

Take Possession of Your Land!

The first thing you must do in taking possession of your  land—all God has prepared for you—is to take possession of your thoughts. There is a direct correlation between the quality of your thoughts and the quality of your life. What you think determines who you are, what you are, where you go, what you acquire, where you live, whom you love, where you work, what you accomplish, what you read and so on.

James Allen wrote in his timeless classic *As a Man Thinketh*, “All that a man achieves and all that he fails to achieve is the direct result of his own thoughts.” If your life is going to change, you must think change. You are always only one thought away from changing your life. As Joel Osteen says, “You can live your best life now!”

Here’s the principle: You will never have more or go further or accomplish greater things than your thoughts will allow you to. Therefore, you must create an opulent thinking environment in order to create an opulent life. Your life is a reflection of your most dominant thoughts and meditations. When you make it a practice to meditate on success, you will begin to live a successful life.

The trouble for most people is that they don’t know exactly what success would look like for them as individuals or, more importantly, what it would feel like personally. It is not enough just to meditate on success generally; you need to be specific. You are the architect and building contractor of your future.

Use your thoughts as an architect uses a blueprint. Think about every detail. An architect thinks not only about the rooms in a house but also about the types of windows, sizes of closets, location of electrical outlets and so on. Nothing is too insignificant. Think big and think detailed!

Ask Michael Dell. Borrowing \$1,000 from family members at 19, he launched the multibillion-dollar company that dominates computer manufacturing today. On the premise that he could beat out large manufacturers by building custom computers and selling directly to consumers, he began selling systems and accessories out of his dorm room. This radical idea shook the computer world to its foundations.

How did he do it? He thought big, he thought detailed, and he thought outside the box.

If you want your life to be different, you must dare to think differently—dare to think outside the box. Think possibility thoughts. Remember, according to Mark 10:27, “with God all things are possible” (NKJV).

Nothing limits achievement like small thinking; nothing expands possibilities like thinking outside the box. Unleash the power of your mind. Learn to cultivate possibility thinking.

Think about something that has never been done, or put a new spin on something that has always been around. In 1886, John Pemberton turned common medicinal syrup into a cultural phenomenon by combining it with carbonated water and serving it as a refreshing drink. Coca-Cola is now the most widely known beverage on the planet.

Bill Gates, the computer mogul, was determined to find a way to apply his skills in the computer industry. At Harvard, Gates spent many long nights in front of the school’s computer discussing ideas and the possibility of a future computer business with fellow student Paul Allen.

When browsing through a magazine one day, Allen and Gates saw that the computer market was about to explode and that someone would have to make software for all those new machines. They acted on this hunch and worked on a program they thought had promise. Within the year, Bill Gates took a leave of absence

from Harvard, and Microsoft was formed.

Sometimes you need to see with new eyes. The possibilities in your life change when your perspective changes. This is true vision.

Bill Gates was a visionary. He brought a fresh perspective to the world of computers. Vision connects you to your destiny and future. Helen Keller said, "The greatest tragedy in life is people who have sight but no vision."

You must see yourself doing more and being more. Vision is the ability to think progressively. A vision is a mental image of future possibilities. A friend of mine once told me that your feet will never take you where your mind has never been.

Become the Christopher Columbus of your future. Columbus dared to lose sight of the known in order to experience the unknown. To conquer new territories you must have courage to lose sight of the shore. Dare to become the trailblazer of your own life.

God is a creative God, and we are made in His image; therefore, we are creative beings. As His son or daughter you can tap into the creative mind of God—the genius of God—and see what other people cannot see and hear what other people cannot hear.

Follow the example of Jesus: "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, to your amazement he will show him even greater things than these" (John 5:19-20, NIV).

Jesus said that when other people were unable to see what was going on in heaven, He could. This is the challenge of creative thinking—as you open the spiritual channels of your mind, God can download divine, creative thoughts into your

brain. Ask God to enlarge your capacity for thinking, to take the limits off.

Whatever your predominant focus is, that is what you permit to exist in your life. Many times people focus on the negative, and they live in a cycle of negativity. You have to choose to focus on the positive. You have to train your mind to think on whatever is honest, virtuous and praiseworthy (see Phil. 4:8). Whatever is going wrong in your life is a result of your focus. If you don't like it, change your focus!

In Genesis 13:14-18, God taught Abraham something about focus. He told him to look at the territory He was giving him, walk the land in every direction and visualize the expanse of his legacy. Then He said to him, "I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then your descendants also could be numbered" (v. 16).

What did God train him to do? He trained him to focus on bigger thoughts.

If you plan to change your future, do not focus on things or people or circumstances that are smaller than what you are hoping for. Your focus will either feed your faith or confirm your fears. Learn to think like Abraham. Think intentionally, generationally and even globally. You can never think too big, too grand or too great!

There are many people who may not be as spiritual as you are but who nevertheless were able to tap into something great. Whether by accident or providence, they are living lives beyond their wildest dreams, and you can, too. A world of possibilities is waiting to be released in your future. Remember, Jesus Himself declared, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes" (Mark 9:23).

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