

This Journey

This Journey! This journey has brought me from one point to another in such a short time span. It was sometime last year around late fall, November 5th to be correct. I began a journey into the world of the barbering industry. This journey allowed me to meet a woman by the name of Leslie C. Price, to understand philanthropy, as well as to get a better grasp on what my short-term and long-term goals are. Therefore I will discuss THIS JOURNEY!

Leslie C. Price, a woman who is an inspiration to many, is a life coach. Price aims to empower individuals, which gives them a different view of life. This outside view is often what we ourselves miss when self-checking. When you have another person looking from the outside at your life and provide you with constructive criticism, we often find it easier to see what is wrong and try to resolve the errors. This is what Mrs. Price does. Her expertise in coaching gives her the natural talent in helping others better themselves. Many of us need outside encouragement from someone who may not be related, involved, or associated with us. This, in my mind, is a genuine unbiased asset. In her entirety Price is mentioned as, “an inspiration to many.”

Philanthropy, meaning “love of humanity,” is the act of caring, giving genuinely, uplifting, and/or strengthening the bond of all humans. Philanthropy is very important and specifically to this industry of barbering. In the industry of barbering, often times to advertise yourself you may have to do a couple acts of philanthropy, such as free haircuts for underprivileged kids, or maybe even a seminar to the youth to give direction. Both of the mentioned examples are things that I plan to do during my growth within this industry. Each year to start the school year in this industry barbers will give out vouchers for free services, which bring more traffic flow into your business but not limited to showing your concern for your community. This act of philanthropy will show the cohesiveness you desire to develop with your community and not just to be in it for the money. Some children in many communities do not understand the importance of having good hygiene, which barbers learned plenty about throughout school. Hygiene is more than taking a bath each day. Many children do not shampoo AND condition their hair, often aren’t aware of effects of individual diets, or eating foods that may have a negative effect on their health. Philanthropy is needed throughout the world so that we may keep good faith with our fellow man, and continue a God-given attribute throughout our communities.

This journey has also given me the chance to see my short-term and long-term goals in a different light. Some have been changed and some have been dismissed altogether. My

immediate short-term goals in this industry would be to complete school and prepare for my exam at the North Carolina Barber Board. This would include my written and practical exams. My preparation would extend to reviewing my material from this journey at Park West Barber School. While working under my work permit, this experience will allow me to become more comfortable for the apprentice exam. This journey has shown me that taking time to learn a craft and implement the things I have learned is the true example of reaching a goal. We must not only reach goals but also implement what we have learned during our journey. My short-term goals lead me to what I have planned for my long-term goals; I will complete my first year apprenticeship. This completion of the apprenticeship will warrant my return to the North Carolina Barber Board, in which I will be taking my registered barbers license exam. With this license I can continue with my long-term goals of becoming a registered barber, which will one day allow me to become an owner. Owning a barbershop is also something I aspire to do; in owning a shop I would like it to be unisex. In this barbershop I would be providing services for men and women, whether it is a haircut or a chemical service. All of these goals manifested from "This Journey," which has shown me what it is to set goals and follow through.

I leave you with this: when you begin a journey you will meet people who can inspire you, learn about helping others, as well as understand your own personal short-term and long-term goals. These three key points will shape your ideals differently from what they were in the beginning. Start your journey today, and change your life forever.