

# THE PKAN MANDATE

## 27 YEARS ON EARTH – 27 YEARS OF LIFE LESSONS

BY PETER KWADWO ASARE NYARKO



*" It was Sunday, at midnight, a new dawn was approaching - a motivational Monday to be precise when a cry of a woman suddenly waked the entire community from their sleep.*

*A child was trying so hard to see the morning sun.*

*Years later, this child is to grow up to become a morning sun - a rising star in his generation."*

**“... in the end, it is not the years in your life that count. It is the life in your years.”**

**#DareToBeAChangeMaker**

# Just like any other story:



June 27<sup>th</sup> each year, I celebrate my birthday. Most often, I make this day as impactful and significant as I can. Since I turned 20, every year I celebrate my birthday in a unique way. For the past 7 years, I mostly visit orphanages, children's homes, hospitals, or I spend time celebrating my birthday in church and with family at home.

As I writer, I also share my life journey; the good, the bad and the ugly on this day with my network and followers to inspire, challenge, guide and help someone out there. You never know!

Woohoo!!! It is another birthday and I tend to get very reminiscent on my birthdays.

I started thinking about lessons I have learned over the years and in this brief write up I want to share them with you.

Some of these are things I learned from my parents, and mentors, some I learned the hard way, but all of them are things I wish I had known sooner, and trust me you will pick some vital and useful information from it.

If we all took even one of these lessons to heart, we would change the world. So, as I celebrate 27 times around the sun, here are 27 lessons I have picked up along the way.

Enjoy!



## **27 YEARS – 27 LESSONS**

### **ONE: Kindness is love expressed.**

Love is kind, kindness is love expressed. Rich, poor, working, or not, you have the constant influx of kindness to pay forward if you choose to.

Life is hard, some people can be mean, and it is always easier to get angry, but kindness takes you farther than anything else.

“In a world where you can be anything, be kind.”

### **TWO: It is a bad day, not a bad life.**

Life is hard, compare to what? We all have them, and sometimes they might be a bad week or a bad season, and not just a bad day.

Life is still good. There is still more to look forward to, and it is worth it to keep looking for the good and hoping for tomorrow.

Find something to be grateful for and keep fighting through it.

### **THREE: You will figure it out**

Whatever it is, you will figure it out. You will find a way to get through the thing that is stressing you right now.

They say the grass is greener on the other side, but it always looks greener on the other side, because you don't bother to notice how green your grass is when you are standing on it.

Keep your chin up, because you will get through whatever you are going through.

#### **FOUR: Take the help that is offered to you.**

If someone offers to help you, let them. We weren't meant to do life alone, and everyone needs help sometimes.

Don't let your pride, ego, or the limiting belief that you are underserving be a reason that you don't take help in a time that you need it.

#### **FIVE: Get comfortable with being uncomfortable**

When life is hard, when it hurts, and when it is awkward is when you learn and grow the most.

Ask questions you think are dumb, don't be afraid to look stupid, and have hard conversations.

Life gets easier the moment you learn this lesson. When you force yourself into uncomfortable situations for the sake of being a better person, you will become one.

#### **SIX: It is what you do, not what you say you will do**

Your word matters, but only if you keep it. Whether it is a promise to someone or a commitment to yourself, you are only as good as the thing you will follow through on. What you say you will do doesn't matter if people know you won't actually come through.

Your subconscious mind knows it too. If you always break promises to yourself then you will never break bad habits and create good ones, because you are already setting yourself up to fail.

## **SEVEN: Be your own cheerleader**

Friends are great. Mentors are wonderful. There will always be heroes and legends that we look up to and learn from, but be your own hero.

There will be times when you have to walk alone, and times when the people you love don't understand you or your dream. It is normal, don't be hard on yourself.

“If you cheer for yourself as if the whole world is cheering for you, eventually they will.”

## **EIGHT: You will find what you look for**

Don't get me wrong, bad things happen every day all around the world, but so do good things.

If you constantly listen to the news, argue about politics, and surround yourself with negative people and ideas, then it explains why you think the world is a terrible place. When you look for the bad, you will find it, and when you look for the good, you will find it.

Choose to find the people doing good, the acts of service, the helping hands, and you will realize the majority of the world is genuinely trying to make it a better place.

## **NINE: Turn it off and back on**

Having expertise in computer system engineering and networking from IPMC College of Technology, I understand that half of your technology problems can be solved by turning it off and back on. It may not be a permanent fix, but it is a fix for the moment.

As a bonus, this works with your brain too. Burnout is a real thing, and when your brain is done, it is time to turn it off, step away, and come back later with a fresh perspective.

## **TEN: Ambition is useless without action**

You can have all the goals and plans and huge audacious dreams in the world, but if you don't have a drive and initiative to make them happen, they never will.

You have to be willing to try, fail, learn, repeat, and work ridiculously hard to build the life you want.

If it hasn't happened it is either because you quit or you just haven't gotten there yet. Let your work ethic be as big as the dream.

## **ELEVEN: People are really good at leaving**

Life happens, people move (or move on), and habits, circumstances, and personalities all change, which makes it difficult to stay friends, stay in relationships, or stay in touch.

People will be in and out of your life all your life, and sometimes people will leave that you thought would stick by you forever.

It never gets any easier, but learn to look for what they taught you while they were there, and not what they took when they left.

## **TWELVE: There is no experience like life experience**

Buy the ticket, take the trip, do the scary thing, reach out to the person, and try something new.

Trying and failing, constantly looking for opportunities, and meeting new people will teach you more than any form of education.

Gaining life experience is the best way to experience life, and you will learn things you couldn't ever find on the internet.

## **THIRTEEN: Stop saying “...then I will be happy.”**

If you think you have to have something or do something before you can be happy, then you never will be. You will always want more, and nothing will ever be able to fill the void where happiness should already exist.

If you can't learn to find joy and pride and fulfillment in the life you currently have then you need to reevaluate your priorities.

Joy is always in progress. True joy is something you should constantly be looking for and always be able to find it.

I find my perpetual JOY in Jesus Christ.

## **FOURTEEN: Overnight success is a myth**

Those people that you think came out of nowhere and those massive accomplishments that you think “just happened” to them took years of hard work.

Just because you didn't see their trials, struggles, tears, and failures doesn't mean they didn't happen.

If you want something you have to put in the work to get it. Rome wasn't built in a day and neither is your success. Always remember, everything takes longer than you think. It took me 27 good years to be 27 years old.

## **FIFTEEN: You will find out what you are made of**

Stop worrying about the moments when you are put to the test, and start using those moments to thrive. The only time you get to find out what you are made of is when your back is against the wall. You have to take chances, fail, get back up, and make hard choices.



## **SIXTEEN: Everyone is fighting**

People are fighting for their lives.  
People are fighting for their dream.  
People are fighting for what they believe in.

Everyone is walking a path you know nothing about and fighting a battle that you don't understand.

All the more reason to be kind and patient with everyone you meet, because you don't know the motivations behind their actions.

## **SEVENTEEN: Yet is the most powerful word to use**

You can change the entire meaning of a sentence by adding the word "yet."

Instead of "I don't know enough to do this", it is "I don't know enough yet." Instead of "I am not where I want to be", it is "I am not there yet."

Every negative thing you think about yourself can be flipped with the word, YET. Make it your most used word, and you will start to realize how many possibilities actually exist for you.

## **EIGHTEEN: You can't change people**

The only thing you can control is you and your reactions. People won't change unless they want to. If someone won't listen to you at a normal decibel, they are less likely to listen when you are screaming at them.

All you can do is love people well and live the example that you want to set. Hopefully they will come around, but don't spend your life waiting for them to.

## **NINETEEN: Life is too short to hate what you do**

You have to make money, there are bills to pay. I get it, but life could also end tomorrow. It really too short to be wasting your days doing a job you hate, punching a clock just to give your money away.

Pay your bills, pay your taxes, and take care of your family, but try to do it with something you are passionate about.

“You gotta do what you gotta do, but that doesn’t mean you have to do it forever.”

## **TWENTY: Nobody knows what they are doing**

You think when you become an adult you will have the answers.  
Then you think you need more experience to find the answers.  
Then you think you are doing it wrong.

The truth is, your parents, your friends, and your teachers didn’t have a clue either, and still don’t.

None of us know what we are doing because life didn’t come with instructions. We are all just trying things and waiting on something to stick, so just give it your best shot and don’t beat yourself up over it.

Nonetheless, you can always find rest in God and His word.

## **TWENTY-ONE: Face your demons**

I like this old adage that says, “you will never win your war if you keep running from your battles.”

If you keep walking through life running away from your fears, your issues, and the past experiences that you don’t want to confront, then you will never find what you are looking for.

That is a lot of baggage to carry around for your life, and that baggage is going to keep you from being happy, fulfilled, and passionate about anything. Work through your own problems, and stop carrying them into your next fight.

## **TWENTY-TWO: Learn to say NO**

Always be willing to help people when you can, but be overprotective of your time. Keep it well and you will reap the benefits.

You can't be everything for everyone, so learn to love the sound of your own voice saying no when you need to, and don't let anyone make you feel bad for having to put yourself first sometimes.

## **TWENTY-THREE: Your intuition is right**

If you have a gut feeling about something, you need to listen.

No, you shouldn't judge people you don't even know, but if a situation doesn't feel right or if you feel strongly that the choice is a bad one, then voicing your intuition and protecting yourself is the best decision you can make.

## **TWENTY-FOUR: You get what you put in**

With relationships, your career, your investment, your effort, your time, you will get out of it what you are willing to put into it.

If you want good relationship, you have to give it the time and dedication it deserves. If you want a successful career, you have to put in the work and grit that it takes to build it.

With anything you do, you have to give before you get. It is your responsibility to fix the things in your life that aren't where you want them to be.

## **TWENTY-FIVE: The limit does not exist**

We all grew up to this popular quote, “the sky is the limit.” Right! I am tempted to say, Elon Musk went above the skies.

The only limits are the ones you create. If you believe you can do anything, then you eventually will. If you believe you are stuck, then you are. If you believe you are not good enough, then you never will be.

Limited mindset creates limited results. There was once a time when the light bulb, the internet, and Netflix didn't exist.

Dream bigger, because you can!

## **TWENTY-SIX: Fresh air solves a lot of problems**

Frustrated? Exhausted? Feeling lazy? Bored? Literally going outside, going for a quick run, or taking a quick walk on the beach make a massive difference.

You will clear your mind, move your body, and get inspired really quickly.

## **TWENTY-SEVEN: God is the greatest**

All your life people older than you will tell you that life goes by too fast. It is because it is true.

You can't hit pause, you can't slow it down, and you never know how much time you have left, so you better make every single second count for something. Never underestimate the God factor in your life. He created time but He doesn't live in time. He is the only one who has control over time.

Life greatest lesson is that God is the greatest. Connect with Him through His only begotten son, Jesus Christ.

## WHO IS PETER?



Peter Kwadwo Asare Nyarko is an Award Winning & Renowned Financial Literacy Advocate & Educator, Financial and Business Planner, Coach & Consultant, Practicing Accountant, Author, and Public Speaker.

Peter is the Founder/CEO of PKAN Consulting; a personal finance, group financial planning and business development firm. He cofounded, Center for Financial Literacy Education Africa. ([www.cfleafafrica.com](http://www.cfleafafrica.com)).

Peter is the Lead for The Improving Financial Awareness and Financial Literacy Movement in Ghana, Lead Ambassador and Advisory Board of The Financial Awareness Foundation. <http://www.thefinancialawarenessfoundation.org/pdf/TFAF-TIFA-FLMovement-Ghana-ExecSum.pdf>

Peter possesses knowledge in accounting in business, personal finance management, business planning and development, principles of cost accounting, and investments.

As a financial literacy advocate and crusader; Peter uses and maximizes his God given talent of “speaking, writing, and serving people” as he continuously coaches and talks to people in all walks of life.

Peter’s personal life mission is to empower and educate his generation focusing on personal finance, business development and investments to help them build and achieve happiness, success and live a fulfilling life. Peter is positive, purpose driven, problem-solver, open minded, team player, insightful, futuristic, and love taking up new challenges.

**Contact Peter for speaking engagements, group financial planning, corporate training, coaching sessions and consulting services.**

Email: [peternyarko403@gmail.com](mailto:peternyarko403@gmail.com)

WhatsApp: +233(0)278553887

