This is the story of my cowboy journey and the principles that carried me along the way. While some are Biblical truths instilled by my parents, others were learned while pursuing my dream. Unfortunately, it took drifting off the beaten path from time to time to truly understand their importance.

I believe they are foundational in any journey, whether you’re fighting bulls in a rodeo, navigating bull-headed coworkers over office politics, or trying to wrangle mischievous teenagers.

These are the principles I’ll unpack as I share my story, and I believe they’ll serve you well as you respond to God’s call on your life—whatever it is and however He speaks to you:

* Lend a Hand—Exhortation can change a life.
* Step Through—Faith makes all things possible.
* Bear Down—The hard work of preparation never ends.
* Shoot the Gap—To sacrifice is to live.
* EGO (Edging God Out)—Humility is a true reflection of strength.
* Cowboy Up—Know your priorities.
* The Razor—Confidence is a fine line.
* The Gold Buckle—Integrity can’t be bought.
* Find Your Spotter—Listen to smart people.
* Turn ‘Em Out—Restoration leads to fulfillment.

I was an ordinary kid who eventually lived out my passion for the Western way of life and a God-given vision by becoming a professional bullfighter. So I’m living proof that even a small-town kid has big-time potential.

The road wasn’t straight and the path wasn’t easy. Along the way, I overcame the near-death experience from that electrical shock, suffered multiple concussions from too-close encounters with bulls, and endured a bitter divorce and international child-custody battle. I looked fear in the eyes and refused to blink, proudly serving in the military following the terrorist attacks on 9/11. And, eventually, I became the youngest cowboy enshrined in the Cheyenne Frontier Days Hall of Fame.

Through all of the highs and lows, these principles guided me along my cowboy journey. They never let me down…when I applied them. So I hope by sharing my story, you can learn from my mistakes and successes and apply these principles to your life. Because if God can use me, I know He can use you!