



Part 6: The Law of Success - Getting Out of the Ditch

April 1, 2009

I. Introduction.



A. **Law** = the body of **rules and principles** which **govern** the natural universe and the affairs of man.

A **law** is something that happens **every** time with **every** person **everywhere**. Laws do not discriminate and they show no favoritism. The Law is **not a respecter of persons**.

Laws are **powerful, impartial** and **unvarying** in their application.

B. **The Law of Success** ( 2 steps):

1. **Matthew 4:17** “From then on Jesus began to preach, **“Repent,** ( = “change the way you think”) because the kingdom of heaven has come near!” (Holman)
2. **Matthew 6:33** “But **seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,** and all these things shall be added to you.” (NKJV)



C. **Questions to consider:**

1. Did you ever wonder why there is such a **big difference in the results people achieve?** Why do some people achieve **great success,** and others **just barely get by?**
  2. Are they just **lucky?** Is it in their **genes?** Was it because of what **their parents** did or didn't do? Is it their **education?** The **environment** in which they were raised?
  3. Why does **1%** of the population **earn 96% of all the money?**
  4. What is the **primary cause of the results you are getting in life right now?** Take a moment to think about it and write down your answer below.
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II. **Autobiography in Five Short Chapters.** (Portia Nelson)

1. I walk down the street.  
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.  
I fall in. I am lost . . . I am helpless.  
It isn't my fault. It takes forever to find a way out.



2. I walk down the same street.  
 There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.  
 I pretend I don't see it. I fall in again.  
 I can't believe I am in the same place.  
 But it isn't my fault. It still takes a long time to get out.



3. I walk down the same street.  
 There is a deep hole in the sidewalk  
 I see it there.  
 I still fall in . . . it's a habit.  
 My eyes are open. I know where I am.  
 It is my fault. I get out immediately.

4. I walk down the same street.  
 There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.  
 I walk around it.

5. I walk down another street.

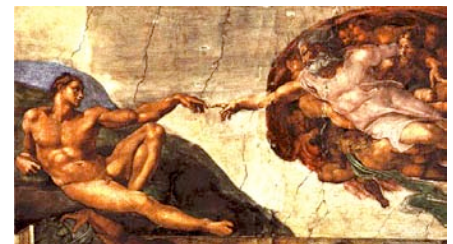
**Questions:**

1. **How many times** did the person **fall in the hole** in the sidewalk?
2. Why did they keep falling **into the same hole** in the sidewalk?
3. Why did it take them **so long to get out** of the hole?
4. What **change** occurred that enabled them to **get out of the hole immediately**?
5. What caused them to **avoid falling into the hole again**?
6. Are you in any kind of a "hole" or ditch at the present time?
7. Do you find that you keep falling into the same "hole" or ditch over and over again?

**III. The Great Paradox. Why:**

**A. When God designed and equipped man for dominion . . .**

**Genesis 1:26** "And God said, Let us make man **in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion** (= to govern, to rule and to reign) over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." (KJV)



**B. When He has empowered every human being to succeed and become great . . .**

"God intended every individual **to succeed**. It is God's purpose that man should become **great . . .** Man is made for **progress**. Every person contains within himself the **capacity for endless development**. **Advancement in all things** is the law's great purpose . . . **Infinite resources** are at man's disposal. There are **no limits** to his possibilities . . . **Higher faculties, remarkable talents, superior insight, and greater power are dormant in all . . .** Every mind can develop **greatness**. It is simply a matter of **KNOWING HOW**." (*Working with the Law*, Raymond Holliwell)



C. When He has called us to reign as kings in this life . . .

**Romans 5:17** “Death ruled like a king because Adam had sinned. But that cannot compare with what Jesus Christ has done. God has been so kind to us, and he has accepted us because of Jesus. **And so we will live and rule like kings.**” (CEV)



D. *Why then do we fall so short in achieving these great goals?* What have we overlooked?



1. **Matthew 6:31-32** “Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. **For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.**” (NKJV)

Since He knows what we need, **why doesn't He just give it to us?**

2. **Could it be because of what He said in His Word?**

**Psalms 8:6** “You have made **him to have dominion** over the works of Your hands; you have put **all things** under **his feet**,” (NKJV)

**Isaiah 45:11** “. . . and concerning the work of My hands, **you command Me.**” (NKJV)

IV. **“Your Actions and Your Inactions Have Brought You to Where You Are Today.”**  
(Brian Tracy)



There were **three turning points** in Brian's life:

- A. **The first turning point was when he decided, “I am responsible.”** If I don't change, **nothing is going to change.**

When a person says, ‘**I am responsible,**’ it means **four things:**

1. **No more excuses.** No more excuses for not making progress.
2. **No more complaining.** Only weak people complain. Thumb suckers and whiners, like babies in a nursery, “Waah, waah, waah.”
3. **No more criticizing other people or other things.**

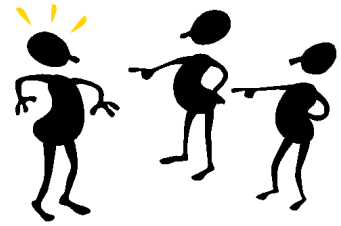


**Romans 2:1** “. . . Every time you criticize someone, you condemn yourself. It takes one to know one. **Judgmental criticism** of others is a well-known way of escaping detection in your own crimes and misdemeanors.” (THE MESSAGE)

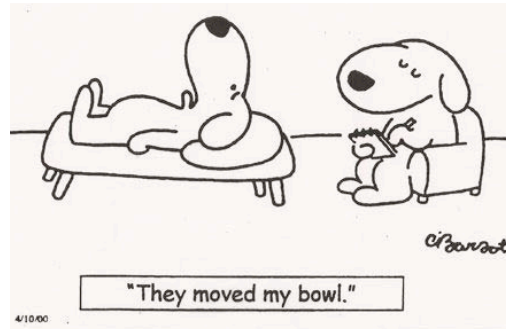


Especially, **never criticize successful people.** Criticizing successful people sets up a force field of energy around you that drives success out of your life. **Always admire successful people.** If you admire successful people and try to learn from them, you set up a force field of energy that moves you toward becoming like them.

4. **No more blaming.** Thinking about the people who have hurt you in the past, and **blaming them holds you back** more than anything else.



And think about this: if you continue to blame other people for your present results, **you must “fix” all of them before you can get well!**



The operative psychological principle is to **let things go!** And the way you do that is to say, **“I am responsible.”**

**B. The second turning point in Brian’s life was when he decided to *set goals*.**



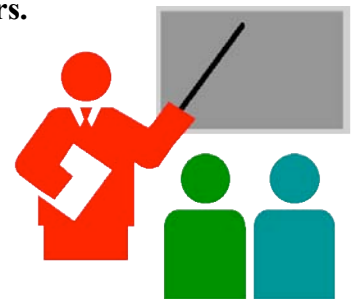
1. Only **3%** of adults today have written goals, **and everybody else is working for them.**
2. The **3%** that do have written goals earn an average of **ten times** as much as those who do not have written goals.
3. Make a decision today to **start setting goals** in the areas of greatest importance to you.

**C. The third turning point was when he decided to become a *continuous learner*.**

1. **People in the top 20% have more knowledge and skill than others.**

If you want to **earn more**, you have to **learn more.**

2. **50%** of your current knowledge will be **outdated in two years.**
3. In times of change it’s **the learners who survive and prevail.**
4. Make a decision today to **become a *continuous learner!***



**“School is never out for champions.”** (Steve Siebold)

**V. Your “Predominant Mental State” Governs Your Actions and Inactions.**

- A. Proverbs 23:7** “For as he **thinks** in his heart, **so is he.**” (NKJV)

“The **ancestor** of every **action** is a **thought.**” (Ralph Waldo Emerson)



Nearly everything coming into our lives has been **attracted** by our own **thinking**.



- B.** The power of **dominion** that God has given to each one of us is **undermined** by any **thoughts** we hold that stand **in opposition to the Word of God**.

**John 10:7-8** “Then Jesus said to them again, “Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. **All who ever came “before” Me** ( i.e., in *authority*, not time) **are thieves and robbers**, but the sheep did not hear them.” (NKJV)

**Both conscious and sub-conscious** thought patterns, beliefs and paradigms that are **not aligned** with the Word of God will act as **thieves and robbers** when it comes to our ability to **access** God’s will and provision for our lives.

- C.** **It’s not the Lilliputians that have us pinned down. It’s our own thoughts.**

**Proverbs 4:23** “Be careful what you think, because **your thoughts run your life.**” (NCV)

“90% of people **wish positive, but think negative.**”  
(Bob Proctor)



- D.** “Your **conscious** beliefs are what **you think you believe**. Your **sub-conscious** beliefs and deepest convictions **are what you really believe.**” (Susan Shumsky)

- E.** **Sub-conscious thought patterns** that are not aligned with the Word of God are the **primary root cause** for our making **choices** that lead **straight to the ditch**.

- F.** What is **your “predominant mental state?”**

1. Is it **faith** filled or **fear** filled?
2. What **“movies”** play on the screen of your mind?  
  
Do you see yourself **winning?** Or **losing?**  
  
Are you the **victim?** Or the **victor?**
3. Do you mentally “forecast” **abundance?** Or **scarcity?**
4. What does your **“self-talk”** sound like?



“**The average person talks to himself in a negative way.** As much as **94 percent** of your inner dialogue tends to be about the **things you fear, your worries, the people you're angry at, your problems, your concerns** and so on. You have to consciously keep your words, your inner dialogue, **consistent with what you wish to accomplish.** Be your own cheerleader and talk to yourself positively all of the time.” (Brian Tracy)



G. The **current results** you are experiencing are **not** a reflection of what you **can** do . . . of your **full potential** . . . but of what you **have** done based on the **existing mental paradigms** stored in your sub-conscious mind.



H. **Be willing to change.**

“Men are anxious to improve their circumstances but unwilling to improve themselves; **therefore they remain bound.**” (As A Man Thinketh, James Allen)

To **change our results**, we have to eliminate **any negative or counter productive programming** that has been stored in the **subconscious mind**.

(Video clip)

## VI. How the Mind Operates.

A. **We think “in pictures.”** Think of your home, and a picture comes to your mind. Think of your car. What color is it? Think of your pet. Is it a dog, a cat or a bird?

B. **Now think of your mind.** What picture comes to mind?

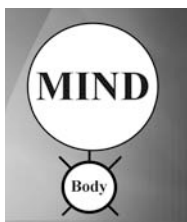


1. Our “brain” is **not** our mind. “Mind” is an activity that takes place in every cell of our body.
2. Without a **picture** of how the mind operates, there is a **lack of clarity** concerning the most important and powerful process in which each one of us engages: **thinking!**

Solomon said, “Where there is **no vision**, the people **perish.**” (Proverbs 29:18)

3. It would be very helpful to have a “**picture**” of the mind that tells us:
  - a. How it receives and stores incoming information.
  - b. How it accesses and retrieves the thoughts that lead us to take action.

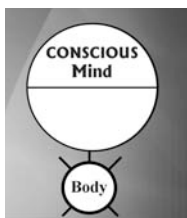
.. C. **The Stick Person.**



### 1. The Mind.

The mind is shown **much larger than the body** to indicate that it actually **controls** and **has dominion** over the body.

“Where the mind goes, the man follows.” (Joyce Meyer)



### 2. The Conscious Mind (also known as the Thinking or Intellectual Mind).

- a. Can “**accept or reject**” incoming information.

b. Executes the **power of “choice”** over all incoming thoughts.

3. **The Sub-conscious Mind** (also known as the Emotional or Feeling Mind).

- a. Can **only “accept”** incoming information from the Conscious Mind.
- b. **Cannot tell the difference** between a **real** or an **imagined** experience!
- c. The **communication link to the body**.
- d. **Thoughts** in the **Sub-conscious** mind are responsible for our **feelings**.
- e. **Feelings** are transmitted to the **body** as **vibrations**, which are then expressed **through the body** as **actions**.
- f. **Actions** taken by the body lead to the **results** each of us experiences in life.
- g. **Core beliefs, mental paradigms, habits, self- image, and ego** are all stored in the **Sub-conscious** mind. It is the true **“power center”** of the human personality.

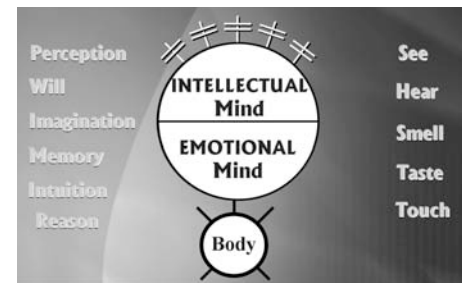
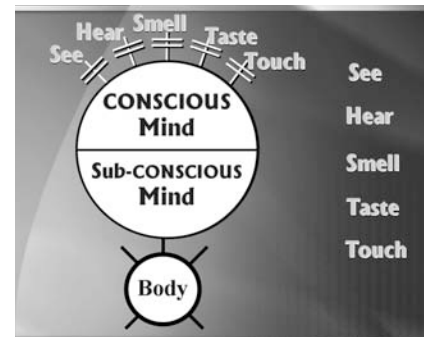
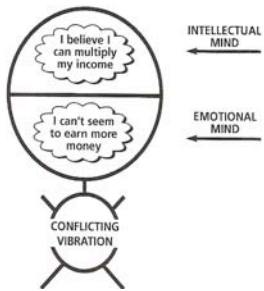
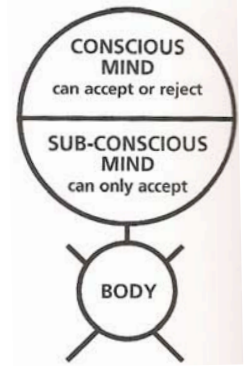
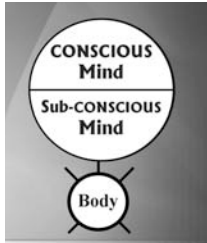
h. If the **Conscious** mind wants something (“I believe I can multiply my income”) but the **Sub-conscious** mind has a different embedded paradigm (I can’t seem to earn more money”) **the Sub-conscious mind will rule every time**.

4. **The five physical senses.**

- a. Since the day we were born, all of our “outside” information has been gathered through the five physical senses of **seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting and touching**.
- b. Each of these senses is **“hard-wired”** into the Conscious Mind and **always turned on**, feeding sensory input to the Conscious Mind 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

5. **The six intellectual faculties: the path to dominion!**

- a. In school, we were taught **“what”** to think, but not **“how”** to think.
- b. The six intellectual faculties address **“how”** we are to think.
- c. The six intellectual faculties are **Perception, Will, Imagination, Memory, Intuition and Reason**.



- d. Each operates through the **Conscious Mind** and **holds the power to bias the Sub-conscious Mind**. (Recall that the Sub-conscious Mind can only accept what it is given from the Conscious Mind. It cannot reject.)
- e. It is through the **development, use and exercise** of these **six intellectual faculties** that God has given man the **power to walk in dominion** over his circumstances. They are our “**mental muscles**,” waiting to do our bidding!

#### D. Intellectual Faculty # 1: Perception.



1. Perception is our point of view. It's what causes us to see the glass ½ full or ½ empty.
2. Perception is governed by the **Law of Polarity**, which states that everything has an opposite: Hot or Cold, Up or Down, Good or Bad. There is a positive and a negative side to **everything!**
3. **God tells us to keep our perception (and our self talk!) tuned to a positive channel.**
  - a. **Philippians 4:8** “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are **true**, whatsoever things are **honest**, whatsoever things are **just**, whatsoever things are **pure**, whatsoever things are **lovely**, whatsoever things are **of good report**; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, **think on these things.**” (KJV)
  - b. **1 Thessalonians 5:18** “No matter **what** happens, **always be thankful**, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.” (NLT)
4. To change your results, **shift your perception!**

#### E. Intellectual Faculty #2: The Will.

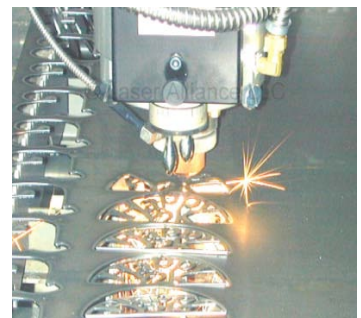


1. “**Will**” means the **ability to concentrate . . .** to hold one picture on the screen of our mind **to the exclusion of everything else.**

Note: we are not talking about the forcing of our will upon another person. God gave us dominion over every thing on earth **except over another human being.**

2. A single **thought** focused by the **will** is **extremely powerful!**

Just as a laser can **focus** light with enough intensity to cut through steel, so **holding a single thought in mind** possesses **tremendous power** to bring to pass that which you are **thinking** about.



3. **The Will is the source of our persistence.**

**Luke 11:8** “I tell you, even though he won't get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet **because of his persistence, he will get up and give him as much as he needs.**” (Holman)





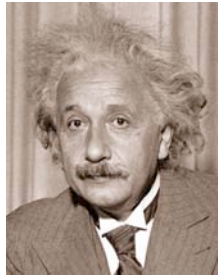
4. To change your results, **use the power of your will to hold a picture** on the screen of your mind to bring to pass that which you deeply desire.

### F. Intellectual Faculty #3: Imagination.

1. As children we all had vivid imaginations. Then as we grew older, much of the power of our imagination was snuffed out as we continued our “education.”

**We need to reawaken our power to imagine and to dream big dreams!**

**“Imagination is everything.** It is the preview of life’s coming attractions.”  
(Albert Einstein)



2. Discipline your mind to **think and imagine positive**, not negative. Avoid Job’s example and the consequences he experienced as a result of **imagining a negative outcome**.

**Job 3:25** “**For the thing I greatly feared** has come upon me, and what I **dreaded** has happened to me.” (NKJV)

3. To change your results, just **imagine** that what the Bible says is **really true!**

**John 10:10** “. . . I am come that they might have life, and **that they might have it more abundantly.**” (KJV)

“The storehouses of God are full to overflowing, **but you must see this in your mind.** Be sure of this **before** you can realize it in material form. **Think thoughts of plenty.**”  
(God Calling, October 15)

4. **Reject all negative imaginations. They are not from God!**

**2 Corinthians 10:4-5** “(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) **Casting down imaginations**, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and **bringing into captivity every thought** to the obedience of Christ;” (KJV)

### G. Intellectual Faculty #4: Memory.

1. Each person was born with a **perfect memory**. Few, however, have developed it.
2. **Memory** is a powerful intellectual faculty designed by God to help us walk in **dominion**.

**Exodus 17:14** “Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘Write about this battle in a book **so people will remember . . .**’” (NCV)

3. **One of the reasons God sent the Holy Spirit was to help us remember!**



**John 14:26** “But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, **and bring all things to your remembrance**, whatsoever I have said unto you.” (KJV)

4. To change your results, use your **memory** to **recall God’s goodness** in your life!

#### H. Intellectual Faculty #5: Intuition.

1. Intuition is the faculty of **knowing or sensing without the use of rational processes**. It allows us to tap into vibrations, hunches and feelings.

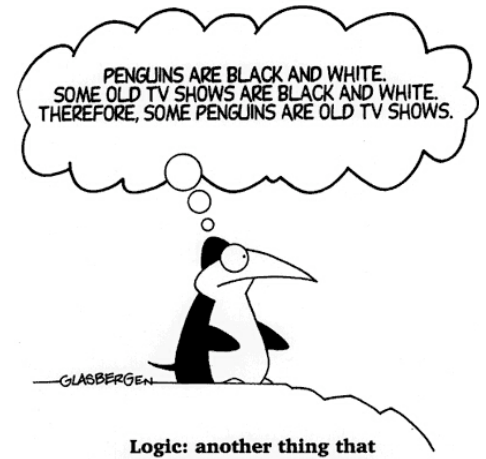
“If prayer is us speaking to God, then **intuition is God speaking to us.**” (Wayne Dyer)



2. **1 Samuel 3:8** “And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli **perceived** that the LORD had called the child.” (KJV)
3. To change your results, develop the power of your **intuition** so you can more readily **discern God’s voice and direction** for you life.

#### I. Intellectual Faculty #6: Reason.

1. Reason is our ability to think logically. It separates man from all the other creatures.
2. By use of our reason, we can take an idea, develop a logical plan, and accomplish outstanding results.
3. **Isaiah 1:18** “Come now, and **let us reason together**, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.” (KJV)
4. To change your results, use your **reason** to **apply the powerful kingdom principles** God has already taught you.



**Logic: another thing that penguins aren't very good at.**

#### VII. Close.

**Romans 12:2** “And do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” (NKJV)

**To get out of the ditch – renew your mind!**

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