

Suffering From a Success Shortage? Tapping Into Your Fortune of Possibility

By Paul J. Meyer

You were not created to live a life of mediocrity and failure. A vast fortune resides within you, but to claim it you must awaken your mind to a new day.

Recently I heard a true story about a town that suffered a water shortage for seven years until it was discovered that the three main water valves to the city were only partially open. Similarly, you may not have your success valve fully open. How do you know? If you are experiencing lack, disappointment, and mediocrity in your day-to-day life, then your success valve is definitely compromised.

“You have within yourself a sleeping giant, a hero that needs to be awakened to the great potential that is stored inside you - a vast fortune of possibility.”

I've been asked numerous times to submit a definition of success. After laboring over the process for quite some time, I finally narrowed my definition down to one full page. When I paused for one last review, I threw it in the trash and wrote one sentence, “*Success is simply the lack of failure.*”

Failure originates from mistakes, mistakes originate from wrong actions, and wrong actions originate from wrong thinking. In short, *failure comes from wrong thinking*. Everything you do in life, every decision you make, begins with the beliefs you have in your mind. If you have a negative mind set, then your thoughts, attitudes, and actions will re-produce a negative, mediocre life full of lack. Whatever you believe about yourself; whatever is in your mind, manifests in your outside life.

I know it's hard to swallow that our life is a direct response to our own thinking and actions because it is very much in fashion to blame other people or circumstances for our lack. And while the bad news is that we often “inherit” these wrong thinking patterns from our parents or other early childhood experiences, and that does make the going a bit tough, the good news is that we don't have to keep those negative mind sets.

Changing your mind!

The most adaptable thing our Creator has made is the mind of a human being. And since the real truth is the limitations you perceive in your mind are *strictly imaginary* and have no basis in reality, you can exchange old thoughts for new thoughts and thereby change your life.

- When you change your thinking, you change your attitude.
- When you change your attitude, you change your action.
- When you change your action, you get a different result.

Successful people are not any smarter than anyone else. They have simply left behind whatever negative conditioning they received and *made a decision to take charge of their mind*. You can literally blast out of your mind the thoughts that have kept you in a type of hell, the kind that is caused by blindness and incorrect thinking, the kind that keeps you mentally bedridden.

When you operate from fear, worry, indecision, and previous negative mental conditioning, you lock your potential in a cage. Your productivity is hampered by a limited vision; your strength and energy is dissipated; your despair grows.

You have within yourself a sleeping giant, a hero that needs to be awakened to the great potential that is stored inside you - vast fortune of possibility. I'm not saying it will be easy to change course. After all, I have never seen a pearl floating on top of the water! But if you are determined to change your life, if you are sick of watching other people feast at the buffet of life while you stand outside and watch, then you are ready to take the steps I advise.

Three questions to change your life

Question #1: What are the obstacles and roadblocks I have created in my mind that I need to overcome to change my attitudes and thinking. Examine yourself. Be honest.

Question #2: What are the rewards for me personally if I pay the price to change my attitudes and thinking? List them in writing. Be specific.

Question #3: Is it worth it to me? The answer to this determines your future.

If you want to change your life, you can. There is no one stopping you but you. There is no scarcity of resources or opportunity. Your mind provides the only limitation. Each day you can choose to think poverty and limitation or choose to think success and plenty; you can procrastinate and complain, or you can take action and move forward; you can go to God's store house of opportunity with a teaspoon or a bucket.

Life will not yield the roadway to those who believe in mere luck. But the world steps aside for those with a direction, a purpose; for those willing to *pay the price* to change their thinking, their attitude, and their actions.

You are the author of your own life story. This time next year you'll be on your way to a new life or continuing to complain and blame, immersed in lack. It's entirely your call. It's all in your mind. Your success valve is waiting on you!

Paul J. Meyer, best-selling *New York Times* author and founder of the Success Motivation Institute has written two dozen full-length programs plus numerous books on attitude, motivation, goal setting, management, leadership, and time management. In his inspirational and instructive CD and DVD, *A Fortune to Share*, available at www.pauljmeyer.com, Paul shares the principles of becoming the success he is today.

