

The hip-hop preacher who turned his life around

Have you ever listened to a motivational speaker?

Vocabulary

1. pastor 2. succeed 3. quote 4. dropped 5. survive 6. preacher

True Story

Eric Thomas, known as the "hip-hop _____," had a very hard life. He _____ out of high school at 17 after fighting with his family. He had no home and lived on the streets of Detroit for two years. He slept in empty buildings, ate from rubbish bins, and did small jobs to _____.

Later, a _____ helped him go back to school. He studied education and worked hard, even though it took him 12 years to finish university. He later got a PhD and became a famous speaker. His most famous _____ is, "When you want to _____ as bad as you want to breathe, then you'll be successful." His story gives hope to many.

Quiz

1. What nickname is Eric Thomas known by?
2. How long did Eric live on the streets?
3. Who helped Eric go back to school?
4. What is Eric Thomas's most famous quote?

True or False

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 1. Eric Thomas dropped out of university. | True False |
| 2. Eric Thomas lived in Detroit. | True False |
| 3. Eric Thomas is a famous rapper now. | True False |

Conversation

- A: Did you read about Eric Thomas, the hip-hop preacher?
B: Yeah, I can't believe he lived on the streets for two years.
A: He even ate from trash cans to survive.
B: That shows how desperate his life was back then.
A: And he still went back to school and got a PhD!
B: Yeah, his story is really inspiring.

Discussion

1. Do you know anyone who has overcome a big challenge?
2. What do you think makes someone successful?
3. Would you like to be a motivational speaker? Why or why not?
4. What would you do if you had to live on the streets?