

Dynamite Comes In Small Packages

Never Underestimate the Power
Within You!

Steve "Stealth" Miller

Table of Contents

- 1) You Are More Than You Know
- 2) You Need a Big Moment
- 3) The Mountains in your Way Are the Ones Within
- 4) Trust the Credibility of Your Imagination
- 5) You Gotta See It
- 6) You Gotta Say It
- 7) The Anatomy of Moment Making
- 8) The Power of Honor
- 9) Success in Solitude
- 10) Creativity is Critical
- 11) Building Your Personal Dream Team
- 12) The Success Equation
- 13) The Power of Patterns
- 14) In Conclusion

Chapter 1

You Are More than You Know!

In every life there are defining events, oftentimes more than one of them. They are when power and potential collide in rare but precious moments. They may last a split second, an hour, or perhaps longer. How you recognize and respond to these moments will change your life forever. They are moments that you can point to for the rest of your life and say, "that was the moment everything changed!"

I've had a couple of those very moments that changed everything! Life afterwards was unrecognizable compared to anything before. Here's my first one ...

It was in Glendale, Arizona when I was an eight year old boy. Nothing particularly unusual about me other than perhaps a bit small for my age. In fact, one of my endearing nicknames was "squatty body" due to my rather short stubby legs. My family was

quite involved in our home church, Faith Temple. The church had recently purchased some additional property and called a church-wide “work Day.” My family was front and center helping out on this day. One of the tasks that was given to the men, was to remove the three-strand barbed wire fence that surrounded the property. Essentially, (just so you get a clear picture of the magnitude of this particular moment for me) the fence to be removed was a series of six feet tall telephone posts with three strands of barbed wire that ran from one post to the next. Removing the barbed wire was easy, but when they attempted to remove these posts from the ground, that proved to be a whole different ballgame. One guy had even volunteered his big truck to back into the posts from one direction and then pull around and back into it from the other direction, over and over again ... attempting to loosen these posts enough to wrap chain around them, and with the truck pull them out of the ground. Each post was taking a good twenty minutes to remove and there were dozens more to get to. This was going to be a very long day ... or so everyone thought.

My father simply wasn't going to spend all day doing a task that could be done in an hour ... in his mind.

I really need to pause here and first tell you about my father, James Elmer Miller.

My Paps was an extraordinary man. The way I saw him then was having these superhero qualities ... stronger than a locomotive, could jump over buildings, and even stop a bullet. At least that's what I believed. As far as physical stature, Dad was not a huge man. He stood five feet ten inches, and carried a body weight of about 230 lbs at the time. Not a skinny guy, but not a behemoth either. That didn't seem to matter. Dad possessed a gift of strength that was more than uncommon, it seemed totally superhuman. I never really knew where he got it, but he had it big-time. He was my superhero.

Well, Dad walked up to the table where the ladies had provided donuts and coffee, precisely where I was stationed. He picked up a large towel, laid it across his chest and arms, and proceeded to walk over to a post they had not yet begun to loosen. Dad squatted down, wrapped his big chest and arms around this post, screamed an impressive cave-man like scream, and stood straight up, pulling it right out of the ground. I can't tell you the enormous blend of screams and hollers that erupted. It was mass chaos for a few minutes and that only fueled Paps to go to the next post and do the same thing

again. And again, and again, until he had single-handedly finished pulling up the remaining posts that were left. Some guys were slapping him on the back while he labored, others were wiping his sweat, while still others were simply cheering him on in this superhuman feat.

Boy, was I ever mesmerized! While my eight year old mind didn't have the capacity to articulate every detail about what was happening, I did have a specific sense that my life's hero had just blown everybody's minds. Somehow I could feel a sense of pride, that while it was my Dad who did the actual work, the moment was bigger than just the feat. It was the Miller family legacy on display. And I was a part of that legacy.

Upon completion of this epic display of strength, amidst the celebratory buzz that hadn't yet subsided, my Dad walked back over to the donuts and coffee table. As he took the towel away from his chest and began to pick small splinters out of his arms, he paused for a few seconds, bent down and smiled. He gave me a big bicep flex, and said,

“Son, don't ever forget, dynamite always comes in small packages.”

Here's the amazing thing; while it took him all of eight seconds to say those few words, I still remember the pride, confidence, and resolve that came over me that day. It felt like WE had accomplished that feat as much as HE had. It was a game changer! Nothing was ever the same. This dynamite moment set the trajectory of my life and I was off and running.

My life has been an adventure through obstacles and challenges just like you. But I've learned a few things along the way that have helped me achieve some significant multi-dimensional success. After thirty seven years of marriage, (and still counting) three high-achieving children, three amazing grandchildren, a professional athletic career, five world-records, and a plethora of "super-human" feats of my own, I've tapped into some principles that have helped me press through obstacles and challenges and come through them a champion. I'm going to share with you those principles I've learned and lived by. I've helped dozens of professional athletes, CEOs, and entertainment industry people learn how to Be more, HAVE more, and ACHIEVE more and now I want to help you.

You might say ... "Really? You're attributing the success of your life to a single event, followed by an

inspirational phrase that took eight seconds to say?" That is exactly what I'm saying.

Now, don't get me wrong. I've worked hard, trained hard, studied even harder, and absorbed everything I could get my hands on to improve the quality of my gifts and talents. But what my Dad did for me in that moment is what great Dads are supposed to do. In that real-life heroic moment he opened up the treasure house of possibilities by igniting my imagination and made it personal. He affirmed my identity, my confidence, and the strength of my will to become great. He opened the door me to believe that I had the ability to be whatever I wanted to be. He gave me a moment I could point to for years to come and say, "That was my first great moment when everything changed." I've had a few more, but I'll share some of those later.

My intention is not to make you envious of my father and his heroic examples to me. Nor am I implying that If you don't have a moment in the same way that I've just shared, then you're just unfortunate. Rather, I want to help you understand the many ways these moments can be experienced. You see, every person who has achieved big things and left a substantial mark, can point to a moment in their life that changed the game for them. And those

moments happened in a plethora of different ways. That's what I want to share with you.

Champions aren't born, they are made!

Most people are convinced that great individuals were just born with something that the rest of us were not. That is, until you read their autobiographies and study their lives more carefully. You find that they were ordinary people, less than ordinary usually, who either intentionally or inadvertently followed success principles to realize greatness. They had one great moment that they treated reverently, and it led to another one, which then led to another, until there was a momentum of success. That's what our lives are; the sum total of many many moments. I want to help you see not only how important a great moment can be, but also how to create your own impacting moments. Yes, you can **CREATE** dynamite moments. Both, serendipitous moments as well as the ones you intentionally and strategically create, can be equally explosive and life changing. The important realization to come to is that in fact, **you do need a moment.**

I'll share a story with you about Kundayi Musinami, an outstanding young man from Zimbabwe. Kundayi grew up having a dream. A dream that was so much bigger than the circumstances surrounding him that it seemed ridiculous. His country, Zimbabwe, was a beautiful place geographically, but an extremely difficult place to live. Under the oppressive rule of a dictatorial regime, the country was hovering at around 90% unemployment and was a place where the limitations of poverty and lack, and the absence of opportunity made it a dream graveyard. The realities of poverty, hopelessness, and a plethora of devastating disadvantages made it a place where big dreams were nothing more than mere fantasies. A place to go in your mind for a brief escape from the hopelessness and despair, but that's it.

But Kundayi kept dreaming that one day he could cross the great divide and come to America, go to school, and fulfill his dream of being an engineer of sound and an international producer of music. Wow! Big big dream.

Kundayi was in attendance at an event I was speaking at in Harare. During the delivery of my message on dreams and possibilities, I spoke an inspired word. This was that word ... "there is

someone here, that if you will grab ahold of this message today, 6 months from this very moment, you are going to find yourself in the middle of your destiny unfolding in a way that is beyond your current limitations, and beyond what even seems possible.”

Well, Kundayi grabbed that word and took it to heart. He immediately set a timer on his mobile phone to go off in six months from that moment. Then, he got busy. He exhausted every possibility and talked about his dreams to anyone who would listen, but more importantly, he continued to believe that the moment I said that word, it was a moment that was meant for him. It was his dynamite moment. Who would have thought such a thing could come to pass. Fast forward ...

Kundayi eventually persuaded a number of business people, family and friends, and even his pastor to donate to his dream. He raised just enough money to get a one-way ticket to America. He landed in Boston with only twelve US dollars to his name. He had nobody with him, didn't know where to go or who to call. As he was standing at the baggage conveyor belt, reaching for the crude little bag that contained everything he owned, the alarm on his phone went off. When he pulled it from his pocket and saw what

the alarm was for, he began to weep. It certainly wasn't completed yet, BUT, he was on his way. You see, at that moment he was precisely at the six month point, and DID find himself in the middle of his destiny unfolding. And it was bigger than he ever thought possible.

Kundayi called Mary and I shortly after that and told us he was in America but didn't really know what to do next. We invited him to come and live with us. We helped him get into Berkeley School of Music in Boston, where he graduated. He is now working for a great company that designs and installs huge sound systems in arenas and stadiums. And that's just the beginning. He continues to work on even bigger projects for his future, phase two of his big dreams. Kundayi is now a part of our family and calls Mary and I Mom and Dad. Who would have thought that a young man could ever get out of such impossible circumstances, and even end up in another country, to position himself to fulfill his life's dream? You never know the possibilities that lie beneath the surface of the difficulties and impossibilities that surround you.

You can have a moment of your own. You don't have to sit around, waiting for some mysterious random event to change your life. I want to show you how to

live in such a way that transformational moments become the norm. The power to create them is within you. Never underestimate yourself. You are more than you realize. You can achieve more than what you ever thought possible.

“You are a masterpiece because you are a piece of the Master.” Les Brown

I’m going to show you what to do to create a personal environment that produces big moments. I’ll challenge you to be strategic concerning the people and associations you link up with. I’m also going to show you the people and situations you must avoid. You’re going to learn how to identify and eliminate **“moment thieves.”** And finally, I will show you how to elevate your level of what I call your

“Life Quality IQ:”

Your level of awareness of the people, activities, patterns, and environments around you; and whether they are detractors from your pursuit of greatness or contributors to it.

The great news is that not only are these things imperative to your life’s success, they are also within

your reach. In fact, they are within you. You were made to BE more, HAVE more, and ACHIEVE more. It's time to elevate every area of your life ... your faith, your family, your finances, your fitness, and your future.

“No problem or challenge can be solved at the same level of consciousness at which it was created.” Albert Einstein

This will require some substantial change on your part. You will need to do some things that prove to be uncomfortable. There may be a few people that you have become too comfortable having in your life. People that have way more access to you and influence over you than what they should. They will have to go. You will need to rearrange some aspects of your activities, your habits or patterns, and learn to take control of the environment you spend a lot of time in. Sounds a bit daunting I'm sure, but trust me, however challenging all of this may be, it will pale in comparison to the extraordinary life that emerges. You got this.

Chapter 2

You Need a BIG Moment?

When Alfred Nobels (after whom the Nobel Peace Prize is named and given) invented dynamite in the mid-late 1800's, the compelling reasons for its use were numerous: Certain obstacles that did not respond to conventional black powder explosives could now be addressed. Granite, rock or slate were no longer immovable. Building things in areas not normally suited for them is now possible. The ability to blast tunnels all the way through mountains could allow for the more efficient movement of military troops as well as create convenience for general travelers.

Now, all of that sounds interesting enough, but what does it have to do with me and my life you may ask? Consider the parallel of explosive dynamite as an analogy for moving the mountains of impossibility in your life: Beyond my own personal reference to the moment my Dad's words impacted my life, I want you to consider ...

Dynamite represents the explosive moments we experience and/or create, that blast us past the obstacles that keep us prisoners to the ordinary.

While there are certainly more sophisticated terms used in the world of self-improvement, many of which I am very familiar with, I am choosing to stick with this analogy. The reason is I think it more accurately communicates the level of assertiveness and intensity it will require to elevate your life beyond the plateau you may be stuck on. You have obstacles in your way that you can't mess around with. You cannot politely request the challenges that impede you to move out of the way. The high probability is that they would be gone already. You have to have explosive moments that blow them out of your path.

The level of your success will be relative to your level of assertiveness and diligence in removing every possible hindrance.

So, here are the analogies:

- The “Ah Ha” moments of inspiration where you are suddenly able to believe something previously difficult to believe or even grasp.

- The words spoken to you at certain crossroads. When someone you admire/trust says something to you that helps you navigate past an impasse.
- The moment YOU make a commitment to change an undesirable trait, characteristic, or behavior.
- “Once-and-for-all” decisions that you make to change personal patterns and habits that have proven to be unhealthy and counterproductive.
- The moment you become aware of limiting beliefs and are empowered to blast them out of your consciousness.
- The moment healing comes to you and resolves the residue of past failures and negative experiences from your life. Like a strong Texas wind blowing through, in one moment the clouds pass and the sun shines again.

Who said it was impossible?

When King Henry I of Spain, first tapped his regional governor to survey a route along the Chagres River in-between Central and South America in the 1500’s, the result of the survey was

this: Although a sea-level waterway across the 50-mile stretch of land across the Panama Isthmus was enticing, and would certainly be problem solving of epic proportions, the idea was deemed virtually impossible. There were just far too many obstacles that could not be overcome. Certain parts of the river that were too shallow, mountainous ridges along the river banks that were insurmountable, and so on. That “impossibility” lasted for a good 300 years. Others flirted with the idea during the late 1880’s but failed. Not until the early 1900’s was the project successfully tackled and ultimately achieved. The primary ingredient that made it possible? ... You guessed it, Dynamite! Over 60,000,000 tons of the explosive were used to create the 50 mile channel for international shipping. They overcame other things as well. Someone had to be committed enough to the vision that they wouldn’t waiver over difficulties. Someone who wanted the idea to be a reality more than anything else. Of course there were problems, big problems in fact ... The epidemic of malaria and running out of money were just a few. However, the initial vision and ultimately the premise of success for the project is credited to the incredibly effective tool of DYNAMITE. The results changed history and have had positive effects for decades now. For a vessel going to Japan from the East Coast, the canal shaved 3,000 miles off the trip. For a vessel going

from Western South America to Europe, it shaved 5,000 miles off the journey. If it was traveling from the West Coast of the US to the East Coast, the canal saved an amazing 7,600 miles of travel at sea. Just think of the time saved, profits increased, and convenience enjoyed by the success of this monumental achievement.

See, big problems demand bigger solutions. Someone had to believe that a challenge that was previously considered impossible was, in fact, POSSIBLE. They had to have the right tools to make it happen. I want to inspire you in both areas.

Down through history, every generation has the limits of human achievement thrust upon them. Usually, it's "experts" that sit around and talk to other "experts." These unsuspecting partnerships end up giving us calcified conclusions of what can and cannot be accomplished by human beings. Add to that the continuity of human performance over time, and you have these conventional opinions concerning what is and what is not possible. The general population of society just accepts these as credible. These limitations are often communicated with some measure of pseudo-scientific data, only adding to their validity as "laws." They are presented as unchangeable and non-challengeable

realities, forming the boundaries of what can and cannot be. And unfortunately, the average person rarely rises up to contradict or challenge these “norms.”

Often these limitations remain for decades, even centuries. The longer they remain the more credibility they seem to have over time. These false norms become the gauge whereby the average measure themselves. As long as they can hover somewhere close to these “norms” they feel they’ve done okay. I believe that this is the reason why most people come to the end of their lives and express that they wish they’d done more, taken more risks, tried more things, and/or pushed the boundaries a bit harder. Sadly, at the end of their lives, they are experiencing the realization that there was still more.

However, there is good news. Limiting cultural and societal norms throughout history have been broken by what first appeared as a random, crazy, and even dangerous idea of possibility. Someone came along that was bold and courageous enough, and perhaps even ridiculous enough to challenge them. Someone who’s desire to achieve was greater than the desire to fit in or go with the flow.

Think of what your children and family are going to think is possible after they see you break the barriers and limitations around you! Your quest isn't just for you. The success of your life is going to produce future generations of big dreamers.

“Average is the best of the worst, and the worst of the best.” Dr David Schwartz

Your dreams are real. Your grand ideas and thoughts matter because they ARE matter. Don't give up. Don't quit too soon. It's never too late and you're never beyond capable of being successful, happy, and fulfilled.

A path with no obstacles and challenges most likely doesn't lead to anywhere.

To be clear, I'm not suggesting you become mean and obnoxious to everyone around you. I am saying that at the end of the day, NO ONE is going to be committed to your success but YOU. You have to take charge right now and decide ASSERTIVELY that you are DONE with average and ordinary.

"To be passive is to let others decide for you. To be aggressive is to decide for others. To be assertive is to decide for yourself ...And to trust that there is enough, that you are enough." Edith Eva Eger

A few questions for you:

When you dream about your future what are the obstacles that immediately surface? Do you see 100 reasons as to why fulfillment and happiness just aren't within reach?

Have you just settled for what you have? Are you ok with "just enough, or just getting by?"

Are there certain negative limitations that have always been in your family? Are you dreaming of a life no one among your family or friends has ever achieved?

Have you tried more than once to do something great and the same challenge gets the best of you every time?

Worse yet, have any of these disappointments led you to turn to various methods of sedation and addictions you never dreamed you'd be dealing with?

With many men it becomes even *more* desperate. Intimidation, shame, guilt, insults, failures, and resentments cause most men to live a public lie, while suppressing their private self into dark man-caves. None of us ever want to be the one guy in the room that can't seem to get it together. So we project an image of success and then go home and try to figure out how to deal with unfulfilled dreams, boredom, burn-out, and worse. Many men never feel like they're enough. They don't HAVE enough therefore they don't feel like they ARE enough. There's never enough money, not enough respect, not enough time, never enough sex, not enough energy, and so on.

My point is this; Don't settle into a posture of regret, resentment, or anger. I've had to face these things at one time or another. Many have faced far worse. But the world is also full of people that were faced with a plethora of limiting and debilitating odds and somehow found a way to break through to success.

I want to help you get beyond this and show you that you CAN have it all. You can fulfill your dreams, have a successful family, get in shape, BE more, HAVE more, and ACHIEVE more.

It may not turn from night to day in a split second, but I promise you that if you can learn to create great moments and then build more great moments on top of them, you can create a momentum that will render you unstoppable. You can come out of that dark man-cave and be the man you've always wanted to be. You are as capable as anyone else of enjoying complete fulfillment and success in your life. You deserve it and God wants it for you.

Years ago, while I was working with the youth group of my home church in Houston, A young man named Michael White started coming to our activities. Mike had come from a very difficult place. By the time Mike was seven years old he had already endured more than most people do in a lifetime. Subjected all his childhood to trauma and poverty, continual violence all around him, and losing a brother to a drowning accident were just some of the things that he had lived through. When his parents called it quits, Mike and his mother were on their own. they ended up in a very small trailer, parked in an impoverished and violent neighborhood of East Houston. His newly single mother was raising him alone. Broken herself, she tried to work two and three jobs at a time to keep up. Mike describes himself by his early teens as "full of insecurities, confused, and very angry." I've worked for decades

with countless young people from the very same environment. Without intervention and a strong desire to succeed, I know the statistics these neighborhoods produce. Mike certainly had the surroundings to become just “another one.” However, there had also been something inside of him that wouldn’t allow him to cave in to his circumstances and end up another statistic ... the result of a dynamite moment, one that wouldn’t let him become what he had grown up around. An encounter he had in his room when he was seven years old. God had breathed upon him while he was saying his bed-time prayers. It was an experience that gave him a sense that although everything around him was in constant chaos and one painful situation after another, somehow somehow, he was going to be different than his environment was dictating to him. He was invited to our gym one day to play basketball ... or so he thought. Instead, he observed some young people performing a play that really impacted him. He was reignited by the same divine breath that had entered his room when he was seven. He decided that night that he would try trusting God for his future. He started reading and studying the scriptures and other books, changed his circle of friends and became more determined than ever to give a voice to that gnawing internal dissatisfaction with the ordinary. He became the first

person in his family to ever graduate from high school. He started reaching out for mentors in his life. I was one of those mentors. Mike would come over and drive our kids to school and we would talk about a life that was bigger, better, and more.

He reached out to many others as well. Mentors that taught him how to think, how to put together a resume, dress for an interview, set life goals and more. By his early twenties, Mike had latched on to a business man from the Energy Industry, who in Mike's words, "raised the bar for me with constant challenges and growth opportunities." In August of 2007, he and another young man from East Houston with a similar story, decided to start their own retail commercial energy company. In just a matter of a few years, their company, Real Energy Solutions, blew past anything they had ever dreamed of. Who would have ever dreamed that coming out of a poor and violent neighborhood in Houston, that someone could grow a life and a company worth many millions of dollars. Mike now has an amazing and beautiful family of his own. As a successful businessman of multiple endeavors, Mike provides for them a grand life of freedom, fulfillment, and success. A success that doesn't know the limitations that his upbringing would have crippled him with. That's what ordinary people who act on

extraordinary moments do. They have one great moment, then another, then another, until the sum total of those moments becomes a life so extraordinary, it's almost too unbelievable to tell. Mike now spends a great deal of time and energy mentoring other young men to achieve great things. I still talk to Mike today. Every week in fact. He and his beautiful family are always such a great reminder of what dynamite moments do in one's life.

One of my great friends and mentors in strength, who is now mentoring my son, Stephen II, in the Strongman World, is Dennis Rogers. Dennis is known world-wide as Pound-for-Pound the Strongest Man for the amazing feats he performs.

When Dennis entered high school, he was a scrawny kid weighing 79 lbs. He, in his own words, looked sickly and weak. But one day he was helping his father unload a heavy roll of canvas out of their old station wagon. He thought his father was under the other end of the roll. However, when he reached the top of the hill he looked around and saw that his father was still at the car. He had carried the entire roll of canvas up a hill by himself. He describes that moment as a dynamite moment that changed his life. He realized that being small and 79 lbs. was not the

limitation that everyone else had put on him. The fact was, he was *really strong*. So strong in fact that as an adult man 5 ft 9 inches and weighing 168 lbs, he has turned the strength world upside down. From winning the world armwrestling championships, preventing two T-34 military training airplanes from taking off, (with his bare hands) to countless other amazing feats, he has proven that the limits life puts on you are just waiting for you to challenge them and blow them away.

You must decide now that you are going to do whatever is necessary to have a moment of discovery. Someone once said, “When the pain of staying where you are gets worse than the pain of changing, then you’ll start changing.” The problem with this statement is that while it is catchy and has some truth to it, it is also the mindset of the average. As water seeks the path of least resistance so do the thoughts of the ordinary. Champions don’t think that way. We are not measuring the amount of pain and sacrifice. We are aware of it and ready to pay the price, but our minds are fixed on the prize.

“Average men consider the pain and sacrifice, Champions focus on the rewards.” Stephen Miller

I want you to turn your attention from your fears and past failures to the endless possibilities that are ahead of you. The rewards that come to those who lay it all on the line to live a life that is bigger, better, and more will far outweigh the sacrifices. There's an old proverb that says "A man will always fall in the direction he leans." When you direct your focus to the fantastic possibilities in life, that is where you will end up.

Chapter 3

The Mountains in Your Way Are The Ones Within.

Granted, I am not a psychologist or a certified behavioral specialist. I AM a well read man that spends a crazy amount of time observing, studying, and training champions. I also feed on the material of great history makers to discover their ideals and behavior patterns. I am aware that doesn't qualify me to delve into the deepest layers of trauma and crisis that some may have experienced. Certainly there are people with "mountainous obstacles" that require the careful and delicate treatment from a psychiatric professional. However, I have seen enough seriously traumatized people experience such breakthroughs to overcome unspeakable things, that I can say with a great measure of confidence; **you can overcome ANYTHING and you can achieve any level of greatness you want.**

Rather than allow yourself to be defensive about where you are and how you got there, or why you haven't achieved the extraordinary yet, you should

at least open yourself up to the possibility that there could be much more for you than you've yet realized.

I Want it All?

How arrogant, right? Wrong. Let's start here since this is really paramount to having a great life. If you don't believe it's even possible then why or how would you even get started.

If I asked ten guys to define success, I'd get ten different ideas. To some, success is defined one way pure and simple: Money! To others it's about a sweet car and ripped abs. The more mature guy will usually go straight to the "have a great family" answer. Then the super spiritual guy will limit the meaning to somehow living a good moral life or just trying to please God or keep his family in church.

True Success = Freedom!

True success is about freedom. Freedom FROM the power of all external influences to dictate your life's outcomes. It also means Freedom TO: To dream, hope, and realize the life you've always wanted to live. The definition most people will give is referring

to achieving something in one area of their life. But we know all too well what that ends up looking like:

- Rich but fat and unhealthy.
- Great father but lousy husband.
- Ripped physique but broke.
- Very spiritual but sickly.
- Great businessman who struggles with relationships.
- Giving it your all but still restless, bored, anxious.
- And the scenarios continue.

Why? Because we've been conditioned to think incorrectly. We've been told that having it all is greedy, unspiritual, and for most of us not even possible. Let's cut right to it ... think of it like this ... There are multiple dimensions of your life (faith, family, fitness, finances, friends) and they all need and deserve the same level of attention. One won't give you a free pass just because you're doing well in another. Further, real happiness and fulfillment is what you experience when you are getting results in all areas. God given dreams are the ones that address all of the fundamental dimensions in your life. You might not be hitting a grand slam in every single area of your life, but there's growth and hope in all areas. That's what the restlessness and boredom you



feel is . It's a critical area of your life screaming to you, "Hey don't forget about me."

The ancient Greeks referred to this as your "metron." Their specific word for what this diagram illustrates was "teleos." This is where we get our English word "perfection" or "completeness" from. The idea is that real success is achieved when there is equal development and growth in these seven pertinent

areas of the human life. On a scale from 0 - 10, (0 being no development at all and 10 being you've mastered it) if you went around this circle and rated yourself in each of these areas, the ideal target would not so much be how many tens do you have. Rather, the successful life would be one that has the closest numbers all the way around. That's how you keep momentum going. When you are able to keep consistent development and growth going in all seven dimensions. This creates a synergy that moves your WHOLE life forward consistently and exponentially .

Let's concede the obvious ... some people do have to work harder than others. Some people are born into environments that are more conducive to success than others. Some people have had the fortunate experience of growing up with great examples of success very close to them. Some have even had head-starts. And still others may have been protected from a lot of the negativity and pessimism that has held so many others back. Of course this is true.

But what does that say about happiness, success, and fulfillment for you? That it's not possible? That you have to settle for a second-rate life? That you should just be happy with what you have? Of course not!

- If you have to work harder than others, then work harder than others.
- If you have to undergo a more significant personal renovation than others, then go through it.
- If there are a ton of things that you have to first un-learn then un-learn them.

There are just too many credible success stories for the word “impossible” to still carry that much weight. This IS your time. This IS your shot. There’s a crack in the door of opportunity. Kick it in!

It’s not your fault!

This is an important point to accept. Not so you can live irresponsibly, but so you can rid yourself of the failed, unproductive, pseudo-motivation of guilt and shame. I am not interested in who or what is to blame for my stagnation other than to know who and what to avoid from here on.

Guilt has never been an effective long-term motivator. It may drive you for a distance or a brief period of time, but it won’t lead you to a place of peace, happiness, and fulfillment. The problem most

likely, has been that as hard as you try, and as often as you try, you seem to come up against all too familiar obstacles ... **attitudes, emotions, internal conversations, and limiting beliefs** ... that stop you short of your goals. Let yourself off of the hook of blame and shame:

- Everyone has failed!
- Everyone has doubts!
- Everyone has been wronged and betrayed!
- Every one has enemies and detractors!
- Everyone has been embarrassed!

Now, let's move on! You didn't put the mountain in your way. You didn't create the terrain. You didn't have anything to do with the rock and granite that happened to be where it is. You didn't choose the place of your birth, the environment you grew up in, your parents, your schools, nor your family's culture. Some of your set-backs may have been self-imposed, but most may have been things outside of your control. They may be situations you didn't solicit, didn't want, would have preferred and even tried to avoid. But they happened. They are a part of your journey, and an un-avoidable aspect of the

person you have become. In that sense is what I mean by “it’s not your fault.” **A culture handed you a script, programmed you to accept it, and taught you how to live it.**

It is now your responsibility to identify it, discern it, address it, and blow it out of your path. If you are willing to confront it you can change it.

**Success is not final, failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts ...
Success is going from failure to failure without losing enthusiasm.”**

Winston Churchill

Let me clarify, it is not the external stimuli that has caused or become your greatest hindrance. Rather, it is the internal conversations, beliefs, and strongholds within you. Those that result from how your internal self reacted to external stimuli. Simply stated, it is not what has happened around you and to you that has become your mountain ... it is what is going on within you. How you perceived, reacted to, or processed those things within. What they caused you to believe about yourself, the world around you,

other people, opportunities, and whether you had a shot at success or not.

Perhaps it's the lingering debilitating effects of some kind of early life trauma. Tragically, abuse at the hands of someone who should have been a contributor to your greatness but instead became an adversary to it. Dark and destructive situations or moments that were thrust upon you without your consent or perhaps even awareness. Life has plenty of those for all of us. They come in different forms and from different sources.

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy.” Martin Luther King Jr.

I would ask you to consider that a bit further ... it's not just where you stand IN moments of challenge and controversy, but what you DO with those moments after you become aware of them.

Whether it's your own perceived physical limitations, legitimate societal injustices, socio-economic status, etc; none of it can stay. Once you have identified it you simply have to be intentional

and strategic in dealing with it. Blow it out of your life. It can happen in a moment.

What if it's more monumental than that ... what if it's deep wounds and scars that have rendered you fearful, untrusting, socially terrified, or extremely angry and bitter? You can either hide behind what you feel to be legitimate issues or decide that you are no longer going to allow any of those things to dictate the rest of your life. You are going to get proactive, assertive, and intentional about changing the landscape of your life. What others have deemed impossible, you are going to dare to dream that they are possible. What others have said is ridiculous and absurd, you're going to risk it all to dream that anything is possible.

It will require you to make some substantial changes to your words, your associations, and your patterns, but those things are completely doable.

“If you want to experience something you’ve never experienced before, then you must do something you’ve never done before.” Les Brown

That doesn't guarantee that your actions are going to completely fix the situation, but it does mean you're going to do what you CAN do so that God WILL do

what He can do. It's your way of taking responsibility for how you will handle the obstacles in your way.

Re-Coding the Heart-Mind

My favorite book of all time says, "As a man thinks in his heart, so is he." (Proverbs 23:7) That's a powerful observation by the wisest king that ever lived, King Solomon. It opens up a conversation that can be extremely productive and freeing.

I was talking to a good friend of mine, Robert Pace, who has years of experience in the world of psychology and counseling. We were discussing the phenomenon of body intelligence and the actual memory capacity of the blood and of what I call the "Heart-Mind." I was expressing to him that I was perplexed over what I thought was the cynical and negative quality of the heart-mind. It seems to only retain the things in our life that are traumatic and crisis oriented.

Here's an example ... you attended that family reunion 20 years ago as a child. It was a wonderful time of great stories, delicious food, and family bonding. Granny was in the kitchen baking her signature turkey and candied yams, while Grandpa

was sitting in the den telling his infamous “when I was a kid” stories. That favorite Aunt went around slipping you and your cousins a five dollar bill. It was a fantastic time. Then ... at some point in the evening, that one drunk uncle ... (we all seem to have one) started an argument. It continued to escalate. The good uncle tried to calm him down but it just went from bad to worse. Before any of us knew what was happening, a big fist fight broke out. A lamp was tossed and shattered. Furniture started getting tipped over. The fight spilled out into the backyard and everyone was now involved, trying to break it up. Drunk uncle gets thrown into the swimming pool where he is finally subdued. The evening was ruined. Emotions were charged, tempers had flared, irretrievable words were exchanged, and everyone eventually went there separate ways.

Twenty years later, none of the four hours of wonderful bliss can be remembered. Only the 7 1/2 minute fist fight remains in our memory. Maybe that wasn't your family reunion but perhaps consider this: you do an act of kindness towards someone and they say thank you and in a few days it's over. However, let someone offend you or hurt your feelings and, five years later, the mention of their name still raises your heart rate. Why?

My friend Robert Pace explained it like this: it's not that the heart-mind only retains the things that are crisis oriented or trauma related, rather, our heart-mind is wired to retain the experiences we give the greatest amount of emotion to. Here's the kicker ... most of us give far more emotion to negative experiences than we do positive ones. And, the general rule is this ...

If You Want to Carry Anything With You Into Your Future, Celebrate it.

If you don't want to bring your life's negative experiences and moments with you throughout your life, then you have to learn to extrapolate your emotions out of those situations and move past them as quickly as possible. Not to deny their existence or pretend those things never happened. All of the experiences of your life are contributory to your future. You just have to decide in what way. How much power and influence are you going to give to each experience? Will you give it a place on the wall of memory and simply acknowledging that it was a part of your past, or do you give it a seat at the table to decide your future.

Don't invest your emotions into issues and conflicts that don't deserve that investment from you. They

will become internal mountains that impede your progress long after the initial situation is over.

This is an incredibly powerful consideration. Especially since nearly 100% of the time, the mountains that need to be moved are the ones that have been erected within us.

We are told that the average person experiences between 50,000 to 70,000 thoughts, or measurable neurological activity, each day. It is widely believed that approximately 40,000 of those thoughts are experienced subconsciously, or, in our “heart-mind.” That means we do far more (75 - 80%) thinking from our heart-mind than we do from our conscious mind. Four times as many measurable impulses travel from our heart to our head than from our head to our heart. Think of that! 80% of our actions, decisions, responses, behaviors, etc., are being determined from a place that we aren’t familiar with. It’s as though there’s this secret board room where a group of people are sitting and deciding every single outcome in our lives ... **and we don’t even know who’s sitting at the table.**

“Take Your Seat at the table, or You’ll End Up on the Menu.” Elizabeth Warren

If you don't take control of your destiny there are plenty of influences that will control it for you. But if we can get our internal systems to be free of fear, anxiety, un-forgiveness, bitterness, and negativity, then we will have an ally that works for our good rather than towards our destruction.

If you want certain things; momentous events, fulfilling experiences, valuable lessons, etc., to positively serve your life and future, then celebrate those things. And celebrate big. Keep your emotions guarded for the experiences that are worth taking with you for life. Starve the rest.

In our family, as a way to become more celebratory over good things, we decided that we would no longer just celebrate birthdays and anniversaries. Instead, we always celebrate "birth-weeks" and "Anniversary months." We look for excuses to throw a party. Incremental victories and small moments that we feel are going to be participatory in our legacy... those things get celebrated. It has made a difference.

Chapter 4

**“Trust the credibility of
your imagination.”** Stephen Miller

I said earlier that God has already wired you internally for success and fulfillment. I believe that is true for everyone. Every human being is made in the image of God. He has made an investment in all of us. Let me explain.

One of my favorite bible scriptures is found in the book of Psalm 37:3-5 ... “Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust Him and He will do this.”

I misunderstood this principle for many years. Growing up, we were told that if we trusted and honored God, we could ask Him for anything we desired and He'd give it to us. And boy we tried. I chuckle today over the crazy prayers I prayed growing up, trying to persuade God to give me stuff

by trying to convince Him it was my heart's desire. The problem is this; the same bible also tells us that most people don't know their own hearts. King Solomon said to try with any kind of certainty was the equivalent to chasing "vanities."

Early translators of scripture chose this word "vanities" as the best description of what Solomon was saying. It's a word that actually came from early English soap makers. When the various ingredients would be mixed together and boiled, it would produce these incredible substantive looking bubbles. They looked solid, frame-able even, as though you could put it somewhere in your house like a piece of sculpture. The obvious problem was that as soon as you got your hands on it, what looked to be one thing, was instantly gone and you were left with nothing but sticky soap suds in your hand.

Wow, does that ever feel like real life at times. Chasing after things, ideas, someone else's dream, vanities of all kinds, where we were just sure that if we could get our hands on it life would become grand and beautiful. Only to realize that what we thought was one thing, turned out to be something different altogether. What we thought would be a

cure-all for our lives and future, when we got our hands on it, just made a big mess.

There's a better understanding of this principle. What it is really saying is if we trust God and commit our ways to Him, He'll give our heart it's desires. Or in other words, God will tell our heart what to desire. Your realization of the greatness that is within you begins when you open that space inside of you for faith. It's already there. You and I are born pre-wired with the capacity for faith in our creator. When you open yourself up to that possibility then God can start breathing into you, as it were, awakening the audacious greatness that He desires for you. It all begins with a total trust and reliance on God for your life rather than chasing after what is trendy, or what we think we have to achieve to impress others. Trust that God wants true happiness and fulfillment for you more than you could ever want it for yourself.

“If God has already scripted your life, then the wisest thing is to let His journal become our journey.” Dr Richard Heard

Think of this ... the very fact that you can dream of a future of success, happiness, and fulfillment is in and of itself, proof-positive that you are capable of

achieving it. So many people run themselves ragged trying to chase their dreams. Why? Your dreams aren't running from you. I know at times it seems like they are, but they're not. They are in you because God put them there and told your heart to desire it. They have been inside of you your whole life. What you have to focus on instead, is removing the layers of doubt so that greatness can emerge. Define who and what the enemies of your dreams are and arm yourself with the tools to break through these barriers. You need to experience a dynamite moment that blasts away the layers of stubborn resistance. The challenge is not whether or not it's possible. Neither is it an issue of your worth or value. You are capable of far more than you know. NEVER underestimate what is in you, therefore, never underestimate YOU. Others may, and you may have even underestimated yourself, but today that comes to an end. Greatness is in you just waiting to explode. It's just waiting for the right moment.

There's only one of you. Never one before you, and there'll never be one after you. You are not a copy, you are an original. You are not an echo, you are a voice. You have a specific date with a destiny that is great.

You may feel like the most unlikely person, full of ill-perceived inabilities, surrounded by what appears to be insurmountable dis-advantages, but TRUST ME ...

Dynamite comes in small packages.

You may think, “how can you say that when you don’t know anything about me?” That may be true, but I do believe what ancient scripture says ... “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

That should settle it:

- As a piece of the Master, you are a Masterpiece.
- Greatness is in you because God put it there.
- You need to experience or create your big moment.
- You must remove the mountains within you.

Now that I’ve spent the first four chapters building a case as to WHY you can and need to tap into the greatness within you, I want to shift. From this point forward, I want to focus on HOW to move forward with methods and specific strategies that are going to make all the difference in the world.

Chapter 5

You Gotta SEE It!

“Just because a man lacks the use of his eyes doesn’t mean he lacks vision.”

Stevie Wonder

Let’s start with this. **You gotta have a Compass:** The drive and desire to succeed has to start with a well defined “why.” Your personal North Star if you will. It’s a clear vision concerning WHY you want to succeed. You couldn’t get municipal permits to build a house without blueprints. You can’t get clearance to take off in a plane without first filing a “flight plan.” You don’t typically sew a garment without a pattern, and you don’t manufacture a product without first having a prototype. Yet, so many people think they can experience great success without a clear plan and vision for it.

Before you can experience an explosive moment, there needs to be a defined objective for one.

Why do you want to succeed so badly? Why is being extraordinary so important to you? You must clearly define these outcomes first.

“You’ve got to think about big things while you’re doing small things so that all the small things go in the right direction.” Alvin Toffler

This will really help to root out ambitions that become hindrances rather than helps.

- Do you NEED to be recognized by other people?
- Are you trying to keep up with everyone else?
- Are you trying to compensate for hurts and insecurities?
- Are you trying to impress others for the sake of ego?

These are important questions to ask and settle. Primarily, because when answered correctly, they help bring clarity and strength to your quest for greatness. When your “Why” is clear it removes the uncertainties that get exacerbated by adversity. When you are your own end, you set yourself up for more frequent seasons of what I call “stalling out.”

**“Microsoft was founded with a vision
of a computer on every desk, and in every home.
We’ve never wavered from
that vision.”** Bill Gates

People that just chase after money or fame, or some other perception of success without clear and honorable objectives usually never achieve it. If they do, it is usually short lived. Your why has to be bigger than temporal things. It must eclipse the superficial appetites for money, toys, and notoriety.

When your motivation is clear it helps you avoid disorganization, chaos, and confusion. Without clearly identifying your why, you get overwhelmed with a ton of activity that you think you “should” be doing, but it’s not propelling you forward.

Do Won Chang grew up in South Korea in a difficult time. Martial Law had only recently been lifted and the country was still reeling from the assassination of the military dictator Park Chung-Hee. Do Won, a devout Christian, had a strong why. **His family was everything. He wanted his family to be happy and well provided for and he wanted to perpetuate that value in others by creating jobs for as many people as he possibly could.** That was proving to be a real problem in his country. So, he scraped together

enough money to move to America with his wife and parents. Two days after arriving he got a job at a coffee shop cleaning up tables and washing dishes. Several weeks later, he added another job at a gas station. He noticed while pumping gas that the guys who drove up in the nicest sports cars were all in the fashion industry. He ended up going to work for a small clothing shop in the garment district of Los Angeles. He treated the business like it was his and gained the favor of his boss. His wife had gotten a job as a hairdresser. Together, after three years, they managed to save \$11,000. With that they took over a small shop that had been struggling. Within his first year he produced sales of \$700,000. It was 1984 and the dream was in motion. That shop which was called Fashion 21 was the beginning of the international clothing chain “**Forever 21.**” They currently employ 43,000 people, have 790 locations in 48 countries and have a personal net-worth of over 3 billion dollars. See, when you have a clearly defined “why” and it is an honorable one that is bigger than you, you will just find a way. In fact, I love the way this principle is expressed in the faith community, “**when you have a clear and honorable vision, then favor and provision will find you.**”

“He who has a WHY can endure any HOW.”

Frederick Nietzsche

Let's talk about healthy "whys" and how they can empower your quest. As I've stated, your God-sized "whys" are multi-faceted. By multi-faceted I mean that God has your faith, your finances, your family, and your future in mind. He's not only interested in giving you more money, or a bigger house, or nicer toys. His idea of greatness for you is most certainly going to include several things:

- **It should be generational.** God wants to bless you with blessings that affect your children's children. He always has multiple generations in mind when He dishes out blessings. Therefore, the easiest way to articulate this is to say that your "why" must be for reasons that will outlive you. My father used to tell me, **"Son, if you don't spend your life on something that will live longer than you do, then you have wasted your time."** Wow! That's so powerful and true. The more unselfish and generous your "why" is, the greater the likelihood that you will experience your dream in its fullness.
- **It is should be audacious.** The plans and dreams that God put in your heart are likely to be so big and beyond your comprehension that it should borderline on terrifying. If what you are living for is completely within your natural ability to

achieve, you may be dreaming too small. It may just be that you are “playing it safe.” Ancient scripture speaks often of God approaching people with His idea of purpose and greatness for them. More often than not, the initial responses were, “you’ve got to be kidding, or me? Not possible,” or “I don’t have what it takes and don’t even know where I’d begin.” However, these same examples frequently resulted in ordinary people doing extraordinary things and arriving at extraordinary places. In light of this, I want to say YOU’RE NEXT! Why not you? Why not now?

- **It should be beyond your perceived ability.** Most people feel they are functioning at the height of their ability. They feel like they are already maxed out, doing the best they can. But again, every great achievement in history, every noteworthy accomplishment, every person who found ultimate success and fulfillment did so after discovering a strength they had no idea was within them.
- **It should require help from another world.** Don’t let that scare you. I don’t mean to sound spooky. Nor am I implying that you don’t already have the necessary ingredients within you to achieve it. Simply stated, it will require that you experience “dynamite moments” that cause you to grasp

something bigger than your consciousness. Moments that I am writing about. Moments that blow away the “beneath the surface” obstacles that have kept your greatness buried deep within you. Moments where God seems to breathe upon the desire He’s put inside of you and causes it to come to the surface. I’ll discuss in a following chapter how these “other world” moments come to us. (Hint) They’re not usually accompanied by angels and heavenly choirs, or from the mouth of a fire breathing prophet. Mine came through my father in the heroic moment shared in chapter ONE.

- **It will be inspirational.** Your why is what keeps you inspired. Inspired comes from a Latin word that means “breathed on by God.” Your why will be a deeper thing than just casual interests. It will be what God has breathed into you. Tapping into that inspiration is the thing that makes you alive. The thing that moves you beyond the challenges and obstacles in your way. A great idea, an interest, and cool goals will not. An inspired WHY that is congruent with what you are passionate about and what really matters to you is an unstoppable force.

There is something in you that is unique and original. Nobody in your family has ever done such a thing. Nobody expects you to ever produce such a

thing. That's what's so great about it. You are moving towards a life that will stun everyone who thinks they know you.

I was so impacted by a conversation I had several years with a good friend of mine. He had sold a successful business he had built a few years earlier for a little over a billion dollars. Being financially set for life, he launched a project he had dreamed about for years ... to travel around the country and interview as many people as he could that were considered to be in the top 1% of this country in terms of their wealth. His idea was to see if he could determine what the common denominators were among them. I will refrain from referring to his name or the title of his project since aspects of it are still a work in progress. One of the first things he shared with me was that of the 300 one-percenters he interviewed over two years, 76% of them acquired their real wealth between the ages of 49 to 58 years of age. You may have heard that if you're in your 40's or 50's, and you haven't made it yet, it's too late. Obviously that isn't true. He shared with me that the interesting correlation he noticed was between the accumulation of wealth and the arrival of grandchildren. Again, wow!! I said earlier that your dreams from God are going to be multi-generational. Well, here you go. Prior to having grandchildren,

many of these wealthy people, in his words, were competing in the world of young mens lusts, the comparison game, etc. It wasn't until they started becoming aware of their legacy, through the arrival of their own 3rd generation, that they started opening themselves up to greatness that would outlive them. As a proud Papa and Nana of three fantastic grandchildren ourselves, (and hopefully still counting) Mary and I can attest to the fact that grandchildren have a magical ability to change the game. Perhaps because they open us up more to the possibilities that God has for us and the greatness He wants to produce through us.

He's Bigger Than You've Ever Considered:

I love the idea of a transcendent God. Scripture says;

“As high as the heavens are above the earth, so are My ways higher than yours, and My thoughts are higher than your thoughts.” (Isaiah 55:9)

Culture, history, people, and even your own past experiences may have given credibility to certain limitations or boundaries, but God knows no such limitations. He exists outside of time, space, weakness, inability, or limitations of any and every kind.

So, how does this transcendent God break through these limitations? Perhaps He does so through the ridiculous notions that people have that they don't have to accept these limitations. As it turns out over and over again, history has been made by people who weren't as concerned with everyone else's opinions and ideas. They weren't crazy or ridiculous. They just had a moment where they dared to believe that what they were seeing in their minds and hearts was something credible and achievable. Maybe a perfectly timed word of encouragement from a mentor, teacher, coach, or hero. Perhaps a huge serendipitous moment where everything just looked different. Maybe it was observing a moment in nature, or a nighttime dream. Whatever it was, perhaps it was this transcendent God breaking through their internal barriers to inspire them to dream bigger, go higher, or try again.

See, whatever you gaze at in your internal mind ... (the thoughts and focus of your heart) ... or imagination, is what you will attract and create.

Where did these audacious dreams, ideas, and thoughts come from? Too much TV? Too much daydreaming? I think not. Perhaps it is God rising up within you in the form of your imagination.

“The entrance of a transcendent God, into a world of impossibilities, is through the imaginations of ordinary people.” Stephen Miller

I was raised around an environment that viewed imaginations as almost evil, or certainly futile at best. The reference was always to the words of Christ when he warned; “beware of vain imaginations ...” But perhaps you should consider, if there are “vain imaginations” then it stands to reason that there are also profitable ones.

Several years ago I was driving my motorcycle into my garage. At the time, my team and I were doing a lot of High School student assemblies as a motivational program. Understandably, it was always in my mind as to how I could capture the attention of high schoolers right up front, before the crowd could get away from us and make it difficult to share our message. As I pulled into the garage, I looked over and saw my eight inch adjustable crescent wrench sitting on my workbench. I immediately wondered, if I can take that wrench and crush it with my bare hand, (bend it in half) would that freak teens out and get their attention? So, I set up my video camera, grabbed the wrench, and with my bare hands crushed it. It was an incredible moment of yet another level of realization of the

uncommon strength I possessed. In addition to adding it to our shows, I took the wrench, the video tape as proof, and a hand written note that said, "If you're smart, you'll want to contact the guy who did this bare handed." I put it all in a box and mailed it to the TV show "Ripley's Believe it or Not."

A few months later I got a call from Ripley's. It was one of their TV show producers who said, "We want to know if you're interested in doing a show for us. We saw a guy in Germany attempt a feat and he failed. We're thinking a guy who can crush a wrench with his bare hands may be interested in attempting this feat." My response was, "explain the feat you're considering." The producer explained that they wanted to fly me and my team to Las Vegas. There was a 27 story tower there and they wanted to have someone jump from this tower on a bungee cord. The feat ... I was to stand on top of the tower and hold the cord with my bare hands. Immediately I said, "send me the contract, I'm in!" He chuckled, rather condescendingly, and said he wanted to give me time to really think it over and study the physics of the feat, blah blah blah. I chuckled back and said, "No need for that. As you were explaining the feat to me, I saw myself doing it, so, send me the contract. You'll get your TV show, I'll get a paycheck and a world record out of it and we're all happy."

Well, that is exactly what happened. We flew to Las Vegas, performed the feat, got paid, set another world record, and that feat went on to air over 80 times on the TV show “Ripley’s Believe it or Not.”

The point I’m making with this story is that if you are able to see a thing in your mind/imagination ... it’s no longer a matter of “If” or “Can I?” It’s simply a matter of time. How long will it take you to pull the trigger! Your big dreams and your imaginations are credible. They are credible, because they are God working in and through you.

Write your dreams down:

Put a copy of it everywhere. Your refrigerator, your car, on your bathroom mirror. I love the idea of a “vision board.” There’s tons of information and examples out there about how to put together a great dream board. They’re effective and help you stay focussed daily on your dreams and goals. Your life, home, car, office cubicle, etc. should be marked by visuals of the life you desire for yourself and your family. The place you want to live, the car you want to drive, the quality of family relationships, the grande ideas that drive you from within. Get a visual of it. You’re on your way.

Put dates to it:

It's not only effective, it's completely necessary in order to keep moving forward in your pursuit of greatness. There's a sense of personal accountability you live by when you are holding yourself to a timeline. That doesn't mean you'll always hit your times and dates. What it does do is eliminate a lot of wasted time and procrastination. Be firm on your ultimate goal but flexible on your timing, desired completion dates, and methodology. For example, if your destination is to get to New York City in the fall, don't get stuck on the notion that if you can't fly you can't get there.. there are other ways. You can drive, ride a bus, catch a train, etc. And New York City is even more beautiful at Christmas.

“A dream written down with a date becomes a goal.” Greg Reid

Even if you can't find any heroic people in your life or circles. It's ok. Be your own hero. At the end of the day it is the sound of your own voice that becomes the governor of your destiny. All of your internal systems were designed by the Creator to respond the most favorably to your own voice. All that God has

put within you is waiting for you to lite the fuse. Take the initiative. If you don't, nothing will change.

“You hit what you aim at. If you aim at nothing you will hit the mark every time.”

Zig Ziglar

So, to conclude this chapter, I want to tell you that your imagination is crucial to your success. Your WHAT and your WHY are developed and revealed their. Don't worry so much about the HOW. That's coming next.

Chapter 6

You Gotta SAY It!

Words create worlds. Yes, that's a big and powerful idea. But here's something for you to consider. One of my favorite research projects over the years has to do with the studies that have been conducted on the amazon tribal community of the Piraha people. They have been researched by the most prestigious educational institutions in the world and are considered to be the most primitive people group anywhere on the planet. Their behavioral idiosyncrasies, traditions, and cultural uniqueness is almost "prehistoric" in nature.

Without taking the time to exhaust the details of these studies, since that is a another book and one that I am probably not sufficiently qualified to write, let me just give you an elementary conclusion. The extremely primitive culture, conduct, and traditions of the Piraha people are due to the fact that they also possess the most primitive and limited language in the world. This may be difficult to wrap our minds

around since we have such an exhaustive vocabulary in the English language. Imagine however, not having the vocabulary to define extensive past or future events or ideas. Having no vocabulary to communicate quantities of more than what you can hold in your hands. It's seven consonants and three vowels are the fewest known of any language. The dialect is extremely limited in phonetic and numerical value as well. They have no words to distinguish the difference between past, present, and future tense. Therefore, no vocabulary to articulate their history, no descriptive words, and no subordinate clauses. The extreme limitation of their vocabulary has caused a myriad of challenges. Even though they have the mental capacity to learn, they've not valued it. They see no need to expand their vocabulary, therefore, nothing ever changes or improves. There have been little to NO advancements, changes, or variations to their culture and behavior for the last century.

Let me say this in the simplest way I can. The limits of one's vocabulary, become the limits of one's ability to advance. Your words will establish the parameters of your ability to dream or imagine. Without a vocabulary that is challenging, creative, and even uncomfortable, new worlds can not be created. By uncomfortable I mean words and

language that do not coincide with your present world.

My favorite book of all time says (Joel 3:10)

“ ... let the weak say I am strong.”

This is said in a particular context, however, at the same time it reveals a universal principle as well. Knowing the principle, we could also expand it to include ... “let the poor say I am rich - let the sick say I am healed - let the weary say I have rest.”

My question would be, when do you say this? When your ARE strong or FEEL strong? That might be the easiest or safest time. Average people never put yourself out there. They don't want to create any unnecessary expectations. They don't put themselves in a place of accountability to their own confessions. But that doesn't bring a reward. There's no victory or sense of accomplishment in just “waiting to see” before we risk embarrassing ourselves.

I believe that you have to commit to speaking words that don't fit your current situation in order to change the situation. You have to speak from a thermostat perspective rather than from a thermometer one. A thermometer simply hangs on

the wall and reflects the current temperature. A thermostat however, because it is connected to a larger unit elsewhere, has a more transformational role. When the temperature is not at a point where it has been determined it should be, the thermostat activates the bigger unit to kick in and change the temperature. That's what you have to do with your words. Anyone can stand up and echo the obvious. Successful people however, are typically the ones that begin to speak the **language** of success well before they enjoy the **life** of success.

You have to speak words that reflect where you want to be **AS THOUGH YOU ARE ALREADY THERE**. Trust me, if you adapt a vocabulary of success, happiness, and fulfillment, it's only a matter of time before the same emerges in your life. Don't say things like, "I can't" or "I just cant see it" or any other words/phrases that reflect your current circumstance. Learn to speak words that indicate the direction you are aiming to go.

**"Words Are Containers For Power, You Choose
What Kind of Power They Will Carry."** Joyce Meyer

Often, people don't speak audacious, life giving words to their dreams because they feel silly or even foolish making such declarations. Many people may

be able to handle the ridicule from others. That's easier to excuse or ignore. The negative and critical words of people who do not know you are easier to navigate around. In fact, that's our common internal response; "They don't know me."

But very few people can handle the ridicule that comes from within them, and sounds like their own voice. The ability to trudge onward and ignore the voice in our own head is what separates the average from the extraordinary. Eventually, the voice in your head will catch up to the words coming out of your mouth. In order to move your life forward, closer to your dreams, you will need to speak in a way, before you get there, like you are already there.

"You cannot even think a thought that you don't have the vocabulary to define." Stephen Miller

Let me be clear. I'm not *only* referring to the articulation of audible words. While I believe there is an advantage to putting yourself out there in an "all in, all on the line" kind of way, I do think the same principle is at work concerning people who can't speak or audibly communicate, or aren't around people to speak to. I believe the internal dialogue is every bit as powerful. I'm pretty sure that when people fail and give up, it's not as much because

they told everyone they were going to do something great and didn't. I'm certain it was more because they told themselves from within, that they could not and turned out to be right.

So, words do create worlds.

Tony Robbins states: "Throughout human history, our greatest leaders and thinkers have used the power of words to transform our emotions, to enlist us in their causes, and to shape the course of destiny. Words can not only create emotions, they create actions. And from our actions flow the results of our lives." Here's a great progression to consider ...

Speak a word, reap a thought. Consider a thought, reap an action. Commit an action, reap a habit or pattern. Sustain a pattern and reap your destiny.

There are certain things that get replaced when technology advances ... other things that new technology builds on. However, believe me when I tell you that the scope of our power through words hasn't yet been fully tapped. Don't get in a hurry to date this idea in favor of the newest pizzazz. It's more important and relevant now than ever.

I shall never forget as long as I live the moment my son Stephen had his dynamite moment. Thanks to God I was even able to be a part of it. It was a combination of a dynamite moment for my wife and I as well as a personal one for our son. It was a few months following an ordeal with his health that nearly cost him his life. Perhaps I should pause to further explain the ordeal since it was the set-up for his moment.

When Stephen was in his early-mid twenties, he had started his own cigar company. His specific role of blending, manufacturing, and quality control for their product required him to spend weeks at a time down in Nicaragua. He ended up living down there at least half of the year for several years. On one particular trip he developed a DVT (Deep Vein Thrombosis / or a large blood clot) in his calf muscle while flying down there. Being a young man without any previous physical challenges, he had no idea it could be something serious. So it went untreated and in a matter of a couple of weeks, ended up dislodging and moving to his lungs where it turned into a massive Pulmonary Embolism. We did not know that was the condition and thought it best to get him back to the US for treatment rather than risk him having something very serious in a country with a third-world medical system. By the time we were

able to fly him back to Los Angeles, he was in serious trouble. We finally got him to the ER where he was gasping for breath, as things had already gone from bad to worse. After rushing him back for scans and an emergency evaluation, a trio of doctors came out to speak to my wife and I. The news rocked our world.

The Dr's words echoed in our ears and crushed our hearts ... "Your son is a very sick young man and we don't expect him to make it through the night and certainly not the weekend. 80% of his lung tissue is dead and it's not going to come back. His heart is two-and-a-half times it's normal size, to the point that if he sneezes he may go into cardiac arrest. His liver is failing and his kidneys are shutting down. Even if he was to get a miracle and live through this, you should be prepared for him to be strapped to oxygen the rest of his life and be completely disabled." We didn't even know where to begin or what to say. What we did know is that we needed to have a "dynamite moment." We needed something to change and very quickly. Sitting around with our fingers crossed and just hoping for a good outcome just seemed inadequate as well as completely unacceptable..

So, my wife got on the phone and began to enlist the prayers of our friends around the world. And I, well, I went out to the parking lot and sat in my car. I prayed like I had never prayed before. I discovered some things about God, myself, and the power of explosive, intense, and focused prayer that I hadn't known before. Almost immediately our confession changed. We started saying that Stephen was going to walk out of that hospital and he was going to be 100 % whole.

It was four days later that Stephen, even though on a walker and still very weak, was discharged from the hospital without any oxygen. Over the course of the next couple of months God began to heal and restore his lungs and his heart. Thanks be to God for working a series of miracles for my son. He ended up being healed and restored to nearly 100% in his whole body.

Now ... prior to this ordeal, Stephen had never been remotely interested in pursuing the strongman world at all. But, a couple of months after this ordeal, we were sitting on our front porch watching the waves come in to the shore when I received a call from an organization wanting me to come and give a Strongman Performance. One feat in particular that I was asked to do is a feat that I hold the world record

in. The Human link/Harley Pull. Since there are so few people in the world that can even do this feat, even in the strongman world, this would not be considered an entry level feat. So, I checked my calendar and booked the event. Immediately after hanging up, I turned to Stephen and said ... "Son, you know what would be incredible and blow people's minds, is if we don't tell anyone about this, but we just show up for this event. When it comes time for me to do this world class feat, YOU walk up, grab the straps, and YOU perform the feat." His response, "Dad, you think I can?" Before I could speak, I was immediately taken back in my mind to the moment I had with my father that I told about in chapter One, my dynamite moment. Somehow I knew that I should choose my words carefully. I could sense that a moment was upon us that could change life forever. So, I said to Stephen, "Son, I know you can do it, you were born for this." I can't explain to you everything that was going on within him, he'll have to write about it himself one day. What I can tell you is that a belief gripped him in that moment, that explosive dynamite moment, that would end up changing his life dramatically. He came to the event with me, stepped up at the last moment, grabbed the straps, and performed a world class feat of strength for the first time in his life. From that moment on he has continued to increase

and excel in human strength to the point that he is now considered one of the top premiere performers in the entire strongman world.

All I can say, is that I'm forever grateful that the strongman legacy that started with a dynamite moment for me, has continued because of a similar moment in the next generation.

Real momentum begins with the words you speak. I realize that goes against the conventional idea that we think, therefore we speak. But so as not to fuss over semantics, (is it the chicken or the egg that comes first) it's best to consider your thoughts and words to be tandem in functionality with a slight edge going to your words.

The advantage being that it's easier to deal with negative thoughts as long as they are just that, thoughts. They're not any good for you, they will hurt you, and you have to get rid of them, but they are easier to deal with than words. Once you give an audible expression to a thought, you really taken ownership of it. Until then, take the time to analyze and assess your thoughts to determine which ones should get a voice. Because once you give it one, it can be extremely difficult to undo it.

Again, it is not a scenario of thoughts versus words. If you want to succeed in life, you will have to have both, thought processes as well as audible language that moves you towards bigger, better, and more.

Chapter 7

The Anatomy of Moment Making!

There is a great sense of awe over the kind of serendipitous moments I've discussed so far. Those moments that seem to be fate or chance can be chilling and awesome ... the moment we realized we didn't want to stay in that dead-end job any longer, that teacher acknowledged a hidden talent, or that chance meeting with someone who becomes a life long friend. Perhaps a moment where we watch the unraveling or collapse of someone's life that mattered to us, and we determined right then and there we were not going to accept that for ourselves. There are others.

But what should you do while waiting on one of those? What should you do if you haven't had that chance or fate moment? You don't have to sit around waiting for your life changing moment to randomly occur without notice. It is possible to create these moments for yourself, intentionally and strategically.

You CAN create your own dynamite moment. Here's how you can begin to do that:

(A) Position:

I have learned that these “chance” moments are not nearly as random as we thought. In one way, we played a bigger role in experiencing the dynamite moment than we thought. Perhaps it had a little bit to do with positioning. Your positioning determines your perspective. From New York City, you see the front of Lady Liberty, but from New Jersey you see her hind parts. There are some perspectives that you must have but won't experience from the position you are in. Especially when the needed adjustment of your position is upward. Life looks very different from an elevated position than others. In order to see what you need to see, you have to take an elevated position in your life. In attitude and mindset, as well as physically. The elevated perspective will always give you an advantage.

Your chances of experiencing your own dynamite moment are exponentially greater if you put yourself in a better position to have one.

Maybe you need to remove yourself from the circle of negative, pessimistic people you spend so much time around. You are very unlikely to experience a dynamite moment when you are in a position where the constant barrage of language is negative. That may mean you have to cut some people out of your life that have inadvertently become adversarial to your success rather than complimentary to it.

“What is around you is a reflection of what is within you.”

Maybe you're in a career or work environment that keeps you limited and reinforces the erroneous notion that you have reached your ceiling. Those are environments that keep you irritable and agitated. You're agitated because something inside of you keeps believing that things can be different, better, and more. But the people closest to you tell you that there isn't. If you stay in that diminished state for too long you could eventually implode. Get out of there.

Get yourself into an environment that is conducive to higher-level thinking. It may cost you short-term but it will be so worth it in the long run. There are some environments that have a tendency to minimize our strengths and illuminate our weaknesses. They're not always evil environments,

they may just not be the place that suits your dreams and future.

Positioning isn't only about getting away from the dead-weight folks around you. It must also involve getting yourself around people who are winners. Get around people who love to dream, people who are doers. Find people who have already been where you still want to go. Absorb from them. Speak less and let them speak more. Learn to honor and value people who are winning.

“Respect higher-level environments by absorbing FROM them until you can contribute TO them.

“ Stephen Miller

Listen to how these people talk and think. Seek to understand how they approach life's challenges, as well as how they respond to the setbacks and difficulties. You aren't restricted to people you can have physical connections to either. You can learn from people who are great mentors just by reading their written works. I personally love to read the biographies and auto-biographies of great, history-making people. So many lessons can be learned by doing so. I have had dynamite moments while reading about someone else's success. Especially when it is a transparent and authentic work. People

who's vulnerability let us see that they are as ordinary as the next person. Real-life accounts of ordinary people doing extraordinary things are good and healthy food for your spirit, mind, and soul. There's nothing wrong with having heroes. In fact, there's everything right about having them. They open our eyes to see new possibilities about our own lives.

“You will be the same in 5 years as you are today, except for two things; the books you read and the people you meet.” Charlie “Tremendous” Jones

Do a total-life inventory on the books you read, where you spend a lot of time, and the TV shows/ movies you watch. Garbage in, garbage out as they say. It's very difficult to function in a place where there's a constant energy deficit. By that I mean, when you are committed to being a positive, forward-moving person, but you're surrounded by an environment that spews out far more negative energy, then you may be operating from a deficit. You may be trying to give out far more than you're taking in.

Of course there are moments or short seasons where you are the spark in the room and the light in the darkness. But, if you stay there too long it will drain

you. You must pay attention to your own levels of energy.

None of us are unlimited when it comes to how much focus, or energy, or virtue we have. You have to measure your capacity carefully. Don't continue to invest yourself and pour your life into environments, people, and situations that only take and take out of you, but NEVER put anything back in you.

Monitor how much news and social media you allow yourself to be exposed to on a daily basis. Some of these platforms can keep your mind and spirit so cluttered with negativity and pessimism that it makes it unlikely you can have a dynamite moment in the midst of all that stuff. It's easy, if you subject yourself, to get pulled emotionally into situations that really don't pertain to you, but can still cause you to experience anger, frustration, and anxiety over them.

Then there's the danger of rocking yourself to sleep with subtle deception. When you are constantly communicating that you are living the extraordinary life before you actually are, you can get caught up in this ...

Average people spend their time trying to create the perception of success, while champions spend their time doing the work that will actually create success.

Stephen Miller

Embellished statements and claims that go unchallenged, photos that are staged with multiple takes, and the ability to edit out all adversity from the picture don't make your life any more fulfilling.

(B) Perspective:

If your position determines your perspective, then your perspective determines your personal productivity. Perspective is defined as: "The interrelation in which a subject or its parts are mentally viewed." More simply put, perspective is the lens from which you view life. It's your viewpoint that determines what you see and how you see it.

"We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice because thorns have roses."

Alphonse Karr

As you pay more attention to your positioning in life, you are simultaneously improving your ability to have proper perspectives. How you see situations, people, challenges, events, etc., affects your ability to have a measured response to them. It can be as simple as how you look at the success of someone's life. If your improved position has given you a more positive perspective regarding possibilities, your response won't be "I wish I could do something like that." Instead it will be "How can I do something like that?" From, "I wish I could afford something like that" to "How can I acquire something like that?" A positive perspective gives you the ability to re-frame events and situations and put them in the context of possibilities rather than impossibility. Your perspective determines whether you see problems or possibilities.

Psychologists call this "selective perspective." There is so much data and stimulation coming at us on a minute by minute basis today. News, carefully crafted marketing campaigns, the life and times of our personal social media communities, and so on. You have to determine beforehand, how you are going to see and interpret this deluge of data. That may seem to be daunting. But, having the right perspective does just that for us. It is akin to having a "pre-set lens" that we view all of life through.

Having this possibility perspective causes us to ask the right questions, subject information to the right processes, and arrive at the right conclusions.

Your perspective, or viewpoint shapes your thought processes, decisions, and even your course of action in life. The perspectives from which people see life are endless, but here are a few one-liners that may spark you to make your own adjustments to your perspective:

- Walk with your head up, you'll see more.
- Keep your eyes open, you'll miss less.
- Be thankful for what you have, and you'll get more.
- Everything comes to pass ...
- See what you want to see, or someone will make you see what they want you to see.
- Choose when to zoom in or zoom out.
- If you don't form your own perception, you're accepting someone else's.

“The world is a tragedy to those who feel, but a comedy to those who think.” — Horace Walpole

(C) Placement!

Pay attention to your immediate surroundings. The inside of your car, your home, your office cubicle, etc. When you are surrounded by disorganization and clutter, it becomes increasingly less likely that you will experience a life changing moment. Open the curtains, let some light in. Do the laundry and clean things up. Take out the trash and light some scented candles. Do whatever you have to do to make sure the environment you spend most of your time in is clean, organized, and fresh all the time.

I'm not saying that if you keep your house clean you're guaranteed success in life. I am saying however, that sometimes removing the clutter and the mess in the natural can trigger the same effect in your mind and heart. I know in my own life, my creativity, organizational abilities, and higher-level thinking, is just better overall when I have kept myself positioned properly in a good, clean and fresh environment.

Never underestimate what being surrounded by order and cleanliness can do for your mind and soul. The placement of things around you can be

incredibly helpful in sustaining the momentum in your life. Do you have visual reminders of the goals you're living to achieve? Do you have a dream board or vision board? Do you have things around you that remind you that you are a worthy person? Does the placement of things in your life contribute to your success or distract from it?

Chapter 8

The Power of Honor!

In almost every great story I'm aware of, and with all the extraordinary lives I have studied, someone was showing honor, respect, or admiration towards something or someone.

Honor is defined as “ ... showing a high measure of esteem; (or) to regard with admiration and respect.” See, my personal dynamite moment occurred while I was watching my father in a heroic moment. I couldn't have been more proud at any time in my life than I was on that day. I was admiring the exploits of Jim Miller and proudly acknowledging, that's my Dad!

However, let's go further with this idea since honor is not just something you do towards one particular person. What I'm talking about is possessing honor as a part of your character. It will never go out of style, and when you are enjoying the pinnacle of your success, it makes victory taste sweet.

“Success without honor is an unseasoned dish; it will satisfy your hunger but it won’t taste good.”

Coach Joe Paterno

It is widely accepted and agreed upon that character is a combination of three things: having the right values, doing the right things, and being the right person. Well, without writing a whole “mini-book” within this book, let me just say that honor certainly is a **right value**. And **to show** honor is certainly the right thing to do. And of course, having honor or **being “honorable”** one’s self is the right kind of person to be. So, this is how you make honor a part of your character:

1. You accept and embrace that honor is a high-level virtue.
2. You decide to be intentional and committed to showing honor. And then ...
3. You live a life that others will find easy to honor. If you want to be respected, be respectable. If you want to be honored, be honorable.

It may seem that the idea of honor as a character is an odd topic in a book about creating and experiencing life changing moments. However, consider the applications of honor and its relevance to creating defining moments.

(A) Honor Your Moments:

We have to talk about learning to respect and honor the idea of a MOMENT in and of itself. When you don't respect and value time, it's possible to miss moments when they do come. It's like having a pocket full of pennies. You're not going to sweat losing a couple here and there. That's what people who don't value time do. They waste so much time doing nothing as though they were guaranteed they were going to live to be 180 years old.

- Excessive amounts of pointless television.
- Projects/hobbies that don't pertain to their goals.
- Spending time with negative people and places.
- Excessive hours on Social Media
- Investing in hostile conversations and situations that don't pertain to you.

You get the picture. But if you have a pocket full of hundred dollar bills ... you are counting, measuring, and looking out for that money.

“The more you can value time, the higher level of sensitivity and perception you will have to see the potential that each and every moment contains.”

Stephen Miller

You have to become an assertive steward of the moments that make up your life. Knowing that a single moment can dramatically change your life makes you constantly aware that any give moment could be THE one.

See, our life ends up being the sum total of many many moments. Most moments are merely extensions or expressions of previous moments. Therefore, momentum occurs when one moment simply leads us to the next one. Here's the great news. At any MOMENT, when we recognize that the nature of the moment is not pure or helpful, we can redirect or restart the momentum of our life simply by changing the moment. Don't get overwhelmed with the task of having to re-order the trajectory of your entire life. Just live each moment like it could be the explosive moment that changes the next one and the next one and then the next one. Great life experiences usually hinge on a great moment that lead to a few more that turn into a valuable momentum. You can be your own hero and create a dynamite moment today that will blow adversity away and clear your mind and soul of the clutter of ruin and regret. Just begin with the moment you are experiencing right now.

(B) Honor Mentors:

“Successful People seek counsel, while failures listen to opinions.” Greg Reid

You will never possess the success or experience the greatness that you criticize. If you want to bring something closer to your own grasp then celebrate that thing in someone else. The fact that they got there first shouldn't be a negative. It just means you have a clearer example of what IS possible. My favorite book in the world says it like this ...

“...Whatsoever a person sows, that is what he/she shall surely reap.”

Another version is ... **What you make happen for others, God will make happen for you.** Gleaning from the wisdom and experiences of mentors, parents, pastors, and coaches can shorten your path to success if you take heed. I love the all too familiar words of Sir Winston Churchill ...

“Those who don't learn from history are doomed to repeat it.”

To build on that, we can say that those who DO learn from history, are the ones privileged to MAKE history. And, when it comes to your success and fulfillment, the hindsight of your leaders and mentors can become your foresight.

Chapter 9

The Success of Solitude

I'm certainly not suggesting that becoming a loner will help you become successful. Not the case at all. However, in the context of optimal human motivation, the two things most all professionals agree on as premium ingredients for keeping oneself and others motivated is *autonomy* and *creativity*. Let's talk about both.

Autonomy is defined as the right to govern oneself. In this context, specifically as it pertains to the value of solitude. Not so much the desire to be free from all rule of law, rather, getting away from all the voices and influences crowding your life. You have to get free from the powers and persons that rule over you to dictate what or who you can become. Spending regular periods of time alone so that you can give more clarity and purity to the dreams that God has put within you is necessary for higher level achievement. You don't have to move to a cloistered convent, or build you a cabin in the Alaskan wilderness and permanently disconnect from

humanity. I'm talking about periodic solitude. Just long enough and often enough to take charge of the conversation that takes place in your head and heart. It's the best way to assess the well-being of your personal space, or your personal sphere.

The faith community calls it your "measure of rule." The ancient Greeks called it your "metron." It is referring to the immediate space or sphere around you and includes the space within you. It is the one thing in this life that you are most in control of. In the world we live in, it's easy for our space to get cluttered and messy. Getting away for regular personal retreats will do wonders for you. Often, it is in times of solitude that all of the external voices grow silent enough that the voice of the creator can finally get through. Taking time for yourself, in order to improve your future, is the ultimate in positioning yourself to experience a dynamite moment.

"The fruit of silence is prayer. The fruit of prayer is faith. The fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service. The truth of service is peace."

Mother Theresa

When I'm talking solitude, I'm talking no cell phone, no iPad, no laptop, and no WiFi. That's enough to give the average person a panic attack. Trust me, it's

a bit intimidating at first but eventually the payout is enormous. Silence, when you're not accustomed to it, can be somewhat daunting. To maximize the beauty and power of solitude, there are a few things that you will have to work past:

- The awkwardness of being alone. There's nothing or no one to hide behind. No conversations to lose yourself in. No crowds to wander mindlessly through. It's a chance to get re-introduced to YOU. Often people fear being alone, because they're afraid of, or don't care for the person they'll be stuck with. Like spending time with anyone else, you may be surprised to find out that the real you isn't so bad after all.
- The voice in your head that is the older version of you. At first, this one speaks the loudest. In time, your internal voice will be more congruent with your audible voice.
- The Myriad of scattered and unrelated thoughts and fears that will bubble up. Don't panic, they will fade away.

Don't get in a hurry. Time and patience is the key. Before you know it these times of solitude will be akin to productive, creative, dynamite moments that

propel your life light-years forward. The payout is an increase in clarity, focus, creativity, peace, freedom, and the list goes on and on.

Chapter 10

Creativity is Critical

Creativity is the use of imagination and the production of original ideas. That is the concept I've been speaking about from the beginning ...

Giving a voice of expression to the audacious dreams and ideas God has put within you.

That is creativity. You must do what you can to nurture the dynamic of creativity. Creativity involves your mind and heart's ability to entertain new possibilities, methods, and implementations. Creativity helps break the monotony of thought and thought patterns that have been complicit in keeping you stuck in the rut of false norms, boundaries, and limitations.

Think for a minute about all the things that add to the monotony of an unproductive life; get up at the same time everyday, drive the same route to work, do the same job, take the same route home, go to the same stores and restaurants, and eat the same food,

and so on. Most people can close their eyes and put their lives on auto-pilot without missing a beat. Don't get me wrong, I do believe there's a certain value in having a rhythm to your life. But rhythm and then a mindless routine are two different things. It's very difficult to live your life on auto-pilot and then realize your dreams of a life that is bigger, better, and more. As someone once said, "If you're in a rut, get out ASAP; because a rut is no more than a grave with both ends kicked out of it."

Nurturing your creativity will not only get you out of a rut, it will keep you from getting into another one. Creativity and thinking are two different states of mind. One is instrumental in elevating the other to a higher place. Guess which one? Correct. Creativity! It is a state of mind that can elevate your thinking state to a higher place that is necessary for your greatness.

"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have."

Maya Angelou

Let's not over complicate this either. The argument that some would have is that they're just not a creative type of person. I'm not referring to a hyper-artistic person who has a never ending fountain of

wild ideas and crazy thoughts. Of course there are people whose minds just naturally think in more abstract and “outside the box terms.” What I’m saying here is that whether it comes natural to you or not, there is a healthy amount of great creativity that can be developed by being intentional and determined to do so. Here’s a few steps you can take:

Disrupt the script of your life: Most people are living out a script that was handed to them. It was passed down through the generations before you. But what worked for others isn’t working anymore. To you, there’s got to be more! It’s okay to write your own script. You are not a slave to anyone else’s expectations, hopes, and ideas for you. You are made in God’s image and have a unique purpose and assignment. Write a new one. Set a higher standard for your life. Others may have been fine with a “just enough” life. If you are not, then write a new script.

Break routines: by taking different routes to work, school, or church. Launch out and try a new activity. Experience new food or hobbies. The legendary jazz trumpet player Miles Davis’ 1959 album, *Kind of Blue*, is one of the highest grossing jazz albums in history. It is the result of Miles deciding he was going to break a routine. All the jazz groups of his

day were recording more fast-tempo bebop style albums. Miles wanted take a different approach and change up the routine a bit. He wanted all his band members to explore, create, and discover **in the moment**, and as they were playing. The result: every song on the album was a “first-take.” History shows that it worked out pretty well for them.

Serve somewhere in your community or your church. Often getting your attention off of yourself, your needs, your challenges, etc. can create a “pause” in your “self-consciousness” for God to get fresh thoughts and ideas to you. Engaging in something that omits you from any obvious reciprocity is healthy for your heart and soul.

Take a vacation to a totally different and unlikely location. The world is bigger than you know. Our planet has more to show us than we realize. You don’t have to take every vacation to grandmas house, or some other familiar location.

Diet and Exercise: I’m not a certified dietician or a PhD of nutrition, but as a former professional athlete and someone who has had a good measure of success in the world of strength and fitness, here’s what I can tell you. When your body is out of shape

and unhealthy or sluggish, your mind has a tendency to follow. That's an extremely simplified way to explain this, but I think you know precisely what I mean. In the same way that bringing order and clarity to your personal "metron" can trigger a release of creativity and higher level thinking, so can a healthy and vibrant physical body.

Chapter 11

Building Your Personal Dream Team

Collaborate conceptually: simply, get with higher level friends and peers to have intentional conversations. The planning of such a time looks like this. (You initiate and facilitate it) Call a few select people and say, “We’re going to meet at Starbucks and discuss one subject for 90 minutes. Here’s the subject; what would you do if you had no limits, money was not a concern, and you knew you could not fail? And, how would you do it?” It may sound like a bunch of adults getting lost in fantasy land as an escape mechanism. First of all, who cares what it looks or sounds like to some else! Second, what if such ridiculous conversations triggered one thought or idea, or perhaps unlocked something in your thought process? What if you had a dynamite moment in the middle of the conversation? Try it.

I’m a big believer in having your own personal group of “have it together people” that can serve your dreams as a sounding board, critical advisors,

and confidants. This is more sophisticated than just having quality friends. My great friend Greg Reid had a dynamite moment one day. It came to him after he had given a speech at a local college in San Diego. A young man walked up to him and said, "I really enjoyed your speech, you should write a book." Greg thought; "I should write a book. Problem is, I've never read a whole book, how would I write one?" So, he went to Barnes and Nobles and bought every single one of the top 10 best-sellers. He went home and reached out to every one of the authors and said, "I want to write a book., will you help me?" Amazingly all of them did. The result to date is that he has written over 40 best-sellers himself. That's the value of surrounding yourself with a high-level team.

It's important to be able to specifically identify the particular value that different people possess, as it pertains to your personal quest for greatness. It's important because we don't interact with all of our acquaintances the same way. We don't give everyone the same level of access to us, or spend the same amount of time with each of them. The nature of our interaction is different, at least it should be, with different identifications. I'll let you in on how I have identified my associations through the years. I basically identify them as one of three kinds of

people. They are either Mentors, Peers, or Mentees. This may seem a bit over simplified, and I have in more recent years, expanded my personal paradigm in this area. However, this is a powerful and effective way that has worked with me for years. And it's a great place to start. Here's how this translates in terms of behavior, time, access, etc.

My Mentors: this is my Mastermind Alliance. I have intentionally gone after a connection or relationship with them. This is important because mentors don't seek out mentees. That goes contrary to the laws of effective mentorship. They are people who have either already conquered the path that I'm just starting on, or at least significantly further down the road than I am. They are people who have certain areas of their lives ordered in such a way that speaks to me. It's what I want to challenge myself with. When I'm with my mentors I do far more listening than speaking. They have more to say on the subject than I do. I am the student, they are the teacher. Even my posture is different around them. Im paying attention to their body language. I know they don't have hours to just sit around and shoot the breeze. I am cognizant of the opportunity of time and access they are giving me, so Im aware when they are done. I'm not offended if they don't call or invite me to all of their stuff. One day I will be their peer, but until

then, I will pursue them. I don't show up empty-handed either. It's not always about writing a check, but there needs to be something I give or something I do that shows them how much I recognize and value access to them and their time. Because their time is limited, these conversations and meetings are generally shorter. I don't want to waste time telling them about my challenges when I could be hearing about how they got their victories. I'm an information and experience sponge. I am trying to deduce from our conversation, how they think, what their philosophies are, what their perspectives and perceptions are. Typically, I will have dynamite moments in their company. Clarity of thought and strategies are the norm when I'm with them ... listening, discerning, quietly dissecting their words in my own mind, striving to learn and absorb. Determined that their hindsight will be my foresight.

My Peers: these are people who are in the trenches with me. We can banter back and forth a bit, debate topics ... we are equals in this sense. We can compare the merits of each other's ideas, potential solutions, etc. Sometimes we can go for hours. We will create dynamite moments together, but it's different than with my mentors. With my mentors those moments are huge and hit me hard, usually in my own silence.

With my peers, we create strategies and ideas by consensus.

My Mentees: these are the people who are still trying to get where I already am. I am the teacher, they are the student. They can't do much talking. I'll do most of the talking for I have much more to say than they do. They get limited time and access. Most often, they are still learning to respect and value other people's time and space. I make it clear to them that it is their responsibility to pursue me. That's the law of mentorship. They are not to come empty-handed either. Again, as with my mentors, it's not always about writing a check, but you must bring something or show me something that proves you recognize and value the access and time I am giving you. They may not yet fully understand the depth of my experiences. They may incorrectly assume that we're at the same place on the same road. We are not. They may want to sit around, stop by my house, shoot the breeze for hours, etc. I am not a sit around and shoot the breeze kind of guy. When I've got down time, it goes to my wife, kids, and grandkids. They would be unaware that they are draining me without the ability to put anything back into me. My goal is to create an environment that is conducive for a dynamite moment for them. I don't anticipate they

will help me with one. It's okay though, I am there to give, and they to receive.

Chapter 12

The Success Equation:

It's time to put it all together. It's time to simply pull the trigger and take action.

"Most people are educated far beyond their level of obedience."

Stephen Miller

Or, they already know way more than are doing. They're always seeking something new. They need to hear fresh verbiage they haven't heard before. They have followed a dozen mentors and never emulated any of them. They're constantly seeking more revelation without having acted on the last thing that was revealed to them. Enough is enough!! You have to take action. Successful people are action people. Winners are decision makers. For you to succeed you have to decide to take action! To make a once-and-for-all decision ... that you are better than what you've been. You are more than what you've settled for. And You deserve far more than you've accepted.

It's time to take action:

One of my mentors who I've already referenced several times in this book, is Greg Reid. We've been friends for many years now. Greg wrote the 100 year anniversary book of "Think and Grow Rich" by Napoleon Hill, titled "Three Feet From Gold." I've had the privilege of speaking at many of his events and have spent countless hours with him in deep conversation. Greg is the author of over 40 best-selling books, a film maker, and a world renowned public speaker. I know of no one who is more qualified on the subject of taking action, or lighting the fuse to achieve greatness, as he is. He shared with me several years ago his "Success Equation." It goes like this ...

$$\mathbf{Passion + Talent + (Association \times Action) + Faith = Success}$$

Here's how it plays out. First, none of these ingredients alone will produce success. There are a lot of people that have a passion for something that aren't good enough at it to succeed. There are plenty of people who are good and quick at taking action

but don't succeed. It's an EQUATION. You remove one factor and the equation no longer works.

Of course it begins with **passion**. But passion often is a secondary consequence of having a small measure of success at something and then imagining how much greater life can be if you take it to the next level. You need to find your passion but you have to make sure your passion for something is in proportion to your ability. Let's say you have a passion for basketball and you dream of one day playing in the NBA. You devote all of your time to it. You eat, breath, sleep, and live basketball. Well, nothing is impossible. However, what if you're only 5 feet 2 inches. Still not impossible. But you're also very good with numbers and you have a sharp mind and a high IQ. Perhaps if you mixed your love and passion for basketball with your natural abilities, you'd see that a greater dream could be to pursue management, representation, or coaching in the same sport. You wouldn't want to miss an opportunity to have a great life of success and fulfillment in lieu of a lifetime of disappointments and shattered dreams because you wanted to play basketball when you were better suited to own or manage a whole team.

Then you have to mix your passion with your **greatest talents**. What is it that you easily excel at. What comes natural to you. What are the abilities and skills you have the best chance at mastering. Here's where it's a good idea to ask your mentors, "What do you see me good at? Here's what I think, do you agree?" Important? Very. You and I have seen too many disillusioned contestants on these singing reality shows that really believe they can sing. They are the only ones in the entire world that do. They don't succeed as a singer.

Then you have to take **action** by linking up with the right **associations**. I've said plenty already concerning associations. They are critical. You cannot succeed without forming the right associations that will help you get to where you want to go. Someone once said, "If you ever see a turtle sitting on top of a pole, you can accurately assume someone helped it get there."

Make a list of the people you spend most of your time with and evaluate the quality of their contribution to your dreams. If they are "takers" then make some new friends.

“Your life will mirror the five people you spend most of your time with. Their average income, achievements, and success will become yours.”

Jim Rohn

Then you have to **have faith**. Faith in God, faith in yourself, and faith that the process will ultimately yield the desired results. Have faith that God is the source of your dreams and desires in the first place, and He will make sure everything you need to succeed will be available to you.

There are no mysteries:

I'm sure you've heard these two truths concerning success principles:

- 1) **Success leaves** clues; simply meaning if you study the lives of greatly successful people, you **WILL** find out what they did. Their habits, mindsets, and the steps they took cannot be hidden. They are there if you'll just look close enough. People have been succeeding for centuries in all kinds of endeavors. There have always been people who came from extremely difficult and obscure beginnings to rise to

greatness. The majority of them did so before “success principles” were in vogue to talk about.

- 2) **The principles of success are “transferable:”** Meaning that they can be applied to any area of life and they will work, whether you’re building a corporation, a football team, a church, or a personal business. There will be variances in application and implementation, but the basic principles at their core are the same. The principles have always been the same because they are divine, which means they are timeless.

Why then, can it be so difficult to find the same measure of achievement in all of the dimensions of life if the principles are the same? What changes is the type of application, implementation, and the degree of character required. Some life dimensions simply move slower and just take more time to develop. Some areas require more wisdom in administration because there are a lot more moving parts. Other areas, (families, relationships, teams) demand more character from you because they involve people. People who also have dreams and aspirations as well as a will of their own. The particular area you are trying to succeed in will always respond to success principles but may also

demand of you more development in a specific area. Every area has a demand of it's own that another area may not. A work force will require far more negotiating skills (patience and wisdom) than other areas. You can make demands of your physical body to achieve peak performance, but your wife and kids don't respond similarly. Thus the reason for some of these all too familiar scenarios ... The successful CEO who can't keep his family relationships on track. The fabulous mother and father who raised a houseful of successful and awesome kids but have never been able to achieve any real financial freedom. The successful athlete who retires after a stellar career then fails in one business after another. Or, the pastor who can build a thriving church helping scores of people but can't ever seem to get his physical body under control.

Every meaningful endeavor in life will require the same principles in order to succeed, but some may require a different ratio of the same ingredients.

Flexibility, emotional management, wisdom, patience ... these are all things that will grow in you as you stay committed to your pursuit of greatness.

You have enough time to turn it all around.

**“The butterfly counts not months but MOMENTS,
and has enough time.”** Rabindranath Tagore

It's never too late and you're never too far past the opportunity to experience your dynamite moment. There's never going to be a perfect time. You'll never get an advanced notice that a moment is coming. You just have to stay open to the possibility that any moment can be THE moment. Then you set out to intentionally do all that you are capable doing yourself.

Don't wait around to get motivated. Motivation isn't the cause for action. Motivation is the result of taking action.

Chapter 13

The Power of Patterns

Svetlana Whitener, a member of the Forbes Coaching Council says that the reasons why people don't take action are two primary ones. One is obvious and one is hidden.

1. (Obvious) Lack of self-discipline to stay persistent in achieving a goal. Usually due to just having sloppy habits or patterns in your life.
2. (Hidden) Lack of self-efficacy, or the hidden disbelief that you can complete a goal before you even begin to take baby steps toward it.

First, the lack of self-discipline to follow through in achieving your goals doesn't have to be a "life-sentence." Any behavior you may have had in the past can be overcome if you'll put in the work.

Understand that you are not your outcomes. Your outcomes are not because you have some sort of unchangeable inner deficiency of character or will.

Your outcomes are the result of your patterns. We can more accurately state that we are the result of our patterns. Patterns can be changed. Changing a few simple patterns can render you a completely different person than you thought you were. For example:

You may say: “Im just not a good morning person.” Perhaps the truth is you have bad evening patterns. You eat your last meal way too late and drink too much caffeine at midnight. Then you stay up til 2 AM playing Minecraft and Super Mario Brothers. You drink a gallon of water before you go to bed and have to get up and use the bathroom 3 times in the night. Of course you wake up at noon already tired.

You may say: “Im not a good student.” Perhaps the truth is you have poor study habits because you were never taught the value of learning. Your pattern is to change course as soon as you encounter something difficult.

You may say: “Im such a chaotic person with a hectic lifestyle.” Perhaps the truth is you just procrastinate too much and end up always being in a hurry. You’re late for everything and everything becomes urgent too easily.

You may say: “I just don’t have any energy.” Perhaps the truth is you eat way too much junk food and you don’t exercise, therefore you’re always feeling sluggish due to poor blood flow and circulation.

I think you get the point. Don’t judge your life or your ability to be great by previous outcomes. You have more in you than you know. You are a far more capable person than you’ve realized. You may simply need to develop new patterns. It’s important because ... you can have a great heart, great vision, a grande dream and desire, but have sloppy patterns. Consequently the quality person that you are may not be enough to overcome poor patterns.

You need new patterns

So, how do you change a pattern or habit? First, you determine to mimic the patterns of people who are winning. This is yet again the value of studying successful people and having great mentors. They can help you stay accountable. Then you **MAKE A DECISION!** A decision that you are better than the outcomes you’ve produced so far. A decision to develop a new and productive pattern for the sake of your future and legacy.

The best way to change a bad or unproductive habit/pattern, is to replace it with a good one and then stay committed to developing the new one. Most experts say that the best way to develop a new habit/pattern in our lives is to do three things: Let's pick a particular habit of getting out of bed earlier in the morning.

Make the new habit obvious: You could do this by simply equating good patterns with people who have been doing them long enough that the habit shows an outcome for them. For example: every successful person I know gets up early. Perhaps not at 4 AM, but they're certainly not still in bed at 10 AM. The obvious part of the pattern of rising early is that most all successful people do it.

Make it Easy: Sticking with the habit of rising early ... take the TV out of your bedroom. Put your cell phone, iPad, etc. and charge it somewhere in another room to eliminate late night distractions. Don't eat past 7 pm the day before and no caffeine after 6 pm. Go to bed an hour earlier than what may be necessary. Simply put, remove the things that make it difficult for you to go to sleep at a reasonable time.

Make it Rewarding: Make a list the night before of the things you are going to start doing at 6:30 or 7 AM and get done before 9 AM. Set your coffee maker on a timer so your coffee is waiting for you at 7 and the house smells like delicious coffee when you wake up. (Do I sound like a coffee lover?)

It's important to know that rewards don't make a habit, they simply reinforce one. So the reward is not the motivation to form a good habit, rather, its a reinforcement for engaging in steps to create a better one. Sleeping in the next day is not a reward for getting up early the day before. Attache a reward to your early morning routine that you are not allowed to indulge in if you sleep in.

There's a whole science to this and a ton of great material out there to get a hold of. Im simply steering you in the best direction. Whatever the habit is that you are going to recreate, stay committed to it for 21 days. Thats how long it takes for it take hold.

Then you have a **zero-tolerance policy for exceptions**. You refuse to allow any exceptions to your new pattern. Especially for 21 days. That's what all the professionals and specialists tell us. It certainly helps to write down some affirmations that match the new pattern you're developing.

Affirmations that you will repeat out loud several times a day.

Hold yourself accountable to your own sense of value and respect. There are times when I feel like I'm getting bogged down in routines that are not producing anything. I ask myself, "What are winners doing right now." In fact, a staple in my training when I was competing as a professional MMA fighter, was when the temptation to end training early, or eat junk food, or to sleep in came over me, I would say to myself, "I can guarantee my opponent isn't eating this junk. Im sure he started training at 5 AM today." That was usually enough to bring my sloppiness to an abrupt halt. I was not going to let someone take my victory from me simply because I got sloppy in my patterns.

Don't confuse your patterns with your personality. Don't accept every outcome as though it were akin to your ethnicity, or your height, or the color of your eyes ... things that you cannot change. Don't confuse your destiny with your decisions. When you change your daily habits and patterns, you are gong to experience different outcomes.

Chapter 14

In Conclusion

It's your time. You must fight against the smothering epidemic of scarcity. Scarcity is the attitude or idea that just enough is okay. The problem with scarcity is, when you have greatness in you, just enough is NOT okay. It's time to let your inner hunger for greatness come forth. Once you've allowed yourself to dream, ordinary will never work for you. It doesn't look good on you. You don't wear it well because it just doesn't fit anymore. Greatness is in you and you can no longer drown out it's voice.

Anytime you start having some chaos and upheaval in your life or things start to derail a little bit, when your commitment to succeed is met with intense adversity, just think of it this way ... you're only having an allergic reaction to ordinary.

**“An idea that is not dangerous is unworthy
of being called an idea at all.”**

Oscar Wilde

It's okay to be scared! One of the questions I've had to entertain countless times in my career, whether it was a show, an interview, etc., was; "When you were in the cage or the ring, were you ever scared?" This was asked usually in the context of the interviewers awareness that I fought giants my whole career. My typical fight weight was 220 lbs. at a height of 5'11. However, because I had multiple world records in crazy strength, the promoters usually felt the need to match me with freakishly big guys. And since this was in the era where there were no rounds or weight classes, I never fought anyone my size. Ever! In my whole career I fought one guy that was under 300 lbs. and under 6 ft 3. That was Dan "The Beast" Severn. He was 6 ft 2 and 295 lbs. Everyone else was 6 ft.3 and taller and over 320 lbs. Now back to my point. "Were you ever scared?"

My answer was always, if you mean scared in the sense of running out of the ring, NO! But if you mean butterflies in my stomach, sweating palms, and nerves so bad I wanted to throw up ... then YES! Every single time." Then they'd ask, "then what did you do?" I FOUGHT SCARED! It doesn't take long for that to go away. Once you get in the rhythm of the fight, taking a jab or a kick, or dishing out the

same, “scared” goes away. It always worked out for me. I only lost twice in my career.

And so it will be with you. You will be scared, intimidated, and doubt yourself plenty of times. Even feel the temptation to quit plenty of times. Just don't. Once you get a couple of wins under your belt, that will go away.

Don't be afraid to make mistakes. You will make plenty. There will be setbacks and pauses. Don't evaluate too early. Rome wasn't built in a day. Great people did not wake up one day and were great. They had a great moment. A dynamite moment that started their journey. Then they had another one, then another one, and then another one. Those moments added up. How about you? It's your turn to have your own explosive dynamite moment.

“Our greatest success always come one step beyond our greatest setbacks.”

Napoleon Hill

Stay Committed:

There's a difference between being interested in something and being committed to it. If you wanted to open a cafe in the Heights area of Houston because it's trendy, you enjoy hanging out there, and you always wanted to own your own cafe, when trouble and challenges come, you may be inclined to close up shop and find something else to do. "I tried, or I gave it my best shot" is something you might say. However, if you were asked to start running your family's BBQ business that's been in the family for six generations, then when trouble comes, you will look further, try harder, and exhaust every possibility before allowing yourself to even think of something else. When faced with difficulties, interested people look for excuses or an escape, while committed people look for answers and solutions.

**"You will always have two choices: your
commitment versus your fear."**

Sammy Davis Jr.

I love how my good friend Evander Holyfield, who has won more undisputed Heavyweight Championship Boxing titles than anyone in history,

sums up his journey. He said, “what separated me from the other competitors in my sport is that I have a higher standard. Not always the better boxer, but I showed up early, left late, and worked harder than anyone else. When I got hit, it hurt. Sometimes really bad. But when I stood there and they wrapped that shiny championship belt around my waist, I forgot every single one of those punches. The pain, the setbacks, the sacrifice ... none of that was even in my thoughts. Winning made it all go away.”

That's how you must see it. Regardless of anything and everything you could possibly go through, the victory diminishes it all. Aren't you worth it? Isn't your family worth it? Aren't your future generations worth it? I believe your answering these questions affirmatively.

There's nothing wrong with you. You are not doomed to mediocrity. You were not put on this earth to be subservient to anything or anybody. Not other people, not systems, not fears, not past failures. Not insecurities, not tragedies, not dead-end journeys. Not even average or a “just enough life.” You were put on this earth to make a difference. To leave a mark. That mark is one that nobody else can make but you. You were put here by God to enjoy a life of abundance, joy, fulfillment, and success.

Create a moment. A moment that will blow away everything that keeps your greatness and success buried deep within you. Experience your dynamite moment and Never ever again underestimate the power that is within you. Never underestimate YOU. BOOM!