



## Five Secrets of Extraordinarily Successful Women!

As a professional speaker, I have the opportunity to attend numerous events, listen to lots of speakers, and talk to women from across the U.S and around the world.

I have to admit, no matter how many events I attend, I always enjoy listening to what other women have done to achieve success, and learning from their successes and their failures. And, as you might imagine, I ask a lot of questions.

This month I'd like to share some of the collective wisdom I've garnered from my travels with all of you.

1. **Reach out, don't sit out.** Were you ever told that good things come to those who wait? Hate to break it to you, but good things come to those who INITIATE. That means you have to raise your hand and go after what you want. If you don't put yourself out there, who will?
2. **Take advantage of every opportunity that's available to you.** When opportunity knocks, don't be afraid to fling the door open wide and see where it takes you. Sometimes it doesn't look quite how we expected it to, or come at the time we had hoped, but when it does come, know this. It's yours to grab or lose.
3. **Leverage all of your experiences.** Don't forget that the things you do in your personal life can also help you in your professional life and vice versa. Today, the lines between your personal and professional life are already one big blur anyway, right? So if you can find a way to leverage all of your experiences to be successful, then perhaps you can have success the way it should be: on your terms.
4. **Don't sweat the small stuff.** Many of you tend to be perfectionists. That's a problem because it takes up a lot of your time and energy. Plus, no matter how hard you try, there are always going to be things that go wrong or are out of your control. Make your new mantra "good enough is good enough." Then move on.
5. **Always be in learning mode.** This meant a lot of different things to different women. Here's what it boiled down to for most. Invest your time and money in continuing education; develop and nurture your network; volunteer to develop new skills and gain new experiences both inside and outside your company; and read a ton.

You don't have to travel or go to conferences and events to find out how other women achieve success. Take a look around you. Who do you admire? Who is doing the kinds of things you want to be doing? Find out who that woman is and invite her to coffee or lunch. Ask her what she does that makes her so successful. Then, take what you learn and put it to work for you. Next thing you know I might be talking to you about YOUR secrets to success. Wouldn't that be a great thing?