

Your MIND, Your PROSPERITY

ISAIAH MICHAEL WEALTH

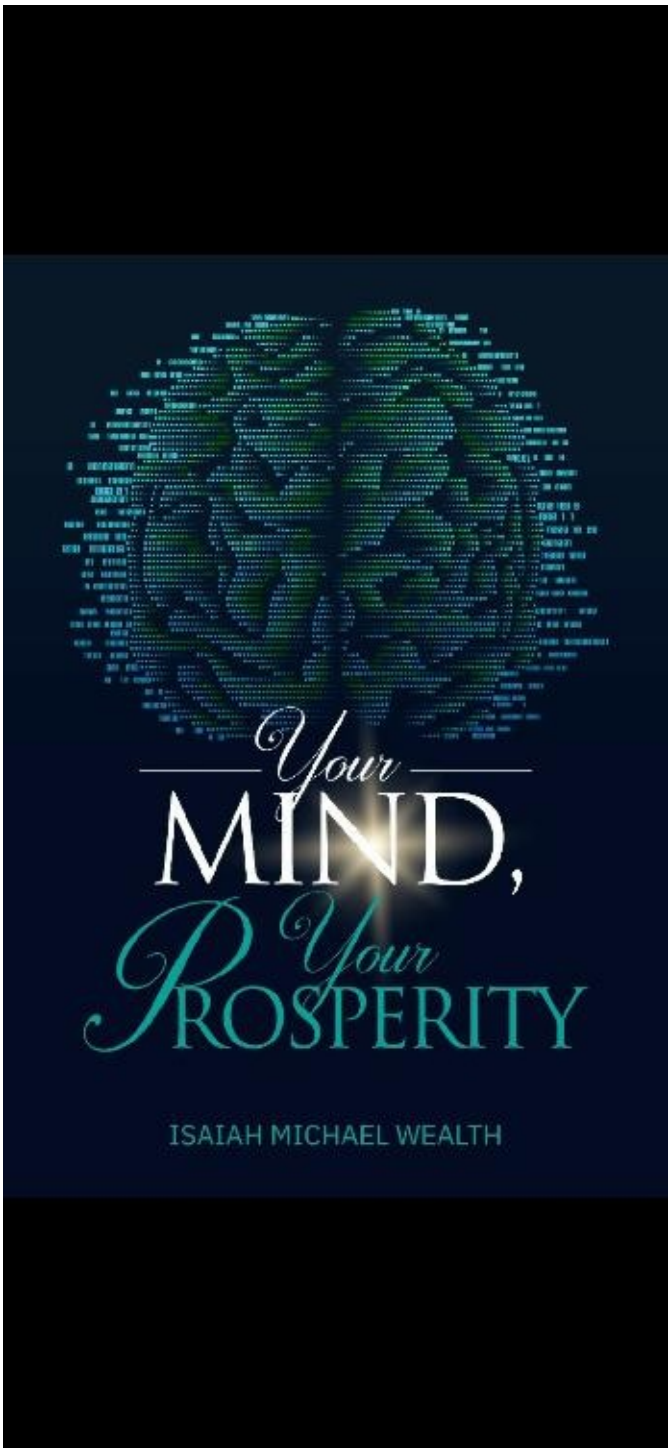

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INRODUCTION

Your mind is an inevitable tool for prosperity because you cannot excel beyond the quality of your mind, God's intention notwithstanding. You are created in the image and likeness of God hence all that you need to prosper has been wired into your being. This means that you have the nature and creative ability of God already residing in your spirit man. And God has made this available for you so that you can prosper and succeed in every area of life. Your success therefore validates his intent in creating you.

But despite this inherent ability to succeed al ready resident in your spirit, your mind can compromise the output. This is why a mentally deranged person cannot function well in society and achieve much. This therefore highlights the importance of mind training and development in the pursuit of success.

Furthermore God created all things you will need and put them in the earth and put the ideas to manipulate them in the air. So if your mind is not trained you can never access and enjoy them. How much you will succeed is therefore not consequent on any man but it is a product of your mind. Your output in life is dependent on how trained your mind is.

You therefore need to train your mind for success because without it you cannot obtain the God kind of prosperity.

In this book, our focus will be on what it means to train your mind and the areas in which to train your mind for success.

CHAPTER ONE

YOU HAVE A SOUND MIND

The first step in training your mind for success is the recognition that as a believer, you possess a sound mind. Apostle Paul speaks of this in his letter to Timothy;

> ***For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.***
>
> ***2Timothy 1:7***

The first step in training your mind for success is the recognition that as a believer, you possess a sound mind.

I want you to note that the scripture does not say that God 'will' give you sound mind, it says He 'has'. This is indicative that you already possess it. So, you have to constantly remember that you have already existent in you a sound mind that can tackle any challenge and can achieve anything. With the sound mind, you should not be limited, neither should you fail.

I want you to also notice that the scripture identifies God as the source of this sound mind. If it comes from God it can only be good and perfect.

> ***Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.***
>
> ***James 1:17***

And if He cannot be limited or has never failed, you should not. This is one of your greatest assets as a believer in Christ Jesus.

Furthermore, the ancient Greek word here refers to a sound mind as a calm and controlled mind in contrast to panic and confusion when one is in a fearful or unstable situation. So you should never panic, fear or be in distress because your mind possesses the capacity to devise a solution or way of escape. This puts you at point of advantage so that no matter how hard or fearful a situation may be, you can overcome and take charge.

But with this sound mind, why are many still trapped in poverty and stagnation? This is because the content of your mind today and your corresponding actions and responses are a product of your experiences. When children are born, it is said that they are born empty with unique inherent abilities but as they grow, by observation and by experiences, they acquire knowledge that forms the basis of their action.

We can therefore conclude that how far you have come today; your successes and failures are a product of your mind. So in order to change your experiences you need to renew your mind.

> ***And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.***
>
> ***Romans 12:2***

To renew from the Hebrew word is to exchange. So many people are poor today or have not been able to make the progress they desire because they possess a wrong paradigm or

mindset about prosperity. Even Jesus said in the book of Luke that what happens in the life of a man proceeds from his heart.

> ***A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.***
>
> ***Luke 6:45***

The beauty of your life is a product of what is in your heart or mind. Your life and experiences can begin to change for the better as you exchange the old negative thoughts and behavioural patterns with those synonymous with prosperity and success. During this process of exchanging your mind, you begin to gain access into the good, acceptable and perfect will of God, making your way into prosperity.

Other translations of this amazing scripture highlights more on what it means to renew the mind

> ***Don't copy the behaviour and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.....***
>
> ***Romans 12:2 NLT***

> ***Don't live any longer the way this world lives let your way of thinking be completely changed...***
>
> ***Romans 12:2 NIRV***

> ***Don't become like the people of this world. Instead, change the way you think....***

Romans 12:2 GWT

Renewing or exchanging the mind is total and complete change in the way you think which automatically results in a change in the way you act or respond. This is why Apostle Paul instructs us to think on only right things

> ***Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.***
>
> ***Philippians 4:8***

This renewal and exchange of the mind occurs as you set your mind on things that are necessary components of success.

> ***If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.***
>
> ***Colossians 3:1-2***

The mind like many electronic gadgets that we possess today can be set or programmed to respond in a particular way.

The mind like many electronic gadgets that we possess today can be set or programmed to respond in a particular way. It is like the remote control that can determine the output of your

television set. Although the television set has an in-built capacity to go off and on, to increase and decrease in volume or to move from one station to another. The remote control can determine its output. Regardless of the sound mind God has given to you, you need to set it in a way that it can function maximally to release the God given capacity in you.

But what does it mean to set? To 'set' is to bring something into a specified state, to position, to station to direct at angle. If you must succeed your mind must be positioned in a way that will trigger success because Success is a way of thinking that results in a pattern of behaviour.

Most surprisingly, to 'set' also mean to adorn, embellish or to decorate. They are character traits and behavioural pattern that you must decorate or adorn your mind with if you must prosper the God way. We will examine these areas you must train or set your mind in the other chapters of this part.

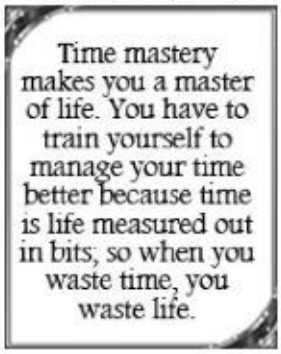
CHAPTER TWO
Train Your Mind

For Excellence

If you must be successful you must train your mind to be excellent. In today's world, anything mediocre, common or average is unacceptable. If you must be outstanding in business and other endeavours, you must be a person who exhibits excellence in every area. When in full operation, it can move a man far ahead of his supposed equals and give him preference above many others. We see this at work in the life of Daniel.

> ***Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.***
>
> ***Daniel 6:3***

Other synonyms for the word excellence are outstanding, superb, exceptional, brilliant, remarkable and distinction. This implies that Daniel was an exceptional man, outstanding in all that was committed to his trust and this gave him distinction.



The scripture above says that no error or fault was found in him and because of the excellence, he was preferred above all and the king sought to make him ruler over the whole realm. This is

what the spirit of excellence can do in your life. It can take you from obscurity and place you in the limelight of success. The level of excellence in your life can determine your position in life, wherever you work and it also determines how far you can go.

But what does it really mean to have an excellent spirit? What does it mean to be an excellent person? I have simplified it with these five points;

Five Qualities of an Excellent Person

1. ***An excellent person is a person with taste:*** By this, I mean a person who has a good ability to judge aesthetically, one who possesses the faculty of making discerning judgement in aesthetics- what is appealing and artistic. A person with taste has a sense of what is proper and acceptable. Some persons have little or no taste, they do not how things are done nor do they care about the state of things around them. Some do not even see it. Their focus is only on getting it done regardless of the state of things when they are finished. This is not the spirit of excellence. If you must be excellent you must always be conscious of yourself, your environment and the proper or right way things should be done to bring out the best in them.

2. ***An excellent person is a person of results:*** One who is concerned about getting results or achieving his goal and whatever task is committed to his trust regardless of challenges is an excellent man.

This makes him a faithful steward as he is able to not just get things done but bring returns on investments.

3. ***An excellent person is a person report:*** Reporting increases your capacity to deliver and helps reduce or at best eliminate carelessness. As an excellent man, when you are given an assignment, ensure to submit reports about every stage of your work regularly.

4. ***An excellent person is conscious of time:*** What makes a man a slave is his inability to dominate and control his time. Hence many are placed under the control and authority of others to control their time. Time mastery makes you a master of life. You have to train yourself to manage your time better because time is life measured out in bits; so when you waste time, you waste life.

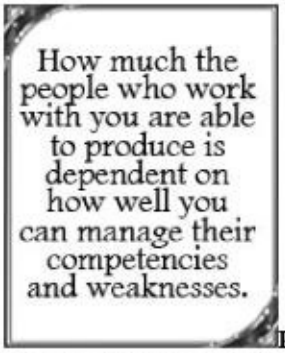
5. ***A person of excellence is concerned about cleanliness:*** I believe that failure and dirt are synonymous because whatever made a man dirty is what will make him poor. A man of excellence is concerned about the cleanness of not just his body but the cleanness of his environment.

The spirit of excellence is one that can be developed and cultivated. Using these points below, you too can develop and train yourself to be excellent.

1. Never say it is not possible no matter how impossible a task or assignment may seem.
2. Think excellent things.
3. Make things work or possible.
4. Become anti-status quo
5. Research and find out new ways and better ways to get things done
6. Do not cover imperfection, correct it.

Train your mind to be detailed

A person of excellence is also a person of details. To be detailed is to be concerned about the minute and intricate aspects of a project or assignment. A detailed person takes thorough and exhaustive estimate of all that is required to make things work. He is also meticulous, painstaking and comprehensive.



People who are not detailed are careless and therefore cause damage. If you ask some business persons to give you a financial record of their business - income, expenditure, profit margin, percentage of income over expenditure, percentage of profit, gross profit, net profit, and other financial details, they cannot tell you and yet they expect to succeed. Some other business people cannot compute an extensive proposal that will detail their business projection, estimation, demography, market etc. And they wonder why they cannot get financial backing for their ideas. A man of excellence is concerned about every minute detail with regards to his work and responsibilities. To understand more about details, we will consider five elements of details;

Four Elements of Details

1. **Management:** Management in this regard refers to the ability to properly utilize and maximize resources to achieve set goals without waste or incurring losses. A person of detail manages what is put in his care to ensure it is sufficient for its purpose and that in the event of excess there is no waste. The Lord Jesus was a master of details. We see this in action when He fed the 5000 in John chapter 6;

> ***And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would. When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.***
>
> ***John 6:11 -12***

After he fed the people, he refused to allow waste. If you must succeed you must learn how to manage available resources so as to ensure there is no waste. You must learn how to manage food, money and people. The management of people is the least often talked about. How much the people who work with you are able to produce is dependent on how well you can manage their competencies and weaknesses. This would make you position them strategically where they are at their best.

2. **Documentation:** The popular saying that the shortest pen is better than the longest

memory is very true. As time passes, you can lose details but you can always refer to what you wrote down. So a man of detail documents every facet of his life and plans. Documentation also induces performance as we see in God's instruction to
Habakkuk;

> ***And the LORD answered me, and said, write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.***
>
> ***Habakuk 2:2***

The first way I know who will most likely succeed or not is whether he takes time out to document. Personally, anywhere you see me; I always have a pen and writing material around me so that I can immediately write down as God speaks to me or as I get ideas. The Bible that we read today is a compilation of documented events and future prophecies. Imagine what our lives would be today, if it was not documented. Let's consider when the Lord Jesus spoke to John in the book of revelation;

> ***Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, what thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.***
>
> ***Revelation 1:11***

These writing are what we see in the book of revelations that show us the future of the believer and this world in general. Therefore, train your mind to be detailed by consistently documenting your dreams, aspirations, ideas, goals, plans, strategies and progress.

3. **Organisation:** a detailed man is also an organised man. To be organised is to have a sense of what is proper and ability to coordinate and arrange things where they are easily accessible. It is the ability to find things when you want and need them. A person's level of organisation can therefore be determined by how fast he can ascertain where things are when he needs them.

The living and working space of many persons are in disarray with things clustered and scattered about in various areas. Some have mails and books, and clothes clustered everywhere with no definite idea of where they should be placed. And if you ask them to locate where some things are, they have to search thoroughly and repeatedly because they do not have systematic way of organising things. An organised person arranges things in a way that they are easily accessible and discovered. We see this quality at work in Jesus when he rose from the dead

> ***Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself.***
>
> ***John 20:6-7***

Despite his mission after his death which was to go to the Father, John records that he still had the time to organise and wrap his head napkin and apparel separately. To organise, you have to learn how to catalogue and categorise into a structured and coherent layout or into a specific or defined groups.

You also have to train your mind to not just organise things, but also organise your time. To

organise your things is the correct placement at home and at work, this creates a peaceful atmosphere, creates synergy and work flow. Organising your time involves the effective use and prioritization of your time to achieve your daily tasks and ultimately achieve your goals. This creates energy and increases productivity level.

4. Observation: A detailed person is one who observes everything that goes on around him. To observe is to notice, perceive, survey, scrutinise, detect, spot and to watch. It is to watch carefully the way something is or was done. It is more than just seeing; it is the faculty or habit of observing and noticing things. This makes observation a deliberate training that you must acquire.

First, train your mind to observe your business environment; learn to notice any strange and unusual movement or anything that is out of place. As a person, I have trained my mind to be very observant of my environment - landmarks, order and aesthetics and most importantly changes in any of these. Some persons can utilise a product several times and not notice recent changes that have been made to it. That is being careless; it takes being observant to work in God's Kind of Prosperity.

Even when I watch the news on my television, I do not just listen to news stories, I observe aesthetics, architectural design and I even observe the attire and appearance of the newscaster and the news studio. It is in the process of this observation sometimes that God speaks to me and gives me ideas for business. The excellence I display in every area of my life can be traced to my keen sense of observation.

If you must be excellent and succeed you must train your mind to notice everything around

you. Also train your mind to observe your properties and assets. Be conversant with information that directly impacts your line of business and also observe the trends before launching a product or business.

Also, you must be Self-conscious and have a strong sense of awareness. This means going beyond just observing things to observing your self- your tendencies and reaction to certain occurrences to certain people. You have to also observe the reaction of people who walk with you to the way you talk, act or behave. This kind is what often prompt changes that can increase your productivity.

The Lord told Joshua in the book of Joshua chapter 1 to observe the word so that he could do them and enjoy success.

> ***This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.***
>
> ***Joshua 1:8***

Observation develops your mind and shows the several ways work can be simplified that you would otherwise not have accessed without it. The power and wisdom to do things also comes from observation.

A man will be prosperous in life must put all these elements into consideration and begin to train his mind. You can be all God wants you to be and you can obtain the God kind of prosperity if only you would take time to begin to

train your mind to become more excellent and detailed.

CHAPTER THREE

Train Your Mind For Hard Work

Hard work is the seed for success and if you ever expect to prosper or to be successful you must engage this principle. Some people who go to church and claim to serve God never prosper because they do not work hard. There cannot be success without hard work irrespective of your field of endeavour. The work of generating success is in the induction of hard work. Even Jesus himself understood the principle of hard work,

> ***I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.***
>
> ***John 9:4***

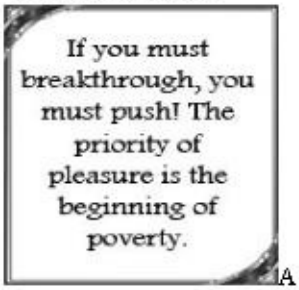
Whatever you want to achieve requires hard work. Even those who succeed doing evil as bad as it may seem, work hard at it, so you cannot succeed at anything without hard work. The migration of persons from one business to another without establishing any business is often a product of laziness. They are always thinking about seemingly easier business to venture into and when they face challenges doing the sup posed business they quit. This is a mind-set of laziness and cannot bring anyone into the God Kind of prosperity. The scriptures refer to them as sluggards;

> ***The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.***
>
> ***Proverbs 20:4***

The lazy man will not plow by reason of winter , He will beg during harvest, and have nothing.

Proverbs 20:4 NKJV

Who is a Sluggard?



A sluggard is a person who shows no interest in work or makes no effort to work hard. I have met several persons who I wanted to lend a helping hand to but it was clear to me by their nonchalant attitude and indifference that they were lazy.

Another trait of the sluggard as we see in the scripture above is that he is full of excuses. He refused to work because of cold and because of this he will beg in the time of harvest and be poor. If you must breakthrough, you must push! The priority of pleasure is the beginning of poverty. The scriptures put it this way;

Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.

Proverbs 6:10

Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one

that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man.

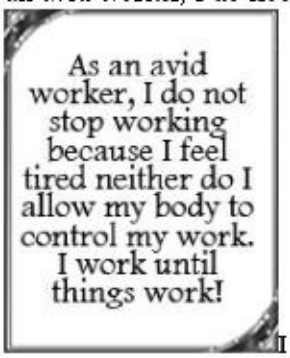
Proverbs 24:33-34

If pleasure is your norm, then you cannot prosper. So you must constantly question your pleasure. I am not saying you should not rest, but you are only permitted to rest after work. Even the scriptures say that a man who does not work, should not eat.

For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

2Thessaloninans 3:10

It is therefore a necessity that you train your mind to work hard. When your mind is trained to work, your body follows automatically. As an avid worker, I do not stop working because



I feel tired neither do I allow my body to control my work. I work until things work! Hard work is therefore result oriented. This means that until the results are achieved work should not stop.

But what is hard work, is it just labour? Or is there more to this principle? Deeply consider these definitions I have outlined below;

What is Hard Work?

A. ***Hard work is the necessary force required to achieve desired result.*** It is the habit of performing needed tasks as at when due. Hard work is not necessarily in the intensity, it is a habit of carrying out stipulated or assigned task on time. Anyone who gives constant excuses for what he has to do when he has to do it is lazy. Many young persons today, have no work ethic- they are used to giving excuses and others are procrastinators, yet they want to prosper. If you experience the God kind of prosperity, you must train you mind not to give excuses and be committed to delivering your goals on time.

B. ***Hard work is the determination of destination, the discipline of focus; it is the resources assembling faith that delivers predetermined results.*** It is the discipline of keeping yourself focused so that you can achieve results. Hard work delivers results! Therefore, anything that does not hit its target is not hard work regardless of the time and effort spent doing it.

C. ***Hard work is the extent that effort must go***, therefore every effort is not hard work. It is not just any effort or just trying. There is an extent that effort must go to exterminate obstacles, hindrances and limitations for the accomplishment of one's dream. Obstacles are blastable mountains, hindrances are climbable mountains and limitations are encompassable mountains. However the mountain appears, it is blastable, climbable or encompassable and you must be willing to give the effort required to overcome it. Hard work is the elimination of all excuses, hindrances and obstacles in the achievement of your goals. It is therefore not

enough to put in effort, you must give the effort required to make things work.

D. ***Hard work is the understanding of vision, the comprehension of scarcity, the appropriation of ability and the capacity to accomplish impossibility.*** You cannot work hard if you do not understand what must be achieved and why it must be achieved. People who are not willing to die for a thing they believe in will also fail miserably in running a business. You must keep the vision of prosperity in front of you to motivate and activate the ability to work out your desired result.

E. ***Hard Word is the fabrication, unleashing, and the pursuit of scarcity defying ideas.*** It is the ability to fabricate, unleash and pursue ideas that will challenge scarcity. You cannot say you have worked hard if you cannot create the idea to surmount the task. Many people claim to have worked hard but deliver no result. It is important to add here that hard work is also a thought that is able to change the game on the ground.

F. ***Hard work is the release of one's full potential in the performance of daily tasks***. Until one's full potential is released in the implementation of a task, there is no hard work. You must therefore develop the ability to do all things with your full potential. Train your mind to release your potential on every assignment you are given. Never do things half heartedly!

H. Hard work is the courage to continue to try until success is born. Anything that gives up is not hard work. Hard work continues until it discovers better ways to get things done. A wise man once said that if you fail a hundred

times, you have just discovered a hundred ways it should not be done.

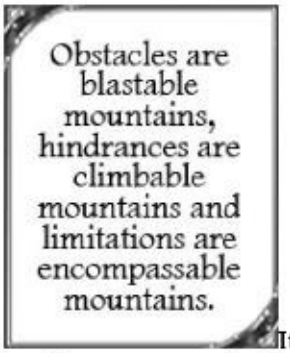
Hard work is a necessary requirement in the pursuit of the God Kind of prosperity. It is the seed that produces the tree of success. So it is important that you train your mind to work hard in every area of your life and business.

Upgrading your work to productivity

Furthermore, many people claim to work hard but very few are productive or produce maximally in their work. Here are few tips that can help you upgrade your work to productivity.

1. Work with wisdom- Brain and mind work are the real work.
2. Work with direction - Work is force applied in the right direction.
3. Work until it works - Productive workers do not have closing time; they work until things work.
4. Work with urgency - Urgency is an immediate act of responding to the urge to work.
5. Work with a target - allot a time for every task.
6. Work like a steward - Work with a sense of accountability.
7. Work with excitement- Excitement and joy give you strength
8. Work with hope- This is the key to continuity
9. Work with Faith in God - A labourer is worthy of his wage

Add Diligence to Hard Work



It is one thing to work hard but you can take it a step higher by being diligent. ***Diligence is the earnest application of one's self to an undertaking, a steady effort and attentive care.*** To be diligent is to be meticulous, painstaking, to be careful and thorough. A diligent person does not just work hard, he is meticulous and careful.

Therefore, a person can be hard working and not be diligent. The opposite of diligence is dealing with a slack hand

> ***He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.***
>
> ***Proverb 10:4***

This means that a person can be very hard working and yet work with a slack hand. So it is either you are diligent or you dealing with a slack hand, and dealing with a slack hand is a sure way to poverty. But what is slack hand? And what does it mean to deal with a slack hand?

What is a Slack Hand?

1. ***A slack hand is passing by opportunities and not seeing them.*** There are opportunities for business and wealth all around us but most of

us pass by these opportunities without seeing them. We see problems instead of seeing business and investment opportunities. Each time we do this, we are dealing with a slack hand. No matter how hard you work at your job or business, you can never prosper the God way if you do not see opportunities or windows for growth and expansion.

2. ***A slack hand is seeing opportunities but giving excuses***. This is another level of slackness. Some persons see opportunities but always have excuses why it cannot be maximised. This is a mindset that can move you into poverty, hence you must train your mind to not only see opportunities but to maximize them within the window of its availability.

3. ***A Slack hand is seeing opportunities but being discouraged by circumstances.*** It is one thing to see opportunities but it is another to push until that opportunity produces success without getting discouraged. Many give up because they are unable to navigate their way around the challenges that arise in that opportunity. You have to train your mind not to be discouraged but to brainstorm until you find a way around whatever challenge you face as you try to manipulate that opportunity. Have you left an opportunity untapped? Now is the time to pick it up again and put your mind to work. This is how to prosper the God way.

4. ***A slack hand is seeing opportunities but being scared away by the bull dog of failure.*** The fear of failure is responsible for the eventual failure of many. This fear stops people from attempting to make opportunities work. So they do not even begin at all because they anticipate

failure and even when they do try, because they already anticipate failure they fail.

5. ***A slack hand is being slow and careless in using opportunities.*** Every opportunity has a window or time within which they can be appropriated. If you miss the window, you miss the opportunity. Many great opportunities have been lost because those to whom the opportunity came where not fast enough to maximise them or were careless so that others take advantage of it.

From these five important points about the slack hand, we can deduce three important things about the diligent man

1. A Diligent man sees opportunities

There are opportunities all around you, so you must train yourselves to see them and quickly do something about them. There is a time for everything under the sun, a time to sow and a time to harvest. And if you miss the timing of a thing you have to wait until another opportunity comes.

> ***He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame.***
>
> ***Proverbs 10:5***

Every opportunity is like summer. Summer is a time of gathering and - the time of opportunities. A diligent man therefore always recognises the summer seasons or times of opportunity in his life. Opportunity does not come always so be diligent to identify or recognise them around you.

2. A Diligent man does not give excuses

Another important characteristic of a diligent man is that he does not give excuses about why

things cannot be done. A lot of people today have too many excuses for not doing what is required of them. Like the sluggard, they only desire, daydream or wish but they never set out to implement these desires.

> ***The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.***
>
> ***Proverbs 13:4***

If you want to prosper, you must break the circle of procrastination. Procrastination is the greatest thief of wealth and opportunity today. The word procrastinate is gotten from the root word '*procrastinae*' which means to put off till tomorrow.

According to Wikipedia, it is the act of replacing more urgent actions with a task that is less urgent, more enjoyable and more comfortable. To procrastinate therefore is to do the following;

- To delay the starting of a task more than is necessary.
- To work your priority list from below.
- To find excuses for not doing something.

Procrastination has also occurred when you are outside the deadline set for the accomplishment of an assigned task. The reason for procrastination is because many do not recognise that there is time for everything. If you attempt to do something outside its time you may lack the ability or resources necessary to make it happen. Time in this regards also refers to opportunity. This means that there is a time when the opportunity is available and if you miss the opportunity, you might never get it again. But how can one break out of the circle of procrasti nation?

Break the Circle of Procrastination

To break the circle of procrastination, you must train yourself to start tasks and projects immediately they are conceived by you or assigned to you. It is very important to start immediately because;

- When you start at the right time, the resources are available.
- Resources are only scarce when there is no predicament. A predicament pushes you to the wall and brings out the best in you.
- It is a step of faith that God will honour. God is waiting for your step of faith before He will act.
- If you do not start, Satan will steal the blessing assigned to you. The Bible in John chapter 10 verses 10 calls him the thief because his work is to steal what God has prepared for you.

> ***The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy:***
>
> ***John 10:10***

Train yourself never to put off till tomorrow what you can do today.

3. **A diligent man is not slow or careless about opportunities**. Opportunities are precious to a diligent man hence he handles them quickly and carefully.

> ***The slothful man roasteth not that which he took in hunting: but the substance of a diligent man is precious.***

Proverbs 12:27

The slothful man in the scripture above did not roast or preserve the game he may have spent a significant part of his time hunting. His meat was not precious to him. This happens to some persons often. They spend a lot of their time and resources trying to acquire wealth but fail to do the little things required to complete the process they forget to roast their game. ***Diligence is therefore doing the one percent that is required to validate the ninety nine percent.***

If we must prosper, we must train ourselves to see and maximise opportunity quickly.

The Mystery of Opportunity

Opportunity disguises because it never wants to fall into the hands of lazy people, it gravitates towards positive people, unveils before daring people, multiplies for those who celebrate it, quickly becomes a mountain for the poor, frowns at fearful people, sings for the hoping, murders the ignorant, buries the fool and looks for investors.

In summary, a diligent man recognises opportunities, does not give excuses and quickly takes advantage of every opportunity for growth that comes his way. This diligence is what always puts him at the top and causes him to prosper.

Ruling by diligence

Diligent people always rule - they are always in-charge. The Bible says that their hands will bear rule.

The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

Proverbs 12:24

While the diligent will bear rule, the slothful man or the man with a slack hand will always remain under tribute. Tribute is a payment made by a ruler or state to another as a sign of submission. When the kings of old subdued a territory, that territory would begin to pay tribute to the king as a sign of submission to his authority and rule. Likewise a man who is not diligent will always serve and be under the rule of the diligent, subject to his decisions and actions.

Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.

Proverbs 22:29

But the place of the diligent man is with kings, not with mean or poor men. You can therefore set or determine your position in life, whether you want to take your place with the rich and wealthy or you want to sit amongst the poor.

If you want to prosper financially and become a success, you must be diligent in everything you do because only a diligent man can enjoy plenty

The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want.

Proverbs 21:5

CHAPTER FOUR

Train Your Mind For Consistency

The training for consistency is necessary if you will be financially prosperous and successful. Being consistent is the quality of achieving a level of performance which does not vary greatly in quality over time. It is the ability to maintain a particular standard or repeat a particular task with minimal variation. It is also the ability to conform to the same plan or course of action over time. A consistent person is stable irrespective of prevailing challenges; they have shock absorbers in them. By this I mean they have the ability to absorb challenges without allowing it change their direction or resolve. If you will enjoy financial prosperity, you must train your mind to be consistent regardless of the challenges that will arise in the pursuit of your vision. Consistency will help you develop routine and gain momentum to achieve our goals.

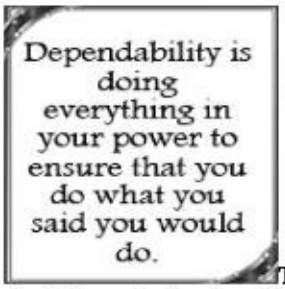
One of the reasons many people fail is inconsistency - they start a project today and are nowhere to be found tomorrow. Inconsistency has aborted the progress and prosperity of many. Most times when people start out on an endeavour, they begin with great enthusiasm, but when they face road blocks, many are unable to continue or be consistent.

> ***Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the Excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power: Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel;***

because thou wentest up to thy father's bed; then defiledst thou it: he went up to my couch.

Genesis 49:3-4

Instability also has the capacity to stop a man from prospering. We see this in the scriptures above where Jacob in his last days made a reference to this about his son Rueben.



The word unstable in the Hebrew is "*pachaz*". It means ebullition, boiling and constantly changing in state. According to the book of James, an inconsistent man is like the waves of the sea - up today and down tomorrow. And because of this inconsistency, he cannot receive anything from God. The Bible refers to him as being double minded and hence he is unstable in all his ways.

But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

James 1:6-8

The Importance of consistency

- Consistency gives you the ability to measure your progress. It helps determine

whether your plan of action is working so that you make changes where necessary.

- Consistency helps you create accountability. This means you say what you mean, mean what you say, and do what you say you are going to do.
- Consistency establishes your reputation. When you are consistent at doing what is required of you, you gain a good reputation and you invariably gain the trust of others
- Consistency helps you maintain your message or brand. In the world today, branding is everything as it determines the kind and level of patronage you will receive.
- Consistency helps you reach your goal as you are able to take the small steps that add up to meet them.
- Consistency makes you more efficient at what you do because what you do repeatedly you become better at.
- Consistency will give you Recognition. When you are consistent at what you do, you become known for that thing. This often leads people to you when they need such services.
- Consistency will help gain speed and ultimately help achieve your goals faster.
- Consistency will give you credibility and makes you trustworthy. No one wants to associate or work with an inconsistent person. When you are a consistent person, you inspire the trust and confidence of others.

Elements of Consistency

Persistence: the first element or characteristic of consistency is persistence. To be persistent is to be incessant and unrelenting, to continue tenaciously and obstinately despite problems or difficulties. It is to be determined, dogged, stubborn and tireless until a task or goal is achieved. Therefore anyone who claims to be consistent must be persistent. He must work doggedly until he gets the desired result no matter how slow the process may seem, even if he has to repeat the process over and over again.

Commitment: The second element of consistency is commitment. Commitment is loyalty, devotion or dedication to a cause, person or relationship. A consistent man is one that is ded icated or committed to whatever is assigned to him. To be consistent you must be dedicated to making your business or chosen endeavour work. This dedication reflects in how much time and resources you are willing to invest into your work. So you cannot say you are committed or dedicated to a cause without the willingness to give what is required to make it work. Commitment therefore is giving that is required to make things work.

Discipline: A Consistent man is a disciplined man. A disciplined man is one who can make himself do something regularly, act or work in a controlled and systematic way without been coerced or forced. He is one who has self control and self restraint. Therefore to be consistent, you must be a disciplined person, one who is able to restrain himself to do what he is supposed to do when he is supposed to do it.

Patience: Another element or characteristic of consistency is patience. This is the capacity to endure waiting, delay or provocation without becoming annoyed or upset. It is to persevere calmly when faced with a difficult situation. Also a consistent man is one that has staying power and stamina, one who can wait even when output is far below forecast or expectation. Many persons have lost their ideas and opportunities to others because of impatience. A man who is consistent in what he does is a man who will prosper the God way, because he has the capacity to wait for his seed to produce his harvest.

Dependability: a person of consistency is dependable. To be dependable is to be reliable, trustworthy, constant and sure. This means that a dependable man is capable of being depended on and is one whose words can be trusted. A dependable man is also one who is able to provide what is needed by others irrespective of time, distance, cost, and other variables. Dependability is doing everything in your power to ensure that you do what you said you would do. You must therefore train yourself to be someone that others can depend on to deliver goods and services within specified or agreed timelines without fear of disappointment.

How to develop Consistency

Having understood the importance and elements of consistency and its relevance to prospering the God way, we will now consider some ways you can develop consistency.

- Make a conscious decision to be consistent
- Have a plan-Set specific goals
- Know your objectives Clearly define what you want to achieve

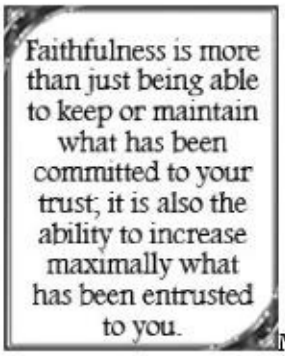
- Measure your performance regularly
- Avoid laziness and complacency
- Avoid making decisions based on your feeling and emotions. Remember that feelings are temporary and subjective.
- Create a feedback system - This will help you measure your progress.
- Revise your concept of time- the only time you have is right now.
- Be realistic - Set realistic goals.
- Make sure your actions match your words - Always do what you say.
- Eliminate negative thoughts - they can reduce your motivation
- Introduce change slowly- making sudden changes can upset the balance of your system.
- Hold yourself accountable - Do not give excuses for yourself.
- Use critical visualisation - Spend time to visualise the expected outcome of your task.
- Plan for failure- Always have a back-up plan

Add faithfulness to Consistency

Being consistent and stable is one step but you need to add faithfulness to your consistency. While being consistent is being stable and the ability to maintain a particular standard, faithfulness is the ability to multiply whatever has been put in your care this is a very important seed for promotion, and it is one of the first requirements for financial prosperity. A man who wants to prosper must be faithful.

Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

1Corinthians 4:2



Most times when the word 'faithfulness' is used, it is in reference to the ability to keep together and maintain what has been committed to your trust or, it can also mean reliability, loyalty, unwavering belief and dedication. But faithfulness is more than just being able to keep or maintain what has been committed to your trust; it is also the ability to increase maximally what has been entrusted to you. This will determine the level of wealth and increase that will come to you.

The parable of Jesus in Mathew chapter 25 buttresses this;

> ***For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. And likewise he that had received two, he also gained***

other two. But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his Lord's money.

Matthew 25:14-18

The master in the scripture above gave his servants talents so that they would trade with it and bring returns on the investment. He gave these talents to them based on their ability. This means that they all had the ability to multiply the investment of their master. Two of them traded and brought returns on the investment and one did not .We see what happens to them in the next verses.

And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. His Lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord. He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine. His Lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not

strawed: Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 25:20

The one who had received ten talents multiplied the investment by one hundred percent and he was made ruler over many kingdoms. The one who had two talents was also rewarded because he also multiplied his investment by a hundred percent.

I want you to notice that their master called them good and faithful. They were adjudged good because they did not incur losses for their master and they were considered faithful because they multiplied his investment a hundred fold. But the one with the one talent did nothing with his and this incurred the wrath of his master. His master expected him to at least give his investment to the bank so that he can make returns no matter how small, but he did not. We can see clearly that he did not receive any reward instead he was cast into outer darkness.

And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 25:30

This shows us God's mind about faithfulness; He expects us to multiply all that is given to us no matter how small the percentage. So being good and consistent is not enough, you have to add faithfulness to goodness to prosper the God way.

In Luke's Account of this same parable, we see that they were both rewarded based on their capacity.

> ***Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds.And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities. And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds.And he said likewise to him, Be thou also over five cities.***
>
> ***Luke 19:16-19***

Notice that one was given authority over ten cities and the other five. They were both rewarded based on what they had produced. This shows us something else about God. God will not increase you beyond your capacity so that you will not incur losses. You therefore need to develop your capacity to handle more because capacity is the seed for trust

In your walk with God and in your interaction with men, you must train your mind to be faithful. You must increase everything given to you at least by one percent. This is necessary if we must enjoy financial prosperity.

The Benefits of Faithfulness

1. **A faithful man increases substance.**

His Lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.

Matthew 25:21

The good and faithful servants were made Lord over many more things thereby increasing their substance and possessions. If you must increase your substance, you must be faithful with whatever has been committed to you by God and Man.

2. **A faithful man is favoured.**

Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

Matthew 25:28

Although both servants were favoured and rewarded, the servant with the five talents was favoured over the one with two and was given the talent of the wicked and slothful servant. The level of favour he however experienced was tied to his capacity and his ability to function or produce to his capacity. Therefore, if you want to enjoy more favour, develop your capacity to handle more and produce results at that capacity.

3. **A faithful man is made ruler.**

Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his Lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?

Matthew 24:45

> ***....I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord. Matthew 25:21b***

A man who is faithful is always made ruler over much because he has proven his ability to handle much.

> ***He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.***
>
> ***Luke 16:10***

How you handle the little given to you is an automatic indicator of what you will do when you are given much.

Also, so many persons are not faithful with the business of others because they think that they do not have to be. What they do not understand is that that mindset is the reason they have not received theirs.

> ***And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?***
>
> ***Luke 16:12***

How faithful you are with another man's business would determine if you will be given yours. Therefore, make a commitment to be a faithful person, be determined to not only manage what is put in your trust but to multiply it maximally. This is one way to prosper.

CHAPTER FIVE

Train Your Mind For Integrity

Integrity is a virtue that is fast becoming almost non-existent in today's world. Most People are more concerned about the quickest way to succeed rather than taking time to train and develop themselves. The lack of integrity is the reason for compromise.

Integrity refers to the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles. To have integrity is to be upright, sincere and honourable, and to maintain your guiding principles without succumbing to external pressure. It is a personal choice to hold oneself to moral and ethical standards. It is the consistency of character over a period of time and it is based on internally consistent framework of principles.

According to the renowned author C.S Lewis, it is doing the right thing even when no one is watching - the opposite being hypocrisy. The mind set of integrity often proceeds from an understanding that God is watching and he values integrity

God values integrity, he values men who are upright in their ways and keep their integrity regardless of their situation. I want you to See God's testimony about Job in the scripture below;

> ***And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me***

against him, to destroy him without cause.

Job 2:3

And even when the Lord permitted Satan to touch his household and his goods, he choose to maintain his integrity and God blessed in the end.

God forbid that I should justify you: till I die I will not remove mine integrity from me.

Job 27:5

And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

Job 42:10

King David was also a man who walked in great integrity before God. He became the standard by which God walked with man after him;

And if thou wilt walk before me, as David thy father walked, in integrity of heart, and in uprightness, to do according to all that I have commanded thee, and wilt keep my statutes and my judgments:

1Kings9:4

I also want you to see his own testimony about his resolve to maintain the integrity of his heart before the Lord and because of David's integrity, he enjoyed the blessing of God.

A Psalm of David. Judge me, O LORD; for I have walked in mine integrity: I have trusted also in the LORD; therefore I shall not slide.

Psalm 26:1

But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity: redeem me, and be merciful unto me.

Psalm 26:11

And as for me, thou upholdest me in mine integrity, and settest me before thy face for ever.

Psalm 41:12

If you want enjoy a high level of relationship and fellowship with God like David, you must resolve to be a person of integrity.

Benefits of Integrity

1. A man of integrity is supernaturally preserved by God. For the integrity of his heart, God ensures that he incurs no losses; and because that which he has is preserved, he can accumulate riches and become wealthy in time.

Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee.

Psalm 25:21

2. A man of integrity enjoys supernatural guidance. He will be guided in his choices so that he will not make losses in his business and endeavours. The Spirit of God would lead him and teach him to make profit.

The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

Proverb 11:3

Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

Isaiah 48:17

3. A man of integrity will enjoy the mercy of God. Even in times of famine and recession, the Spirit of the Lord will protect his business and his profit. He will not be easily wiped out or disadvantaged.

> ***But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity: redeem me, and be merciful unto me.***
>
> ***Psalm 26:11***

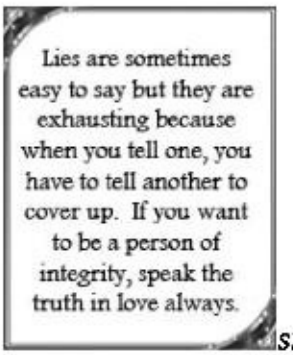
4. A man of integrity enjoys the favour of God continuously. When he sets out to accomplish a thing, God sets him up for favour by sending him helpers and causing him to prosper wherever he goes.

> ***And as for me, thou upholdest me in mine integrity, and settest me before thy face for ever.***
>
> ***Psalm 41:12***

5. A man of integrity has his offspring blessed by God. Not only does God ensure that a man of integrity prospers, He also blesses his children and causes them to be favoured.

> ***The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.***
>
> ***Proverb 20:7***

How to walk in Integrity



1. ***Shun evil:*** A person of integrity shuns evil. He does not resort to wrong doing or evil just to meet his needs or to solve his problems. If you want to be a person of integrity learn to follow the prescribed way things are done. For instance, a person who resorts to defrauding or cheating other people in a bid to meet a need or to forge ahead in business is not exhibiting integrity. His need may be legitimate but it will never validate his actions. As a believer your challenges are the true test of your character. So choose to shun evil no matter the cost or consequence. This is what makes you a person of integrity worthy of being prospered by God.

2. ***Speak the truth always:*** A person of integrity is always truthful irrespective of the consequences. Some persons speak the truth only when it will benefit them but under pressure they quickly change their minds. Train yourself never to lie because when you lie, you create falsehood and withhold reality. It is harmful to the recipient because it presents them with a distortion of reality. It is also one of the quickest ways to destroy your reputation. Lies are sometimes easy to say but they are ex hausting because when you tell one, you have to

tell another to cover up. If you want to be a person of integrity, speak the truth in love always.

3. ***Be accurate:*** it is not enough to say the truth; you must train yourself to always give accurate information about issues when you are asked. A person of integrity does not deliberately overestimate or exaggerate issues neither does he deliberately withhold information or underestimate issues. He paints the exact picture of things without trying to colour it. It is good to celebrate success but you must know where to draw the line. Train yourself never to stretch the truth in other to impress people or pretend to agree with someone in other to avoid conflict.

4. ***Be accountable:*** accountability is the acknowledgement and assumption of actions, decisions, products, and policies. To be accountable therefore is to have a sense of responsibility for your behaviour and your actions. Some persons never want to be audited and others never want to be corrected. A person of accountability is transparent always willing to undergo scrutiny, and when he is corrected or is found wanting, he accepts responsibility and takes actions for change.

5. ***Be Respectful:*** A person of integrity shows respect for the rights and opinion of others and does not attempt to force his opinion on them. You show respect by learning to listen when concerns are brought to you and always considering how your decisions impact on others. Regardless of what they do for a living, how much money they make, and where they live, people want to be respected. Everyone is unique and different, so respect their space and boundaries. Furthermore, do not lash out with personal at-

tacks on people, when you are wrong admit it and if someone else has a better plan and idea, admit it, support it and use it. This will also give you their respect in return and earn you their favour in your business dealings.

6. ***Do not compromise:*** To compromise is simply to deviate or shift from a previously established standard. Sometimes, it is not necessarily doing something evil, it is unethical concession in a bid to achieve something. No matter how much you want something, if the actions required to acquire it compromise your faith and your standards, choose not to compromise. Also if the opportunity is not in line with your original vision and plan for yourself, never compromise - it is usually never worth it. A person of integrity does not compromise on his standards because of incentives. Know who you are and what you want for yourself and stick to it. To live above compromise, resolve to honour God in all your business decisions.

7. ***Be Trustworthy:*** Trustworthiness is the quality of a person or thing that inspires reliability. A person can therefore be said to be trustworthy if he can be relied on to deliver as at when due and this makes them worthy of trust. Being trusted by others is one of the things you would require to succeed in business and to prosper in all your endeavours. As one who wants to succeed, you must train yourself to be trust worthy. Another characteristic of a trust worthy person is keeping one's promise. A trustworthy person also maintains confidentiality except it would result in the physical harm of another. When people confide in you about their challenges, train yourself to keep it confidential.

Build your character

A man of integrity is a man of great character. The character of a man can determine to a great extent whether he will prosper or not. A lot of persons have character traits that have made them lose favour with God and with man. Many before have lost important positions and opportunities because of the character traits they display. No one will commit a thing of great worth to a man with a negative character or personality traits. There is a popular saying that your attitude determines your altitude; this is true because your character determines how high you can go in life.

Your character is the sum total of the traits that are acquired over time by learning and experience. No man is born with a good or bad character- it is a learned behaviour. They are learned qualities that make a person or thing distinctive or distinct from others and these qualities can determine whether a man will fail or succeed.



Character is a person's temperament, personality and disposition towards people and things. Some persons do not know how to relate well and are always in contention with others. Some others cannot control their temper so they always end up doing things they later regret. Their remorse however does not always negate or reverse the consequences or effect of their actions. We see a very

exhaustive list of negative personality traits in Galatians chapter 5 from verse 19.

> ***Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like:***
>
> ***Galatians 5:19***

However, no matter how bad your character may be, you can change.

Changing by the Word

The role of the word of God in the process of change cannot be over emphasized. The word of God is the tool for lasting change. When you get saved, your spirit is recreated in the image of Christ but you have to renew your mind with the word of God because your actions are products of your thoughts.

> ***And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.***
>
> ***Romans 12:2***

How you act is a product of how you think. Therefore an attempt to change an action without changing the mindset behind the action will only bring a temporary change. Paul therefore instructs to put off the old man by renewing in the attitude of our minds.

> ***That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the de-***

ceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

Ephesians 4:22-23

As you put off the old man and begin to renew your mind, your actions will begin to change and your relationship with other people will begin to improve. Your relationship with men is very important because men are the tools with which God can open doors of favour and prosperity unto you. But we cannot develop good relationships with them if we have bad character traits.

Here are a few tips to help you develop good relationships that can catapult you into financial prosperity.

1. ***Use kind words.*** When dealing with people, learn to use kind words like thank you, please, and I am sorry.
2. ***Learn to greet first at all times.*** Some persons always wait to be greeted first before they greet others. People who know themselves and their worth do not need the greeting of others to validate their status or authority.
3. ***Learn to use compliments.*** It is important to learn how to compliment people without crossing boundaries and using flatteries. Although some official polices do not allow this, you can compliment people outside your work. Compliments make people put down their guards and give you their attention.
4. ***Do not use words that suggest direct disagreement with others.*** People become defensive when they sense any form of disapproval or disagreement. Try to avoid using words like 'No' directly. You can use words like 'I don't think so' or 'our policy does not allow that'. These words soften

the effect of the message you intend to pass across.

5. ***Speak evil of no one.*** Learn to sit on the fence in third party conversations. Try to elevate the qualities of both parties and seek opportunities to give an excuse for the absent party.

6. ***Watch out for opportunities to render helping hand.*** People who understand the power of relationships do not shy away from rendering help. In fact they watch out for it because they know that sometimes all it takes is helping the right person. This must however be done with wisdom and caution as some in a bid to help others have entered into trouble themselves.

7. ***Learn to smile and be humorous irrespective of your mood.*** This attracts people to you because people love to stay around those who are humorous and make them smile.

8. ***Improve your communication skills.*** In your attempt to build better relationships, you have to improve your communication skill. You may need to improve how you communicate grammatically or in respect to your syntax-how you organise words in sentences.

9. ***Dress to match or beat expectations.*** How you dress is another important factor in building good relationships. It determines the kind of people that come to you and how they perceive you. So you have to dress to either match or beat their expectations. This does not imply luxury; it is simply ensuring that what you wear is first clean, well ironed, organised, colour coordinated, and appropriate.

10. ***Recall good and appreciate it.*** In your quiet moment, do not only think about yourself or the wrong that people have done to you. Learn to recall the good people have done for you as a matter of habit and consider how you may show appreciation to such persons.

Walking in love

As believers, we already have the nature of God in us hence we can develop Godly and goodly character traits. I stated earlier on that character traits are learned so they can be unlearned. No matter how bad your character is, you can change. It however takes walking in the Spirit to achieve this.

> ***If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.***
>
> ***Galatians 5:25***

> ***This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.***
>
> ***Galatians 5:16***

One of the major ways to walk in the Spirit is to walk in love. Galatians chapter 5 verse 22 highlights this and more.

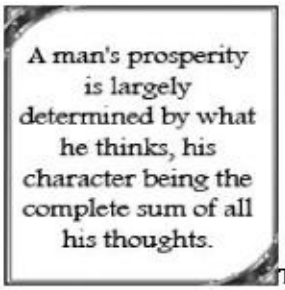
> ***But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.***
>
> ***Galatians 5:22***

If we must develop good character traits that will bring us favour and financial prosperity we must walk in love towards all men, regardless of their position or status. But what does it mean to love? What are the characteristics of true love? The scripture below shows us.

Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth.....

1Corinthians 13:4-8a

So we can see that true love is not just emotional - it is deliberate and requires a commitment. If we must walk in love, we must behave beyond our feelings.



The characteristics of love are what we all must work until it becomes a part of us. Developing a goodly character takes time and consistency. Therefore you must not give up even when you make mistakes. You must continue until true love is perfected in you.

We have been given the Holy Spirit to help us become who God has made us. So if you have challenges in your quest to develop a better character, ask him to help you because he is the ever present help in time of need.

CHAPTER SIX

Train Your Mind To Never Accept Defeat

The poverty of many today is traceable to a mind-set that gives up easily. People who will prosper never accept defeat and never give up. They know that there is always a way out of every predicament, and this mentality is what eventually makes them successful. There are two major aspects in which you can train your mind not to accept defeat.

Train your mind to think positively

This is a passive way of training your mind. The thoughts that we dwell on make up who we are and our surroundings. Everything in your life today, whether you are rich or poor, and every phase of your life has been conditioned by your thoughts. A man's prosperity is largely deter mined by what he thinks, his character being the complete sum of all his thoughts. You can therefore condition your life and future by the thoughts you choose to entertain now. We see this in the verse below;

> ***For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he:***
>
> ***Proverbs 23:7***

The word *'thinketh'* in the Hebrew means to calculate, reckon or estimate. So we can say that as a man calculates or estimates in his mind so is he. When we entertain positive thoughts we are conditioning ourselves to work out and experience positive things and vice versa - such is the power of positive thinking. If you do not give up in your mind, you will not give up. So the training not to accept defeat begins with strengthen-

ing your mind with positive thoughts and projections

Positive thinking is not wishful thinking or day dreaming - it is a way of thinking that activates a way of acting that eventually determines the reality of a man. I want you to see what God said about the power of imagination in the scripture below;

> ***And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.***
>
> ***Genesis 11:6***

God himself declared that nothing could be denied them because they had imagined to do it- they had set their mind to accomplish it. Your imagination can create the necessary power and ability to accomplish a thing.

Every action taken is always preceded by a thought. Therefore people accept defeat or give up because they thought it. The purpose of positive thinking therefore is to create the necessary energy and motivation to carry on and to keep doing what is required for success.

Many believers have not been able to master their thought life. They focus on the negative things and end up having same old experiences. This is a spiritual principle - what you fear slowly gravitates towards your life. I want you to see the statement of Job in Job chapter 3 verse 25;

> ***For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me.***
>
> ***Job 3:25***

If you contemplate failure and defeat, you will fail! So you can determine your experiences in life by what you think. Choose positive thoughts and you will have more positive experiences. Think thoughts of prosperity and you would prosper. Philippians chapter 4 verse 8 shows us the things to put our thoughts on.

> ***Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.***
>
> ***Philippians 4:8***

The Apostle Paul instructs us to focus our thoughts on what is true rather than on the lies of the devil. God word says you are blessed and prosperous, any other thought that Satan brings to you is a lie. God's word says his grace his sufficient for you so, meditate and think on this consistently and giving up will be far from your mind. The Bible says his thoughts towards you are good, to give you a hope and a future.

> ***For I know the plans i have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plan to give you a hope and a future.***
>
> ***Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)***

To help you further, I have highlighted some tips that would help you begin your journey in developing a consistently positive mindset.

Tips to developing a positive mindset

1. Dream big. Visualise the outcome of every project or goal you set out to accom-

plish.

2. Talk right. Use words that bring hope and faith into your heart.
3. Increase you expectation.
4. Eliminate negative thoughts.
5. Take daily steps towards your goal.
6. Focus on the positive things in your life
7. Disassociate yourself from people who think and talk negatively.
8. Minimise the time you spend on Television
9. Avoid negative talk. Never use words like 'I cannot do it' or 'it cannot be done'
10. Surround yourself with positive people
11. Regularly make a list of things you are grateful for.
12. Meditate on the word of God.

Train your mind to search for solutions

This is a more active aspect of training your mind not to accept defeat. It is not enough to think positively and never accept defeat. You must train yourself to deliberately search for solutions. If everyone says there is no way out, do not accept their conclusion. In training your mind to ask questions, you can engage the following;

Think: Spend time to think a little more than you presently do. You may need to adjust your ideas and plans as you move on but train yourself to think until you find a way out of your challenges. You must understand that there is no problem without a solution and if you will engage your mind long enough, you will find the solution.

Ask questions: There are people who have gone before you in your field of endeavour and have already succeeded where you are struggling. If you have access to them, ask questions. This may save you the stress of having to learn by your mistakes.

Research: information on just about every topic or issue is readily available today in books, journals and articles. So you should spend time to research and you might just come up with the information you need to resolve your challenges.

Pray: God specialises in making a way in the wilderness and stream in the desert. This is your advantage as child of God. Even where seems to be no way, God can make a way

> ***Thus saith the LORD, which maketh a way in the sea, and a path in the mighty waters;***
>
> ***Isaiah 43:16***

The fact that there seems to be no way does not mean that there is no way. There is always a way. And if you will engage the help of the Holy Spirit you will find it.

You can also engage the power of meditative prayer. This is engaging the help of the Holy Ghost by praying in tongues as you think your way through. As you pray, the Holy Spirit activates and optimizes the capacity of your mind to search for solutions. So you should never be defeated or have to give up. There is way! Search for it.

CHAPTER SEVEN

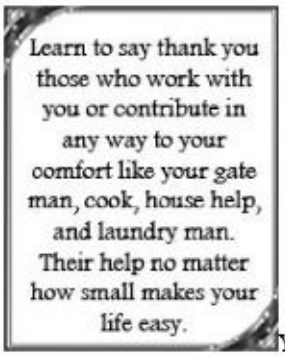
Train Your Mind To

Show Appreciation

Every man who wants to prosper must train his mind to be appreciative. Most people know appreciation as just being grateful for what people have done for them but there are two major aspects to appreciation.

Appreciation for what people do: Appreciation in this regard refers to being grateful for what people have done for or still do for you. It is a feeling and show of gratitude for something done or received. I want you to notice that it is not just a feeling but also a show or display of gratitude. Hence you cannot claim to be grateful just because you feel it, you have to show it. True gratitude reflects in your words and reciprocal action. So to be grateful is to endeavour to display your gratitude to those who help and support you.

You can express your appreciation with your words. Learn to always thank those who work with you, support your business, clients and staff etc. Also learn to say thank you to everyone who helps you even those who help in the minutest things. Learn to say thank you those who work with you or contribute in any way to your comfort like your gate man, cook, house help, and laundry man. Their help no matter how small makes your life easy.



You can also express your appreciation with actions. More than just saying thank you, you need to sometimes learn to go the extra mile in showing gratitude. Be creative in expressing your gratitude. You may buy them a gift no matter how small, send them messages, make special call, surprise them and be there for them in their time of need. Do not take any form of help for granted. Learn to show your gratitude irrespective of how small or big the help or support may have been. Your Appreciation may open doors to you for more.

Appreciation for who people are: Furthermore, it is important to appreciate people for who they are, especially those who are better than you or have attained more success in the area you are striving to succeed in order to gain mentorship. It is wisdom to recognise that everyone is not equal or at the same level with you, hence they should not be treated the same way. There are those who have gone before you and have made a success out of their lives. The fact that they have succeeded already shows that there is something they know and understand that you do not, and they have something to contribute for your success. Having this perception translates into appreciation, which often translates into a mentorship relationship.

The importance of mentorship

We cannot sufficiently cover the subject of financial prosperity without shedding light on the importance of mentors. In fact, the role of a mentor on the road to financial success cannot be over-emphasized. Many have failed and many more are failing today because they do not have mentors to guide and help them in their development. If we must become financially prosperous and enjoy lasting success, we must engage the help of mentors.

Apostle Paul makes a reference to mentors in 1Corinthians chapter 4 verse 15

> ***For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.***
>
> ***1Corinthians 4:15***

Although his focus in this scripture is on the role of fathers, he nevertheless underscores the need for many instructors - mentors. The mistakes and failure of many can therefore be traced to the lack of good mentorship - someone who would have guided them to make better choices.

Who is a Mentor?

A mentor is an individual more experienced, who helps and guides another individual by building trust and modelling positive behaviour. A mentor is a wise and trusted counsellor- One who trains, advises, shares his practical experiences with some else. To have a mentor therefore is to have someone who encourages, advices, teaches and guides you in the right direction.

The Role of a mentor

Although we may have a lot of kind and helpful people around us, not all of them are mentors. I have therefore outlined the role of a mentor to aid you in identifying and maximizing a mentorship relationship.

- A mentor gives advice and recommendations to help or assist in a matter or course of action. He is a wise counsellor.
- A mentor guides and leads in the right direction. He steers a mentee in the right direction and show him the way to go.
- A mentor listens, encourages and provides support
- A mentor helps to identify and solve problems
- A mentor has gained some experience and success in a particular field and thus passes on knowledge and experience

The Benefits of Mentorship

- A mentor can promote your growth and development thereby making you work better and efficiently.
- A mentor can help you to define and achieve your goals.
- A mentor can provide accountability which will guide you and help you achieve your goals as stipulated.
- A mentor can provide you trusted counsel in life decisions.
- A mentor can share valuable experience that will help avoid some major life and career pitfalls.

- A mentor can give you perspective that will help you think outside the box.
- A mentor can help you expand your contacts by introducing you to the right people thereby opening doors needed to actualize your goals.
- A mentor can inspire you by his teachings and achievements.

Finding a mentor

Many persons know the importance of having a mentor but do not know how to find one, especially in their area of interest. I have highlighted some points that can help you find a good mentor.

Look around You: A lot of persons do not have good mentors because they think they have to look very far from them. The first step to finding a mentor is to look around you. There are people around you who are wiser and more experienced than you in your area of interest. Meet them and make your intention known to them. If by opportunity you meet one far from you that is willing to mentor you, that is great but there is no need looking far for what you have close to you.

Get recommendations: If you are having problems finding a mentor, talk to people about it and get recommendations.

Ask the Holy Spirit: The Holy Spirit is in your life to guide you and show you what to do, so ask him in prayer to lead you and guide you to a mentor suited for your future.

Be persistent: in finding a good mentor you have to be persistent. Even if you are rejected by some, do not stop looking for another. Sometimes your choice of a mentor may not be willing because of previous experiences they have

had with other mentees. You have to be persistent and show your commitment to the process of mentorship.

Also in finding a mentor, here are some questions you need to ask yourself;

1. In what areas of my life do I need mentorship?
2. What kind of a mentor do I need?
3. Is my potential mentor available and accessible?
4. Does the person provide opportunities for me to learn and grow?
5. Does the person help me develop my potential and capabilities?
6. Does the person have wisdom and experience in the area of my interest?

How to benefit from a mentor

Many people have mentors but do not benefit from them. Having a mentor is the first step towards mentorship. There are things you must do to begin to enjoy the benefits of a mentor. Below are some of them;

- In working with your mentor, it is important to respectfully communicate your expectations to your mentor at the beginning of the process. I also recommend that you ask your mentor to communicate what he expects from you during the process. This will define your actions and the activities you will engage in.

- Be sincere, real and authentic: In working with your mentor, you do not need to pre-

tend to be who you are not or pretend to know what you do not know. You need to be real and sincere about your true state. This will show your mentor you are humble and also give him direction about how to help you.

- Meet all goals: To benefit maximally from your mentor, it is important that you attempt to meet all goals and tasks set by your mentor. This will show your seriousness and commitment to the process.

- Respect your mentor's time: Ensure that you meet all scheduled appointments on time. This shows your level of respect for your mentor.

- Work together: To enjoy your mentor, you need to learn how to work with them. You need to learn to participate in whatever task they engage in. This will give you first-hand experience about how they work and also increase your knowledge base.

- Apply: Apply what you learn and report back to your mentor. This shows your dedication to the learning process and how much you value the instruction or advice of your mentor.

- Offer anything you can in return: Many people fail when it comes to this. You do not have to have too much to give in return. You can do this by simply running an errand for your mentor, buying a gift no matter how small or, remembering to celebrate important days in their lives e.g. wedding anniversary, birthday etc. This

shows your gratitude to your mentor and
can buy you more favour and preference.

CHAPTER EIGHT

Train Your Mind To Prioritize

Priority is the right of precedence - it is having the right to be ranked above others. To prioritize therefore is to designate or treat (something) as being very or most important.

A man who wants to prosper must master the art of prioritization. He must know what comes first.

According to Business Dictionary, setting priorities is to determine the order for dealing with (a series of items or tasks) according to their relative importance. As a principle, it means doing 'first things first;' as a process, it means evaluating a group of items and ranking them in their order of importance or urgency. A man who wants to prosper must master the art of prioritization. He must know what comes first.

We see in Genesis chapter 1, that when God created the earth, he created in order of their priority. On the first day, he created light because the first thing needed in the dark and chaotic world was light;

> ***In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there***

was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

Genesis 1:1-5

All through the chapter, we see that over the next five days God created every other necessary creature before he created man on the sixth day,

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Genesis 1:27-28

I want you to notice the order in which God created. He did not create man until he had created all he would need to survive and function. After creating things, God created man. That is order!

God made sure to provide all that man would need for his sustenance and comfort before creating man. This is what it means to prioritize. If you must succeed you must train your mind to put things in order. Order is the ability to put first things first and the understanding of sequence. It also knowing how things rank

Jesus also emphasizes this important principle in the scripture below;

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Matthew 6:33

Although the scripture above is in direct reference to seeking the kingdom, it emphasizes the principle that there are things that must come first and then others can follow. As a person who desires to prosper the God way, you must never put the cart before the horse - know what should come first and put them there. No matter how great your ideas and plans may be, you may never experience success if you do not know how to put things in their right position.

The Importance of Prioritization

1. It helps you save time.
2. It helps you focus your energy to achieve more rather than dissipating it and achieving little.
3. Prioritizing will help you make better choices and will enable you achieve your goals faster.
4. It will help focus only on the most important tasks rather than on convenient and pleasure driven activities.
5. It will enable you get more work done with less effort.
6. Prioritizing will allow you to be more productive and less stressed.

Important Considerations in Prioritization

Prioritization is a process that must be approached systematically. You must begin by recognizing the various categories into which the tasks before you belong to be able to assign appropriate levels of priority to each. Hence there are some activity categories that may help you prioritize correctly.

1. **Optional Activities:** These are activities that have no direct consequence on your success. You can easily opt out of them without any negative effect. Certain activities like entertainment, tourism may fall under this category. When prioritizing, such activities must be given the least priority.

2. **Life Activities:** These include activities that are normal with life. They are not really optional but are important in your day to day living. These include servicing your re lationships, communicating with family and friends, exercise etc. These activities help you to live and function successfully in your environment. They should be given a higher priority than the optional activities.

3. **Important Activities:** These play a major role in determining the achievement of your goal. They are important because they are things that you have to do in line with your present goals. For example, when you are trying to relocate your business office, going out for property inspection is an important activity and should be given a higher priority than your Life activities.

4. **Critical Activities:** There are tasks that must finish today. They are critical to the achievement of your goals and come with significant consequences when not completed to time. You therefore have to prioritize them and even stay late to complete them if need be. For instance, if you are going for a bid tomorrow, completing the bid documents is a critical activity that must finish today.

5. **Intervening Activities:** These are urgent activities that just come up and were not

planned for, yet determining whether or not you would achieve your goal. For example, if the power supply to your office suddenly cuts off, you may have to pause on even a critical activity to fix this because without power in your office, you might not be able to carry out even a seemingly critical activity like preparing your bid. In this case, sourcing for an alternative power source is an intervening activity and must be given topmost priority.

Tips for effective prioritization

1. ***Create a list of all your tasks:*** Pull together everything you could possibly consider getting done in a day or within a specific period of time. Do not worry about the order, or the number of items up front. Just create a list of all you need to get done within a specified period of time. This would give you a general overview of what you have to achieve.

2. ***Identify their order of importance:*** The next step is to see if you have any tasks that need immediate attention. These are activities that if not completed by the end of the day or within a particular period you will have serious negative consequences.

3. ***Analyze the Consequences:*** There will be times where you are not sure how you are going to be able to get everything done. If you have several things that are pressing for your attention and you are not sure how to prioritize, consider the consequences of not getting the work done or not meeting the deadline. You may also want to take into consideration the impact of that task on your project, income, client or your goals in general.

4. ***Estimate the value:*** You also need to look at your important activities and identify what carries the highest value to your business and organization. This will help you ascertain where to begin your work.

5. ***Arrange your tasks by estimated time and effort:*** If you have tasks that seem to tie for priority standing, start on whichever one you think will take the most effort and time to complete. It is often better to start the lengthier task first.

6. ***Set Personal Deadlines:*** it is also important to set personal deadlines that will guide you as you work. Your personal deadline should be shorter than the tasks specified deadline to leave allowance in the advent of any road blocks or challenges.

CHAPTER NINE

Train Your Mind To Look Beyond The Past

Successful people are not those who never fell or failed. They are those despite their fall or failure had the courage to rise up and try again and continued until they attained success. Their success is therefore a product of their ability to forgive and to forget the past and move on towards their purpose. This is a training you must possess. You must train your mind to forgive, forget and push towards your set goals

Learn to Forgive

The feeling of condemnation and guilt is one the greatest obstacles to enjoying the blessing of God and developing good relationships with people. This feeling stops you from appropriating available benefits and resources because of a perceived displeasure as a result of your actions. This is why you must train your mind to forgive.

The first area of focus is training your mind to forgive yourself, but to forgive yourself you have to learn how to receive God's forgiveness. No matter how bad your past may have been or the mistakes you made, you must know that if you come to God in repentance he is faithful and just to forgive you.

> ***If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.***
>
> ***1 John 1:9***

Even if you have participated in ungodly financial practices before or have defrauded or deceived others to get ahead, you have to know

that there is forgiveness for you if you come truly repentant and willing to change.

Beyond that is possessing an understanding that forgiveness is one of the benefits in your package of salvation, so that if you sin, forgiveness is always available.

> ***In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;***
>
> ***Ephesians 1:7***

> ***In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:***
>
> ***Colossians 1:14***

Those of us in Christ have redemption from the nature of sin and also have forgiveness if we sin. God made this available to us because of his great love and mercy. The scriptures say that he has separated your sins from you as far as the east is from the west

> ***As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.***
>
> ***Psalm 103:12***

So, receive and celebrate this provision of forgiveness that God has made available to you. Refuse to allow guilt and condemnation hold you down. If you have followed after wealth the way of the world by cheating, defrauding, deceit, cutting corners etc., you can retrace your steps back home like the prodigal son, and your father God will be waiting with arms wide open for you.

> ***I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have***

sinned against heaven, and before thee, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

Luke 15:18-20

You can start afresh with God and begin to operate the principles of the God kind of prosperity I have expounded throughout this book, and the hand of God will begin to move you into the wealth your heart desires.

Forgiving Others

Furthermore, you need to train your mind to forgive others. As God forgives you, you are obligated to forgive others.

For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Matthew 6:14-15

Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven:

Luke 6:37

The only condition attached to you receiving forgiveness is forgiving others. In the book of Matthew chapter 18 we see Jesus speak about the servant who was forgiven his debt but refused to forgive another;

The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have

patience with me, and I will pay thee all. Then the Lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.

Matthew 18:26-30

Because this ungrateful servant refused to forgive, he lost his own forgiveness.

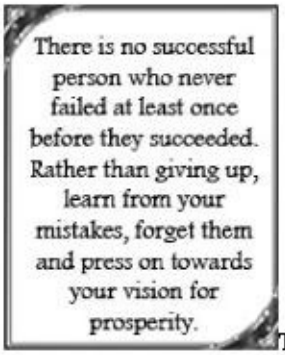
And his Lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

Matthew 18:34-35

In the same manner, No matter how deeply people have offended you, you have to forgive. In fact you are instructed to forgive seventy times seven times;

Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

Matthew 18:21-22



This means God expects you to continually forgive others no matter how many times they offend or hurt you. There are many people today who are being held down by poverty. They seek prayer and work so hard, but prosperity evades them. They wonder because they get so close to prospering but it never happens. This is because of the unforgiveness that resides in their heart. Just like the wicked servant, they are imprisoned.

According to our earlier definition, prosperity is taking steps forward which you and I know cannot be possible when someone is in prison. This is why people who have unforgiveness in their hearts cannot prosper. As you are reading this, you must make a list of the people you hold in your heart and release them by forgiving them so that your prosperity may come speedily.

Forgetting the past

It is also necessary as you move towards wealth and success to forget the past. There are two aspects to this. The first is to forget the past mistakes and errors. Apostle Paul's declaration in the scripture below affirms this;

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

Philippians 3:13

Training your mind to forget the past will cause your mind to be released to press toward the mark.

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:14

Put your past mistakes and failures behind you. Thinking on meditating on them will only create fear in you and also deplete your energy, drive and desire to want to try again. It will also affect your faith in God so you have to put them behind you and press on towards your goal. You are not your mistake. You are what God says you are.

If one business failed before, try again, your strategy may have been wrong. If people failed you before, try again, you may have been in the wrong relationship. You may even need to start another business or enter another career path entirely but never let your past stop you from trying. There is no successful person who never failed at least once before they succeeded. Rather than giving up, learn from your mistakes, forget them and press on towards your vision for prosperity.

CHAPTER TEN

Train Your Mind Against Fear And Inferiority

The feeling of inferiority and timidity has stopped many from reaching their potential and actualising their dreams of success. Inferiority is the feeling of inadequacy or lack of self- worth. It is often subconscious and if not handled can limit one form reaching the peak of their potential. This feeling of inferiority is a feeling of inadequacy or not being up to par with what is required.

If you truly want to prosper, you need to deliberately train your mind against timidity, fear or inferiority. We see a perfect example of the inferiority complex and its consequences in the book of Numbers chapter 13. The Lord had already promised to give the children of Israel the land of Canaan as we see in the scripture below;

> ***And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man, every one a ruler among them.***
>
> ***Number 13:1-2***

God instructed them to go search out the land and their response on their return reveals much;

> ***And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof;***

and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature. And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

Numbers 13:32-33

Did you notice their words? They were in their own eyes as grasshoppers. They saw themselves as grasshoppers and thus concluded that was how the people of the land of Canaan saw them too. This is so revealing! It was not that they were grasshoppers but sadly that was how they saw themselves. This shows that a person with inferiority complex sees himself lesser than others even though he may not be and thus concludes that others see him the same way. We see the consequences of this grasshopper mentality in the scriptures below;

And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, How long shall I bear with this evil congregation, which murmur against me? I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel, which they murmur against me. Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the LORD, as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you: Your carcases shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me, doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I sware to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun. But your little ones, which ye

said should be a prey, them will I bring in, and they shall know the land which ye have despised.

Numbers 14:26-31

Despite God's promise to them, they did not enter into the Promised Land.

This feeling of inferiority is what often manifests as timidity which refers to being fearful, faint hearted and lacking courage. This reveals why God did not allow them to enter into the promise land .God did not permit them because he knew that a timid people would lack the courage to go into battle with the people of the land. So he chose to raise another generation. What a shame!

In the same manner, regardless of God's promise of prosperity to you, you would not enter into it if you feel inferior or timid. No timid person ever goes far, instead they stay in their comfort zone and never attempt to reach out for their aspirations or dream.

Signs of inferiority complex

1. People with inferiority complex or timidity give up before they even start because they underestimate their ability to deliver or to make things work. So for them it is easier to just give up rather than start. Many cannot make investments because they feel they will fail or lose even before they start.
2. Even when they begin, they easily give up when they face challenges. This is because they have a fear of making mistakes.
3. They always compare themselves to others and this often leads to un-healthy competition that consequently alienates them from others. They are thus unable

to maintain good relationships that could have possibly led to prosperity.

4. They think and feel that others are better than them even when it is obvious that they are better.
5. They often lack self-control and exhibit lack of judgment because they act based on the wrong perception of self and the presumed perception of others
6. They have excessive anxiety and are often overly sensitive to criticism hence are unable to learn from others.
7. They always live below their capacity and potentials

This is why you must fight timidity and inferiority complex with everything within you. You must train your mind against it. It will stop you from even attempting or trying to make things work because you feel that you cannot make it work it or that you lack the capacity to accomplish.

Many business people watch their businesses go down because of the fear to act. Some will not even take opportunities for growth and expansion that come their way because of the fear or anticipation of failure. This will take you nowhere. If you who want to make it in business or make a success out of your chosen career you must be bold, assertive and tough.

Possible causes of inferiority

Inferiority or timidity may be caused by any the following;

1. Physical, verbal and mental abuse
2. Oppression
3. Rejection
4. Past Mistakes

Regardless of the cause or reason you can break out by deliberately training your mind to act in the opposite direction of its fear, so you can function to the maximum of your capacity.

Overcoming inferiority and timidity: Overcoming the feeling of inferiority and timidity begins with an understanding that it is not from God;

> ***For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.***
>
> ***2Timothy 1:7***

Other translations of this scripture give us better insight into its message.

> ***For the spirit God has given us does not make us timid, his spirit fills us with power, love and self control***
>
> ***2Timothy 1:7 (Good News Translation)***

> ***God didn't give us a cowardly spirit but a spirit of power, love and good judgement***
>
> ***2Timothy 1:7 (God's Word Translation)***

> ***God has not given us the spirit of timidity , but of power love and discipline***
>
> ***2Timothy 1:7 (New American Standard Bible)***

Thus it is clear that God is not the origin of timidity. Rather God has given you the spirit of power, love and a sound mind. This is a revela-

tion you must meditate on consistently. As you do this it will begin to liberate your mind and set you free from the spirit of timidity

The word of God is powerful and has the ability to change any man.

> ***For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.***
>
> ***Hebrew 4:12***

As you focus on it in mediation and consistently make declarations, it will begin to change you and open your eyes to who you are and what you possess in Christ Jesus

> ***But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.***
>
> ***2Corinthians 3:18***

So the focus in overcoming inferiority or timidity is building your inner core and confidence with the word of God - by mediation and declaration.

You can be the success God has created you to be if you will begin to consciously train your mind against timidity and inferiority. You are created in the image and likeness of God and hence possess his nature, so you can be whatever your heart desires and achieve whatever you set your heart to do. It is time to begin to see yourself as God sees you!

CHAPTER ELEVEN

Train Your Mind To Operate Beyond Reason

As you train your mind in other areas, it is most important to also train yourself to operate beyond reason. To operate beyond reason is to learn to believe the word or instruction of God to you regardless to the present situation. Also, it is to learn to see beyond the visible and to believe the impossible.

> ***Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.***
>
> ***Mark 9:23***

> ***Like Jesus said in the scripture above, when we believe, all things are possible. This means there is truly no limitation to what we can achieve. Our only limitation is unbelief. Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.***
>
> ***Matthew 17:19-20***

God wants to make you the best in business or in your job and make you very wealthy, but you have to train your mind to believe his word.

In the scripture above Jesus attributes the inability of his disciples to cast out a demon solely to their unbelief in their mind. So the problem was not the unavailability of power in their spirit, but in the barrier that existed in their mind. If you must prosper, you must train your mind to see the invisible because that is the only way you can do the impossible.

Unlike the people of this world, our prosperity is not solely dependent on our works. There is so much wealth and influence God has made available to you but you will not access them when you are walking in unbelief. There are supernatural forces working in our favour and we can only engage them when we walk in faith.

You therefore need to understand that you cannot enter into the wealth and prosperity God has prepared for you when you function in unbelief;

> ***And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.***
>
> ***Hebrews 3:18***

God wants to make you the best in business or in your job and make you very wealthy, but you

have to train your mind to believe his word. This belief will reflect in your willingness to obey his instructions at all times. The scripture says eyes have not seen nor ears heard what he has prepared for you;

> ***But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.***
>
> ***1Corinthians 2:9***

This means that the kind of wealth God has prepared is far beyond the sight and reasoning of man, so you must therefore train your mind to believe God even if his instructions defy logic.

When God told Abraham to offer his only son - the son on whom the promise was hinged, it was not logical to do so, but he went ahead and obeyed;

> ***And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together.***
>
> ***Genesis 22:6***

And as a result of his obedience, he entered into a new level of covenant with God;

> ***And (God) said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea***

shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;

Genesis 22:16-17

This is instructive as it reveals the character of God to those who believe him and trust in his wisdom. Thus, if you are keen on enjoying an extraordinary level of prosperity that God gives, you must train your mind to operate beyond your calculation.

To the ordinary man, five loaves of bread and two fishes could not have fed five thousand but Jesus believed God and simply gave thanks and it was multiplied and there was more than enough for everyone.

And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, and brake, and gave the loaves to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full.

Mathew 14:19-20

As you set out every day to achieve your goals and carry out your business, God will begin to instruct you on what to do to take your business to another level. Do not be afraid. Step out in faith and do as God commands. If God instructs you to invest, do it.

If he instructs you buy a property, do it. Do not be afraid to take risks. If it is God's word, then ensure to do it just as Mary instructs the men at the wedding feast where Jesus turned water to wine;

His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it.

John 2:5

Whatever the Lord tells you to do with regards to your prosperity, do it because his power will back you up. When Jesus told Peter to come on the water, it defied nature but Peter obeyed;

And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

Matthew 14:28-29

When Jesus beckons, his power will make the impossible possible. However, like Peter we can begin to sink when you consider the physical or economic factors or reasons why your plan or business strategy will not work despite the instruction from God.

But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

Matthew 14:30-31

When we believe in Christ steadfastly, he will hold us up and keep us from failing.

The next level you desire in your job or business might just be a change away or a step you need to take. As God speaks to you, do not hesitate to do it immediately. You may have a leading to start a new business or to diversify your investment or even to quit a particular line of business. Be quick to obey.

God knows all things and sees what would fail and succeed in the nearest future. His leading is therefore to position you in the place of advantage regardless of changes that would occur in the future, and as you yield to his leading, he will make all things work together for your good

> ***And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose***
>
> ***Romans 8:28***

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