

CHAPTER II

MAKING THE COMMITMENT

1. The Commitment.

Many years ago I came to the conclusion that it would be better to die trying to get to the top of my mountain, than to live in the valley all the days of my life. There have been many challenges. I have been to the top of many hills and I am still on my way up the mountain, but I am convinced that my life has been a lot better than it would have been if I had decided to remain in the valley of frustration.

The purpose of this material is to help you find an easier, quicker and more efficient way to get to the top of your mountain, while enjoying every minute of your journey.

After you have developed the desire to make whatever changes are necessary to improve your life, the next step is to determine which career you want to excel in. The reason for this should be obvious. After you have completed the critical self-analysis you will have identified your strong and weak areas. The career you choose should be one which will provide you with the opportunity to develop the strong areas of your life to their maximum potential. True we should not neglect to develop the weak areas of our lives, but it is the development of the strong areas to their maximum potential that is going to put us head and shoulders above to average person.

The career you choose should be broad enough to accommodate the many changes that will be forced upon you as your life progress and challenging enough to provide several levels of success before achieving the ultimate goal. Obviously, this is not a short term deal. This is a long term project - a lifetime commitment! Once you have decided on your chosen career, you need to go back to the results of the self-analysis and commit yourself to the changes you felt were necessary to improve yourself. The whole purpose of the critical self-analysis was to identify those areas in which you felt that improvement was necessary. You must now commit yourself to those specific changes, and this commitment must be maintained until the changes are realized.

Of all the principles that you will learn in this course, the single most important act that you will be required to do, is to make a commitment. In making

the commitment, you must determine in your mind that you are going to devote a substantial part of your time, effort, abilities and resources to bring about the changes that you have identified as being necessary.

The foundation on which the commitment rests is faith. Faith (or belief) that the changes will materialize is the only thing that is going to motivate you to go the extra mile.

2. Miracles Still Happen.

I still believe in miracles, for with God all things are possible. Inexplicable things occur whenever a firm commitment is made. It is as if the commitment activates the creative powers of the Universe, and all the forces come together under some divine coordination to ensure that the commitment materializes.

Try to think back about some event which has occurred in your life in ways which you are unable to understand or explain. All the planning that you could possibly have engaged in could not have guaranteed its success. But because you (or someone else) made a firm commitment, based on faith, the result came to pass. You must force yourself to accept the fact that there is some magic in believing, and also that faith is a creative power which can take charge of events and bring about changes in a way which is beyond our limited knowledge and understanding. Once you accept this principle, then it is easy to accept that the commitment you have made is not a commitment to change your life, but rather a commitment to change the circumstances in your environment which will have a direct effect on your life. So when you commit yourself to live in a better home, or drive a better car, your life will not change, just the way you live it!

3. The Excitement Begins

What can be more exciting to a child than to receive a new toy at Christmas that he/she wanted all year? What can be more exciting to a young person than to find the love of his/her life? What can be more exciting to an adult than to discover that he/she has the power to change circumstances that are adversely affecting his/her life?

This is a challenge to you, to apply the principles you will learn in this course and put your creative power to work by making a commitment, believing that the

thing hoped for will materialize, and giving it all you have. I believe that you will be pleasantly surprised by the results.

However, there is something you need to know before you begin your journey. You have got to decide in whom you are going to place your faith! I am aware of your constitutional rights regarding freedom of religion, and this is not a course in Theology. But if you are going to be free you have to know the truth! You might be able to create short term success by yourself, but long term happiness and success can come through only one source, and one Person, and you are encouraged to seek, find and befriend that Person, and make Him your Lord and Master - "for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

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