

River Kelly
EGEN-310R
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I Believe...

I believe that you have the ability to make significant changes in your own life for the better. Not to say that outside assistance may not play a role, but that without personal determination it is not possible.

A few years back I got a tattoo as a daily reminder of this belief. The tattoo is a Cross with a banner that reads "In Hoc Signo Vincas", which translates to "In this sign you will conquer". It originates from the Roman Emperor Constantine. Before the battle of the Milvian bridge, Constantine had his soldiers paint a white cross on their shields before going into battle, as "in this sign, you will conquer". It does not mean that because you embarrass this sign, you will conquer, it is to mean that wearing this sign, more is expected of you than of other men, and for this reason you will conquer.

Everytime I look at my tattoo, I am reminded that I expect more of myself than of how much others expect of me. Having high expectations does not mean that I always achieve lofty goals. Some goals are not meant to be obtained. Some goals symbolize a direction or path towards success.

This tattoo was somewhat controversial for me to get, a Cross inked across my ribs. Although I believe that Judeo Christian values are paramount, I do not believe in the existence of the divine.