments, it is prudent to remember that our most valuable asset is found within our hearts, not our net worth!

**Investing our assets wisely is critical to our future!** Where we place our time, energy & passion is a reflection of where our heart is most invested. As I close out my 50<sup>th</sup> year of life, I am reminded that **my most valuable asset is my heart not my money!** What is most important to us usually gets most of our prime time & energy.

As we look at where to invest ourselves, we must remember that to work ourselves to our death for the purpose of financial security, which can go away at any moment, is truly foolish. Investing our energy, our time and our ability in others is the only true guarantee of a full return for your investment!

**When looking to invest in others, family should always be first!** If you want to invest in your children's security, **date your spouse!** You will never find a more secure child than one who has over the years seen their parents show tenderness and respect towards one another! Marriage is like anything else in life. You usually get out of it what you are willing to put into it!

We would never expect to take more out of our bank account than we have put into it. However, frequently we *expect the most of those that we give the least amount of time to.* We get busy with our children & their schedules, careers & making money, community & social obligations. We then give our leftovers to the ones on earth who mean the most to us. We have all done this at one time or another.

Sometimes there are drains to our investments. For example, when hurt or disappointed, we all get tunnel vision & self- preoccupied. This can cause a severe drain on our hearts. We must remember that what others do not know **can** hurt them. The hurt we hold onto, drains us of the love that we have to offer! Deep hurt that stays hidden robs us of sincerity & tenderness towards others, though the effect is usually subtle and builds with time.

Where is your prime time & energy going? Who or what gets your best efforts? Our true priorities are reflected by where our best efforts go. Today, take an honest look, and adjust your prime investments of time and energy so that it truly reflects where your heart is. **Investing our hearts in others is a worthy investment that carries the guarantee of a profit that follows us into eternity!**

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