

SMALL CLOUD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PRESENTS . . . SMALL CLOUD CHRONICLES

"With God all things are possible." Mark 10:27

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SMALL CLOUD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT SPEECH, 2007

Thank you for the opportunity to say a few words at this very special moment. Greetings to the faculty and staff of Small Cloud, who have worked so hard to make this day a reality. Greetings and congratulations to you, the Small Cloud class of 2007. Paea and Steph, you have much to be proud of today, but I ask you to take just a moment and think about the people who helped you through everything to get to today, your graduation day.



Speaker: Rob Watts

Those people are probably sitting here today and are extremely proud of you. Never forget that you cannot accomplish everything by yourself, and that there are people who love you and believe that you can and will achieve your highest goals.

I know you are excited and eager to get out there and make your mark on the world, but remember who you are and where you've come from. I have just three things to tell you today: (1) wear your seatbelt, (2) never give up, and (3) never stop learning.

There's a story about Mohammed Ali, the Heavy-weight Boxing Champion of the world. After a spectacular win, he hopped on an airplane and was annoyed when the flight attendant asked him to fasten his seat belt. "Do you know who I am?" he said. "I'm Mohammed Ali, the Champion of the World! I'm Superman! Superman don't need no seatbelt!" The flight attendant gave him a pitying look and replied: "Well, superman don't need no airplane!"

So remember to fasten your seatbelt in life. Take God with you wherever you go and whatever you do. He will be there for you when everything else in this world fails. Wear your seatbelt.

Next, set goals, and work toward those goals every day, even if it's just for a few minutes. Don't let a day go by without spending some time working toward your dreams. Dream big, and don't let anyone tell you, "There's no way you can do that." Never let the words "I can't do it" cross your lips. You can; and with God's help, you will.

You have accomplished much to get to this point, but I know it hasn't always been easy. You persevered, and today you have achieved your goal. The next time you feel like something can't be

done, that it's impossible or just too much trouble, think of this moment and never forget that what you set out to do you *will* accomplish.

You might have heard the story of Robert Bruce, the king of Scotland way back in the 14th century. After his complete defeat in battle and the loss of everything he loved, he hid from the enemy in a cave. Some scholars think that this was after a battle in which his sister was captured and he lost three of his four brothers. There he was in a damp, dark cave, fearing for his life, when he noticed a small spider at the cave entrance trying to build a web. She would jump from one side to the other time after time; and each time she wouldn't quite make it and would have to climb all the way back up again. After watching this a few times, Robert wondered why she didn't just give up; but finally she made a mighty leap and was able to bridge the gap. Legend goes that Robert Bruce was so encouraged

by the perseverance of that small spider that he rallied all of Scotland to defeat the enemy even though they were outnumbered ten to one.

So remember: never give up on your dreams. Jesus said something about this to His disciples in Matthew 19:26. "With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible."

Finally, I have bad news for you. You may be graduating from Small Cloud, but the School of Life is just beginning. We have a word to describe a plant that has stopped growing: dead.

As long as you are learning and growing,

you are alive. Don't be in a hurry to just get rich and be famous, but cherish every learning opportunity. Exercise the power of reason that God has given you. That means to use your brain! Remember that working with your head is vastly more valuable than just working with your hands. Successful people are always learning and growing.

So what are the three things to remember? (1) Wear your seatbelt. Take God with you wherever you go. (2) Never give up. Persevere, even if life seems to put you in the darkest places. (3) Never stop learning. Be a student of life.

Once again, congratulations, class of 2007! Good luck, and may God richly bless you.



L to R: Mrs. Sandy Nelson, Paea Inukiha'angana, Steph Knezovich, and Mrs. Margie Seely. Front: Skye DuBoyce

GRADUATION 2007 PICTURED

GRADUATION SPEECH

by Stephanie Knezovich, age 18

I would like to start off with a story about how I began Small Cloud Christian School life. My parents found out about the school in a newspaper article. I guess they liked what they read, so they scheduled an appointment to come out to see the school. After they talked with the teachers and looked around, they enrolled me. Some days later, my mom brought me to see the school and meet the teachers. My first thought when I saw the school was, Wow! This is kind of weird and different.



Steph Knezovich

But it seemed not so weird on my first day; it was kind of nice and there were nice people here. But there was one kid that I knew more than the others. The sweet boy was Mrs. Seely's own son, Quinn. I remember, when my mom and I were visiting the school, that Quinn came up and gave us an egg from the school turkey at the time.

One thing that I will definitely miss is the fun with my friends (Brittany, Paea, Kellie, and Jonathan). I will miss you guys a whole lot, and I will always love you. We all have had good times together, like having the good, silly laughter at ridiculous things and going on fun field trips, and even the ones that weren't so fun. My favorites were the overnight field trips.

My life at Small Cloud has had its embarrassing moments. During our latest overnight field trip, I got sick. On the way home I threw up all over Sandy's van; it was so embarrassing.

Small Cloud has given me a wonderful education. My favorite subject was history. I just thought history was very interesting—like learning about the presidents. I'm really grateful that Sandy and Margie were able to tailor my education to my needs. That included my independent study work program that allowed me to further develop my skills in the horse training business—which is also my passion.

There are a few people that I want to thank that I love. The first one to thank is our Heavenly Father. Without Him, I would be nothing. Next I would like to thank my parents, without whose love and support I wouldn't be who I am now. Last, but not least, I am thankful for my wonderful teachers—Sandy and Margie. Without their love and kindness and helpfulness and constant patience, I wouldn't be where I am now.

I love you all very much, and God bless you!



Mike Alford: the sound man



Shawn Seely: special music



Last-minute instructions



Awaiting the graduates



Family and friends



Paea's entrance



←
Skye's
entrance



→
L to R: Andie,
Kellie, and
Sarah in
their choir
dresses



Awaiting the diplomas



Cutting the graduation cake

Small Cloud Christian School is a nonprofit organization dedicated to leading children of every race, color, nationality, ethnicity, gender, and creed to the knowledge of a living God.