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Cleverness is a gift, kindness is a choice. Gifts are easy -- they're given after all. Choices can be hard. You can seduce yourself with your gifts if you're not careful, and if you do, it'll probably be to the detriment of your choices. --Jeff Bezos

5 Classic Commencement Speeches

It's graduation season, so commencement addresses by actors, politicians, writers, musicians and other luminaries are sweeping the world of higher education, sharing advice ranging from the humorous to the profound. Even for those of us that aren't students, it becomes an opportunity to reflect on the most compelling, provocative and deeply inspirational speeches of years past. This article highlights five favorites -- including offerings from J.K. Rowling, Steve Jobs, and Meryl Streep -- that delve into the benefits of failure, what calligraphy has to do with Apple's success, and the nature of gifts vs. choices.

Be The Change:

Consider what your own "words to live by" would be, and take steps to be in increased alignment with them.