There is something inside each and everyone of us that drives us. When we were kids growing up, we were driven by rewards; a cookie if you eat your vegetables, an allowance if you did your chores, etc. As we got older, rewards got bigger and so did our responsibilities. Now we’re rewarded with a vehicle that takes us from point a to point b, a house, hobbies, etc. all if we show up to work and perform our job task each week. What’s going on here though? We provide a function and in return, we receive a paycheck which is then used to purchase the things we want and need. Sure, that is exactly what goes on here. But lets dive deeper into the equation.

Often times, we look at going to work as earning a paycheck to gain something of interest, no matter what it may be. We don’t however, view it as trading time for pay. The keyword there being “time”. Time is the one thing in life that we will never have enough of. You can earn an unlimited amount of money and buy an unlimited amount of things with the appropriate job, etc. but we can never buy time or gain more time. You could eat healthier and exercise to extend your time, but that is never guaranteed whereas you know you can buy a t-shirt for some store for x amount of dollars which equates to y amount of time spent at work to earn that. We don’t have that luxury with time. Tomorrow is never promised.

So this ultimately comes down to how much of our time are we willing to sacrifice to obtain something. I reflect these thoughts on my mother who provided a life for three children, my brother, sister, and myself, while working three jobs just so she could get by and provide for us. Think about all the times she had to spend just so we could live. It’s quite astonishing to think about.

Over time, you’ll notice that I’m a very driven person and have many motivational ideologies with a strong entrepreneurial spirit. I have received tons of “feedback” (we will call it that for the sake of eliminating the negativity) from naysayers and critics along my journey, as well as supporters and believers. To most of them though, they only see the picture from the outside looking in. My sister is a big critic in terms of my goals and aspirations. One day, she started pestering me with comments regarding my ambitions and how I value money more than I value my family. There were many more comments but we will keep it to that. She only saw the picture from the outside looking in and didn’t see the BIG picture. From the outside, it looks like one may only be after the fancy cars, the big houses, expensive jewelry, etc. What she thought was the motivational factor (money$$$) couldn’t have been any further from the truth. She wasn’t thinking about the time. Time was the true motive, she was just blind.

You see, we grew up without a father for the majority of our lives. I remember being 14 years old, walking off of the football field after we had won the game and seeing two of my best friends being congratulated by their dads. A luxury I wasn’t able to have. It was at that point in my life when I made a vow to myself that I would be the father that I never had. What better way to do that than by spending less time working and more time raising my children.