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"May He Give You the Desire of Your Heart and Make All Your Plans Succeed"

Governor Lemanu delivers special remarks at the Samoana High School Graduation

The Honorable Lemanu P. S. Mauga, Governor of American Samoa delivered his special remarks at the Samoana High School Commencement Ceremony on Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at the school's gymnasium:

“Psalm 20:4 beautifully states, "May He give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed." These words resonate deeply with the essence of this graduation ceremony. They remind us that your desires, dreams, and aspirations are not mere fantasies but powerful forces that shape your paths.

As you embark on this new chapter, remember that you have been equipped with the knowledge, skills, and character to pursue the desires of your hearts. You have spent countless hours studying, engaging in discussions, and challenging yourselves to grow intellectually and emotionally. Your time here has been an investment in your future, a foundation on which you will build our dreams.

True success is not merely measured by individual achievements or material gains. Rather, it lies in your ability to contribute to the betterment of the world around us. Psalm 20:4 reminds us that success is not an isolated pursuit; it is intertwined with the well-being of others.

As you step into the world beyond this campus, let us remember the power we hold to impact lives positively. Your education and the values instilled in you have prepared you not only to chase your dreams but also to serve as catalysts for change. You have the potential to make a lasting difference, whether it be through scientific breakthroughs, artistic expression, compassionate acts, or innovative solutions to global challenges.

Let me remind you that the journey towards the fulfillment of your desires will undoubtedly be marked by obstacles, failures, and uncertainties. It is during these times that we must lean on our faith, our resilience, and our unwavering determination. We must be vigilant in our pursuit of excellence, refusing to be deterred by setbacks or doubts. Psalm 20:4 assures us that if we commit ourselves to our dreams, if we align our actions with our deepest desires, and remain steadfast in our Faith in the Lord, success will follow.

Graduates, on a higher spectrum, remember that God’s plans are not our plans. He seeks the plans that will make you prosper and have a future. When you make these plans, make them with God’s heart in mind. It is always best to seek His wisdom, and remember who you are, where you’re from, remember your parents, and those who have helped you this far.

In conclusion, may you move forward from this graduation ceremony with a renewed sense of purpose, holding steadfast to your dreams. Embrace the power of education and the wisdom found in our faith. Remember that success is not solely about personal achievements but also about the impact we have on others. May your hearts be filled with compassion, your minds brimming with creativity, and your souls ignited with the courage to pursue the desires of your hearts.

Congratulations, Class of 2023! Go forth and make your dreams a reality."

Governor Lemanu offered heartfelt congratulations and touched upon the collective efforts of the parents, faculty and staff, church leaders and community leaders, upon the students. During the ceremony, five graduates were awarded the Valedictorian achievement award: Arianna Ta'atasi, Jackie Tanielu, Kimo Tuivaiti, Malo Mata'u, and Rylee Jessop. The Salutatorian award was given to Lumafale Tupuivao.

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