

Ideas
Rule The
World

Sam Adeyemi

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INTRODUCTION

Man was created in the image of God. Part of this image is the ability to create; design and construct. God put His creativity on display in the story of creation. The earth was empty and had no form. Darkness covered the ocean.¹ In the natural world, things were really bad. But God had an idea. Beyond the chaos, He saw order and beauty. He saw plants, animals, rivers, oceans, mountains and the crown of His creation, man. God constructed what He saw in His mind, and it turned out to be very beautiful.

It is quite interesting to note that God stopped direct construction on the earth after He made man. From that point on, it was man's business to create and recreate. The basic foundation was laid. However, man lost a substantial proportion of his ability to create when Adam and Eve sinned. We lost the creative image of God.

Thank God that the whole process of decadence has been reversed and the image of God has been restored to man. We can continue with our assignment of designing and constructing the other things God had in mind but which He left for us since the initial creation.

The essential message in this book is that we can gain mastery over life by employing the same process by which God solved the chaotic problem at the beginning of creation. Our productivity is what

determines our level of influence on the earth; and the minimum requirement for achievement is just an idea.

You can move from failure to success and from lack to abundance by receiving ideas and by turning those ideas into reality. The power of the human mind is on display and you have a part to play in this. I hope that this book will be used by God to turn you into a sign and a wonder to your world.

Sam Adeyemi

CHAPTER 1

THE POWER OF IDEAS

Many years ago, in a small town in the United States, a doctor climbed his horse and rode to a chemist's shop. He went in through the back door. He carried in his hand an old fashioned kettle and a wooden paddle. He brought these items to the shop clerk with a sheet of paper on which was written the formula for a drink. Both of them began to bargain and eventually the clerk gave the doctor five hundred dollars for the items that he had come to sell. What the doctor sold to the clerk was worth a fortune to the young clerk but not to the doctor who gave away the items for just five hundred dollars.

To the surprise of the clerk, the content of the kettle which has since become a household name in the world, began to pour forth gold. The content of the kettle has been heard of in more places on the earth than any gospel.

Somehow, the young clerk added something to the kettle, the paddle and the formula. That thing, I believe, is an idea. Today, the content of that kettle is the greatest consumer of sugar in the world. It is sustaining sugar plantations, the workers and their families around the world. It is one of the world's greatest consumers of glass and has turned the fortune of many men around. The name of this drink

is Coca-Cola, and the name of the clerk is Asa Candler.

The same thing that the doctor placed a value of five hundred dollars on has today assumed a value that is difficult to estimate. The difference between the doctor and the clerk was one idea. The doctor did not realize that all the while he was holding the kettle, the paddle and the formula, billions of dollars were potentially lying in his hands. Unfortunately he did not find the idea so he could not get the billions of dollars. But one young man caught the idea and was able to release the potential for the billions.

I share this story with you to make you understand one of the basic principles of life. Before creation, this whole world and the people in it were just an impression on God's mind. Everything was sleeping quietly in an idea. When you understand that simple foundation, you lay hold on a principle that can see you through to the fulfillment of your destiny. A great future awaits all of us, but I want to tell you that this future is waiting for the thoughts that God wants to transfer into our minds. Some of us have caught some ideas, some have not, but our future is sleeping quietly inside these ideas.

Ideas are simply thoughts, plans or mental impressions on the mind. However, they are more powerful than we may understand. It may also encourage us to know that God did not finish creation,

but only started it. He did not turn into physical reality all of the things that were real in His mind. He gave man the privilege and honour to help Him translate into physical reality the remaining of those things that are reality in the spiritual realm. The rest of creation is waiting for us. Do you know God could have created 20 million people at the same time? He could have built the skyscrapers we have around, the fastest aircraft, the biggest ship and many more things. But He left all these to us because He wants us to have the fulfillment of being co-creators with Him. Creation begins with an idea. Since He built us in His own image, He has made us with the capacity to produce thoughts and ideas, and the capacity to turn them into physical reality.

Ideas are more powerful than the brains that produce them because they usually outlive those brains. I want you to understand that there are great destinies waiting for you in God's mind! God is just waiting for the opportunity to transfer them into your mind. The day an idea is introduced into your mind, creation begins. Everything visible today, for example, cars; microphones; clothes; buildings and so on, first of all existed in the form of an idea in some one's mind.

Every human being is potentially wealthy and prosperous. The poor person is the one who does not have ideas because ideas are the seeds that guarantee a future harvest. A mango seed is ultimately a mango forest but this will never come into

being until the mango seed is planted and it grows into a tree. This process, when consistently repeated, transforms the mango seed into a mango forest. I want you to understand that lying within the range of the faculty of your mind is a great destiny. You will not miss it.

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.¹

The soul does not eat physical food but handles intangible things, that is, ideas. So the prosperity of my soul implies the prosperity of ideas in my mind.

One major way through which the devil can get people to become poor is to make them have an idea problem. An idea problem is a serious problem. If people can get ideas, God says they will get the material equivalent of those ideas. So, getting ideas is the main thing. I have found out that money flows in the direction of ideas. Whatever stops you from getting an idea has already stopped you from getting money. If a person is going to prosper, you will notice that the first thing he gets is prosperity consciousness. He begins to see himself from inside as a rich person.

"For as he thinks in his heart, so is he." ²

CHAPTER 2

YOU ARE WHAT YOU THINK

YOU can never rise above the level of your idea. The quality of ideas that flow through your mind determines the quality of your life. Whatever you become is first created in your mind. Architects do exactly what God does; they sit down to think. They see clearly first in their minds the dream of a house before they put it down in pencil. That is the process of creation.

I have found out that there is no one that has ever succeeded without thinking. Anything that makes you cut short the process of thinking is cutting you short of your destiny. That is why I want to draw your attention to this fundamental principle. Every form of creation begins first in the mind. Even physical health and sickness can be created from the mind. Doctors have discovered that about 70 per cent of the illnesses treated in the hospitals are due to disorders of the mind.

Breakthroughs Begin From Ideas

Every technological breakthrough is built on the foundation of ideas, and this is why I narrated the story of Coca-Cola. Everything started in a kettle! The young clerk looked at the kettle and thought: "People are buying this thing in small quantities, why don't I make it in a drum so that more people can buy."

This he did and recorded increased sales. Somewhere along the line, it is said that another man saw that people were consuming the drink in public places. He thought that if it was bottled and covered, people would be able to take it home and even buy enough supplies for a week. He sold the idea to Coca-Cola and became wealthy through that idea. This further proves that nobody has a money problem but an idea problem. You can simply improve on an old idea.

And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth. 1

If capital or connection were the most important things, then God would have written it. Divine power flows with ideas. If a man carefully guides the ideas in his mind, there is nothing the devil can do about his destiny. Once a farmer puts seeds into the soil his destiny is guaranteed.

Where Do Words Come From?

Every word that a man pronounces is a product of an idea - his thoughts. Words are fruits that grow out of thoughts. Words turn back into ideas (seeds) in people's minds. When a man invents a thing, we say it is his brain child. This simply suggests that brains give birth to children. You see, ideas bear the same characteristics with physical seeds. I love to call them

dream seeds. Ideas are seeds. In fact, every physical seed originated from a spiritual seed. Every physical seed is traceable to the word of God. This is because words are seeds.

The farmer is like a person who plants God's message in people. 2

I want us to look at the characteristics of seeds so that we can understand ideas further.

Characteristics Of Seeds

Our quality of life can only be changed by the quality of ideas that flow through our mind. The greatest war a man will ever fight is that of the mind. The devil understands this so well that he uses our mind against us.

We fight with weapons that are different from those the world uses. Our weapons have power from God that can destroy the enemy's strong places. We destroy people's arguments and every proud thing that raises itself against the knowledge of God. We capture every thought and make it give up and obey Christ.3

The way God is the source of all seeds is the same way He is the source of sound ideas. They originate from the spiritual realm. In the beginning, there was

only one source of ideas, that is, God. Now we have two (God and the devil).

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways.⁴

God is talking about the quality of His ideas. He says the kind of ideas that come from Him is better and more powerful than any other one. If it is true that ideas rule the world, then the better the quality of your ideas the better your dominion on the earth.

"But we have the mind of Christ." ⁵ We have a mind that can think the same way God thinks - this is unique! Unlike our natural mind which only thinks lack, impossibilities and limitations, our renewed minds can think miracles. The God-idea, the winning idea that will turn your life around may first appear to you and to people around you as impossibility. But if it is a God-idea, it will triumph over every obstacle.

"Every God-begotten person conquers the world's ways. The conquering power that brings the world to its knees is our faith." ⁶

God gives His ideas to those who will believe and act on them. Until we have the capacity to receive, He will not give. That is why prayer is important. God matches ideas with the recipients! God looked at men of ancient Israel like Noah, Joseph and Daniel as men who would act on their respective ideas, so he gave

ideas to them. Watch out! God will give ideas to people who will believe them, personalize them and act on them. God is looking for such people among us today.

I got the idea for Success Power on Lekki beach Lagos, Nigeria when I became dissatisfied with where I was. It was after three months of protracted prayer and some days of fasting. God told me on the first day of the fasting; "You are having problems because you were flying over low mountains before, but now I have brought you to the place of higher mountain tops but you are still flying on the old level. I want you to fly higher."

That was April, 1994. He was saying that my capacity was too low for the ideas that He wanted to introduce into my mind. So I was praying for the next three months before I could take delivery of the new idea.

Once you act on an idea, it carries on with a power of its own just like seeds begin to grow once they are sown. God has put the power to grow in every seed. There is nothing a farmer can do to grow a seed himself. Seeds draw on the environment to develop into maturity. Ideas also magnetize resources. When God gave me the idea of Success Power, we ran an estimate of N120, 000, less than \$1,000, for the first quarter. That was several years ago. It looked like impossibility because there was practically no fund

but when God showed up, it happened beyond my imagination! Ideas magnetize resources from the environment.

The brain has been designed to produce ideas that suit our decisions. The moment you decide, the brain goes to work and supplies the idea of how to get what you have decided to get when you have decided to get it. Ideas follow decisions. To say “I do not know how to get it” is to create problems. It shuts the brain down. Just decide what you want and when you want to get it. Once that is settled, the brain supplies the “how?” That is how it has been designed to function. How only responds to decisions. When you make up your mind to get what you want with a deadline, God will teach you how.

CHAPTER 3

IDEAS ARE SEEDS

Ideas are spiritual seeds. Practically, every experience that a man has can be described as a fruit. The average man eats the fruits and throws the seeds away. The fleshly part of a fruit can be likened to our experience. But inside every experience is a seed and the seed represents the principle that controls the experience. If you eat a fruit and throw the seed away, you cannot produce the fruit again. But if you keep the seed, you can reproduce the fruit as many times as you want.

Every human being that learns of another man's experience but does not understand the principle through which the man produced that experience has thrown the seed away. He may envy the testimony but he cannot reproduce it in his life. That is why ideas are powerful. They are spiritual seeds. They are fundamental principles that run through every aspect of life. The brain is the equipment that God has given us to capture idea-seeds from heaven and to manufacture and produce them here on earth. Now, as I stated earlier, when a man invents a thing, we say it is his brainchild. This means that brains produce children. In the story of creation, God told Adam: "Be fruitful." 1

We initially thought that it only referred to child production but obviously it is much more than that.

The principle applies to other seeds like maize, guinea corn, cocoa and so on. God was telling Adam: "Your destiny is now tied to what you do with all the seeds around you. The more you work with these seeds, the greater your dominion." One thing is also clear from the first chapter of the creation story: God did not finish creation. He only did the basic work and left the rest to Adam. God carefully designed and put the shirt Adam would wear in crude oil; the wool he would wear on the back of animals; the furniture items he would need were inside trees; they were all waiting for the day man would begin to produce brain children. Everything is waiting for ideas.

Since that first week that God created, He has not done any new thing. Everything we will ever need in this world He had hidden already in the basic things He created at the beginning. So God tied Adam's destiny and those of his descendants to the brainchildren they produce.

The chair we sit on is somebody's brainchild; the vehicle we ride is somebody's brainchild; the bath tub in which we have our bath is somebody's brainchild; the house in which we live is somebody's brainchild, the design of the cloth we have on is somebody's brainchild; even our hair style is somebody's brainchild. We have been consuming other people's brain children and they have been taking our money in return. The big question today is: Where are our own brain children? The world is waiting to pay for our

brain children. We have hitherto accomplished great things in producing physical children. It is time for us to bear spiritual and mental wonders.

Our brains are machines specially designed for the reception and production of ideas. If God has designed your own brain machine to produce musical children, by the time you sing and package your songs into a demonstration cassette, you have been fruitful - that is your brainchild. When you now put that cassette in a duplicator and produce 10,000 copies, you have multiplied it. To "replenish the earth"² means to fill up empty space. When you begin to circulate to every house, you are covering new grounds. By listening to your music, you conquer people's minds thus "subduing the earth."

Of course, you will not send out 10,000 cassettes for free. People will pay for them and with the money you can have a measure of dominion. You can eat as much food as you want; buy the clothes you want; live in the kind of house that you want. That is the way God has designed life to be.

So, when I preach a message, I am producing a brain child. What I preach, is packaged in a cassette and multiplied for people to buy. Then we replenish the earth by distributing the cassettes around the world.

Every idea, like a seed, has a divine time to grow to maturity. The moment a maize seed is sown, it begins to grow and matures in ninety days, so different kinds of ideas have different maturity periods. The moment you catch an idea, your future success is absolutely guaranteed, because people with seeds have a harvest waiting for them in the future. The most miserable of all men is the man who does not have any idea that he is pursuing.

Not having any hope of a harvest in the next three or six months is the greatest source of frustration in this world. The man who sows cocoa seeds, knows that it will take years for it to mature, but that hope keeps him alive, while he waits for the day he will sell this cocoa to make money. But the man who is not busy sowing any idea must be a frustrated man; he does not understand why he needs to wake up every morning. He will find his job very boring.

Those who do not generate ideas will always have to serve those who do. Because we only rise to the level of our idea, Seek to become an idea generator yourself. The best workers I have found around are those who have built their minds or cultivated their imaginations to produce ideas for themselves. I have found out that those who produce ideas never lose hope; their minds keep producing ideas in the jobs they are given to do. We need more of such people who are not just seeking jobs but can create jobs for

others. If you see a man who has a productive mind, he creates more work than he himself can handle.

One other thing, ideas never end, they keep on reproducing. Just like a maize seed will reproduce other maize seeds and those seeds will give birth to other seeds. That is exactly the way it is with ideas. Ideas hardly terminate. I have discovered that when you work on an idea, it produces other ideas. Ideas hardly die; they give birth to new ones. Dr. Robert Schuler once said "We may be able to count the number of seeds in an apple, but we can never count the number of apples in a seed." It is the same with an idea.

Henry Ford got an idea to produce a car that the common man would be able to ride. However, as his idea was becoming a reality and he began to churn out thousands of cars, there was a new idea that was growing alongside- the petroleum industry. The car had to use fuel. So all over the world, the number one industry was the automobile industry and then the petroleum industry. Henry Ford was not looking for petrol. That was not his idea. His idea was a car but that idea gave birth to another one.

Now in a bid to get petrol from under the soil, gas was discovered. Also while refining petrol, it was found out that crude oil could be refined into so many things like diesel, kerosene and gas. You see, ideas keep giving birth to new ones.

People decided to sew clothes to sell. They began to sew and sell the clothes by themselves. But somewhere along the line the business became so large that they had to leave the selling aspect. Today, some create clothes, others concern themselves with selling. Ideas keep producing other ideas. My prayer is that heaven will give us such big ideas that many generations after us will benefit from.

CHAPTER 4

A MILLION DOLLAR IDEA

Interestingly, indecision is the problem many people have. I will share with you briefly the story of a man. This man, a Reverend, had been dreaming of building a school but all he did was say: "If only I had a million dollars, I would build a school."

One Saturday afternoon, he sat in his room thinking of the means of raising the money to carry out his plan. For nearly two years, he had been thinking but had done nothing. He made up his mind then and there that he would get the one million dollars within a week. How? He was not concerned about that. The main thing was the decision to get the money at a specific time.

The moment he reached a decision to get the money at a specified time, a strange feeling of assurance came over him. Something in him seemed to say: "Why didn't you reach that decision a long time ago? The money was waiting for you all the time."

Things began to happen in a hurry. He called the newspapers and announced that he would preach a sermon the next morning about what he would do if he had a million dollars. He went to work on the sermon immediately, but the task was not difficult because he had been preparing that sermon in his heart for almost two years. Long before midnight, he

had finished preparing the sermon. He went to bed with a feeling of confidence, for he could see himself already in possession of the million dollars.

Next morning he rose early, read the sermon, knelt on his knees and asked that his sermon may draw the attention of someone who will supply the needed money. While he was praying, again he had that feeling of assurance that the money would be forthcoming. In his excitement, he walked out without the sermon notes and did not discover until he was on the pulpit and ready to begin delivering it. It was too late to go back for his notes. He said it was a blessing that he could not go back because his subconscious mind yielded the materials he needed.

When he began the sermon, he closed his eyes and spoke with all his heart and soul of his dreams. He not only talked to his audience but also to God. He told them what he would do with a million dollars if that amount was ever placed in his hands. He described the plan he had in mind to organise a great educational institution where young people would learn to do practical things and at the same time develop their minds.

When he had finished and sat down, a man arose from his seat about three rows from the rear and made his way towards the pulpit. Dr. Gunsaulus, the preacher, wondered what the man was coming to do. The man came to the pulpit, extended his hands and

said: "Reverend, I like your sermon, I believe you can do everything you said you would do if you had a million dollars. To prove that I believe in you and your sermon, if you will come to my office tomorrow morning, I will give you the million dollars. My name is Philip D. Armour."

Dr Gunsaulus made up his mind Saturday morning and got the money on Monday morning. To think that he had been preparing for two years! You see, when you create the road for financial blessings to come, you wonder what you have been doing all the while and where the money was all the time. It literally flows.

Make up your mind. Get dissatisfied with where you are now. There are greater thoughts and ideas waiting to be released from heaven into our lives. I have made up my mind that I will not die in mediocrity; that the poverty that has besieged Africa will have no part or place in my life; that I am starting a new generation. My mind is made up. I am a champion and I will be a shining light. To many of us, our experience has been such that after trying some ideas and seeing that they did not work, we get frustrated. But you have to hold on to your decisions. Refuse to compromise with the present situation of your life. A great future awaits you!

CHAPTER 5

PRAYING FOR IDEAS

This is my challenge to you today; you have consumed other people's brain children, where are your own? I love the prayer of a barren woman called Rachael in the Bible. She told her husband, Jacob:

"Give me children, or else I die."¹

Of course, her prayer was misdirected; only God could open her womb. But she had the basic ingredient - a strong desire.

I also have a strong desire for a productive mind. I refuse to have a barren mind. Infertility of the mind can be worse than infertility of the land. It is my opinion that our country is in debt because the average person consumes more than he produces. How? We are eating other people's brain children. Our level of import is extremely high compared to export. I have discovered that the developed nations were at a time not as developed as our country is now. If we decide to think straight like they decided to do, we shall surpass where they are today a hundred years from now.

Japan came from default in World War II, a country that has few natural resources. It does not even have landmass; it is a combination of Islands. But it

discovered an important secret, that lack of money is not as bad as lack of ideas. So the first thing it did was to change its mind set. Now we are paying for its ideas.

Our nation is not poor, it is one of the wealthiest nations in the whole world and it seems to me that God has specially packaged our brains. Whenever we have all necessary materials at our disposal, we excel in any part of the world. So, if we decide to think straight, in fifty years' time, the face of this country will have turned around and a hundred years from now, our grandchildren will be giving God thanks for our lives. Our limitation is not a function of our condition; it is a function of our decision.

CHAPTER 6

HOLY SPIRIT – INSPIRED IDEAS

"I don't think the way you think. The way you work isn't the way I work." God's decree. "For as the sky soars high above earth, so the way I work surpasses the way you work, and the way I think is beyond the way you think. Just as rain and snow descend from the skies and don't go back until they've watered the earth, Doing their work of making things grow and blossom, producing seed for farmers and food for the hungry, So will the words that come out of my mouth not come back empty-handed. They'll do the work I sent them to do, they'll complete the assignment I gave them.¹

God is the source of the highest quality of ideas. Since ideas rule the world, God is certainly ruling the world through superior ideas. When we are connected to God, we have access to superior ideas. God's word says that God gives seeds to the sower. Most of us ask for bread, but what He wants to give is seed. When we ask for one million dollars, He prepares an idea that will yield the needed one million dollars. Ideas are seeds that hold the potential for our blessing. Many of us want the bread but not the seed. So God says:

"This is the order; I give the seed before I give the bread; the reason why I cause rain to fall from heaven is so that I may be able to give seed to the sower."

You see, rain is a symbol of God's Spirit. Many do not understand the power in praying in other languages. But explaining the experience, one man of God called Peter said:

"This is what the prophet, Joel announced would happen. "In the last days," God says, "I will pour out of my Spirit on every kind of people: Your sons will prophesy, also your daughters; Your young men will see visions, your old men dream dreams." 2

Peter was saying simply that when we are filled with God's Spirit, we get divinely-inspired ideas. Until the building of the Tower of Babel in the Bible, the whole earth had been of one language. The people then decided to build a tower and a city whose top would reach heaven. They were on a purpose that was in contradiction to God's purpose. But God declared that nothing could restrain them from turning their ideas into reality, so God confused their language. God confused man's language so as to affect his imagination. The confusion of language made it difficult for them to sustain the idea of the building of the tower.

However, God has unified all of human languages again by the power of His Spirit. When man's language was confused, it was to make sure that men would not be able to sustain their idea. But when God united man's language through the gift of praying in other tongues, He also gave men the power to

reproduce ideas again. This gift came with visions and dreams; fresh ideas from heaven. So when God says that He causes the rain to fall so as to give seed to the sower, it can be likened to the filling of His Spirit. It enables us to receive visions and dreams that the ordinary human mind cannot capture.

"But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory; which none of the rulers of this age knew: for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God." 3

Those of us in this last generation of the world are greatly privileged, we can contact new revelations and dreams from heaven like no other generation has ever experienced.

It is stated above that eyes have not seen, ears have not heard and it has never entered the heart of any man, the things that God has privileged us to receive in our days. There is great wisdom waiting for us. If the devil had got a glimpse of these things, he would not have killed the King of glory. But I thank God that the sacrificial death of Christ is irreversible, hence, your success in life is irreversible. The passage also

states that He has revealed these things to us by His Spirit. When the rain falls, the seed is supplied. When the Spirit comes, ideas flow to us.

CHAPTER 7

THE TRIUMPH OF IDEAS

“So will the words that come out of my mouth not come back empty-handed. They'll do the work I sent them to do; they'll complete the assignment I gave them.” 1

God's ideas will always ultimately triumph. Whatever idea God gives a man, there is nothing hell can do about it. Divinely- inspired ideas may go through rough times, they may face difficult challenges, but they will always ultimately triumph. Whatever vision or dream heaven has given you, if you will patiently and persistently pursue it, your success is guaranteed. God's ideas rule in our world.

"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever." 2

In the parable of the sower, it was explained that the seeds fell on different kinds of soil. Some fell by the way side and the birds came and ate them. The devil and his demons are dream-eaters, they are idea-killers. They hate new divinely-inspired ideas. That is why I say that if you have dreams and you openly confess them you must get ready for a rough time, especially if your idea is from God.

You may experience all kinds of things. Some people who are close to you may fight you because of your

dream. This world has been so corrupted by the devil; it does not encourage good ideas. Most of those who invented the things that we enjoy today faced opposition when they were starting. Marconi who discovered the properties in a chemical called ether is the one who has made it possible for us to watch television and listen to radio today. When this man spoke about the possibility of receiving a message from someone in another town without the use of wires his friends arrested him and took him to a psychiatric hospital. The first man to dare say that the earth was circular and not flat was burnt at the stake by the church of his day. These people may have died but their ideas did not die.

Every God-given idea will ultimately triumph.

When God releases an idea into the heart of a man who believes in it, and can live and die for it, the idea will not return to God void, it will accomplish that which it has been sent to do. Some people around us today are afraid to launch out with their dream because they are afraid of what people will say.

A professor of Mechanical Engineering once declared that it was impossible for man to design a machine that would fly in the air. That statement turned out to be incorrect. The Wright brothers proved him wrong by inventing a machine that could fly. God's ideas will always ultimately triumph.

Joseph in ancient Israel was living a normal life until he got an idea that he would one day be a leader; all hell broke loose. His brothers hated him. But I love this man. He did not give up. He kept on dreaming. There are people like that who have so conditioned their minds that the harder the situation, the bigger their dreams will be. Jacob's brothers hated him but he dreamed yet another dream.

What we need now are not people who will describe how bad and how terrible the situation is. We need dreamers. The world owes its dreamers because they are the ones who create a better future for us. If there were no dreamers, this whole world would have perished long ago.

Thank God for late President Jack Kennedy of the United States. In 1960, he called scientists together and gave them ten years to make man to land on the moon. He was ready to give them every single dollar they needed. They accomplished the feat in nine years. The world is waiting for dreamers. If someone had not dreamt of the microphone, would we have got one?

Thomas Edison saw the light bulb in his mind. It had first been an idea in his mind before it became a reality. He began to carry out the experiment. After five thousand failed attempts, his apprentice looked at him and said: "Sir, we have failed five thousand times, why don't we give up on this assignment?" Mr. Edison looked at him and said: "Young man, we have not

failed five thousand times, we have only learnt five thousand ways in which it will not work. We are closer to the answer now than when we started." After ten thousand experiments, he got it. You see, when God gives you an idea, it will triumph if you do not give up.

Remember Joseph, he was sold as a slave by his brothers. He landed in Potiphar's house, as a slave. Then he landed in prison. He went through hell, but eventually he landed in the palace. You see, when you hold on to your dreams, everything the devil does against you will eventually be turned to your advantage. Your test will become your testimony. Some of us have canned our God-given ideas and suspended them on the shelf. They may have gathered dust, but today we are going to lay hold on them, reactivate and run with them.

"For you shall go out with joy, and be led out with peace, the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing before you, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an ever lasting sign that shall not be cut off."³

Fulfillment comes when you turn your ideas into physical realities. There is a point you get to with your God-given idea that the people and things that had hindered you will begin to celebrate you. You should

understand that those who have told you that your venture is impossible are the same people who will come to tell you that they always knew you were going to make it. Whereas, they may have greatly criticized you before; they will eventually celebrate you.

Definite Goals Inspire Ideas

Definite purpose produces ideas. You must know what you want in life. Ideas come to us to the measure of the goals we have set. They are usually not greater, so find out your major purpose in life. If I did not know that God had called me to minister internationally, I would have settled for little achievements today. But my God ordained purpose is global in dimension and so are the ideas I get. Wisdom is profitable to direct and wisdom is the principal thing. We should ask for divine ideas before we ask for any other thing. God will give us ideas. With those ideas backed by the power of God, we will rule the world.

You Can Sell Ideas

I love the job of salesmen. The master salesman has discovered the secret that where a product will not sell, an idea will sell. They sell more ideas than they sell products and services. The ordinary salesman does not know that. He is busy struggling and suffering frustration every day trying to sell his

product. When we buy products, it is not just the content we buy, we buy the idea. That is why manufacturers are very serious about their packaging. When we buy some items, we buy the idea they have sold to us through their advertisement. Most of them try to sell to us the idea that we will be more successful when we use their product. This explains why they spend so much money on advertising probably more than the products themselves.

A publisher was trying to sell a book. It had a fantastic title, but people did not buy it. The publisher changed the cover design and the book became an instant hit. What was the difference?

An idea. So whoever bought the book did not actually buy the content but the new idea. Ideas are very important. May God open our eyes to this rich secret of heaven.

CHAPTER 8

HOW TO GENERATE IDEAS

How do we get ideas? I have classified the means into two: the ordinary process and the extraordinary process. But first, if you are going to get new ideas, it is essential that you eradicate negative thinking from your mind. Impossibility thinking must be sent to jail. You will not be able to produce creative ideas if you think negatively. So the word "impossible" must be deleted from your vocabulary. All of the body functions, including the brain, are controlled by words.

Scientists discovered several years ago that the nerves at the speech centre of the brain control the nerves that control all the other parts of the body. So once a word is spoken, the whole body responds accordingly. Negative speech and negative thinking are major reasons why some people will not receive the ideas that will launch them into breakthrough because their minds cannot nurture creative ideas. If you want ideas, then prepare your mind for them.

Every day, I keep breaking new frontiers and expanding the territories of my mind. I expect breakthrough ideas.

Sometimes we do not attempt great things for lack of money. If only we knew that it is the quality of ideas that flow through our minds that matters. Ideas

magnetize resources. We must never say that things are impossible.

The great French General, Napoleon was going to carry out an invasion. One young officer came to him and said "Sir, this mission is impossible." The general turned to him and said: "The word 'impossible' can only be found in the dictionary of fools." In reality, nothing is impossible. Impossibility only exists in the mind. Let us prepare our minds for miracles. When we are prepared, I will recommend the following steps for receiving ideas.

Natural Process

1. Identify a need. Find a need and fill it. For example, people need to wear clothes, make the clothes. The problem with the average person is that our inner eyes are closed. One man's problem is another man's opportunity. Some people only see the problem and never see the opportunity. We love to dance and sing. That creates the need for music and musical instruments. We need to get ideas to meet the variety of needs around us. We have needs with respect to housing, transportation, communication, recreation, feeding, information, etc.

2. Simplify an existing process or product. For example, cables have been used for telephone but now we do not need cables. Someone got the idea for a wireless phone system. Sit down in your office and

think of how your work can be done in a simpler way. Think of how you can improve on the current methods and equipment employed in your field.

3. Adapt another idea. You may see a fast-food business that is doing very well in London and move over to reproduce the same thing with some slight modification to suit your environment.

4. Create a need. Before, man used water to entertain visitors but now we use soft drinks. Man is not born with the innate desire for soft drinks. Its general acceptance by the populace has made it a standard requirement for entertainment. The need for soft drinks was created by man.

5. Exposure. Reading, traveling and asking questions help to arrange and re-arrange thoughts in our mind.

SUPERNATURAL PROCESS

All the methods in the ordinary process use the five senses. But with respect to the extraordinary process, we receive information from the invisible realm. The greatest ideas that man will ever know are the ones coming from the invisible realm. We must cultivate our minds and faculties to be able to receive from that realm. Some have called it the sixth sense. Some call it intuition. In the church, we call it the voice of the Spirit. It is the ability to receive what the five senses

cannot know. Let us develop our faculties to be able to receive ideas from heaven. The winning ideas of your life will have to be revealed to you from heaven.

How do we condition our mind to receive supernatural ideas?

1. Prayer. Dr. Robert Schuller says: "Sow a prayer, reap an idea."

"Call to me and I will answer you. I'll tell you marvelous and wondrous things that you could never figure out on your own." 1

2. Meditation on the word of God. The greatest idea resource book in the whole world is the Bible. It puts God's creativity on display. It demonstrates how God resolved so many seemingly impossible situations. The word of God establishes one fact that there is always a way. Meditating on it prepares our minds to receive inspired ideas from God.

"This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success." 2

Along with meditation on the Bible, there is the need for general meditation. Take some time out to think. Great works are products of great thoughts.

"And Isaac went out to meditate in the field in the evening." 3

Ten minutes of thinking can be worth more than ten hours of misdirected efforts. Life pays you according to the quality of your thought. It is mental work expressed through physical work that guarantees quality results. That is smart work and smart work yields better returns than mere hard work.

3. Giving. It is clearly established in the Bible that giving provokes a flow of ideas from God. We shall discuss this in greater detail in the next chapter.

CHAPTER 9

GIVING: THE GATEWAY TO IDEAS

God has tied our destinies to the quality of ideas that flow through our minds. Man can never rise above the quality of his ideas. This whole world was first an idea in God's mind before it became a reality. Hence, an idea is the beginning of the process of all creations. Every new thing that will be created in this world will always begin with an idea. God has so designed life that the future lies in the ideas that we have today.

There is the story of a set of twins abandoned in an uncompleted building just after their birth. John and Greg Rice were adopted by a Christian couple after nine months. They each grew to be three foot tall. While they were in high school, their guardian died and things seemed to be working against them. However the foundation of basic Godly principles was laid in their hearts. They soon grew up and went into Real Estate business in 1979. Their company is named "Think Big Incorporated." Today, they are multi-millionaires and are among the highest-paid motivational speakers in America. They have proven that wealth does not respond to your height or physical size or weight but to your spiritual and mental size. If we want improvement in our lives, we must improve on the thoughts and ideas that flow through our mind.

My life changed the day God's Spirit spoke to my heart and said: "It is true that ideas rule the world, but I operate by superior ideas. I want to rule the world through your life and this I am going to do by transferring superior ideas into your mind" I have agreed to rule the world with Him. It is the demonstration of wisdom today that will make the devil to regret all that he did.

Now let us look closely at one gem of wisdom from God's word:

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house, and try me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it."¹

I have been interested in this statement for some time. God will open the windows of heaven. Do material things or money drop from heaven? Obviously not. What happens then when God opens the windows of heaven? In the ancient times, when God opened the windows of heaven, rain fell and the earth became productive. Rain is a symbol of God's Spirit. I believe that, nowadays whenever God opens the heavens, He pours out His Spirit, and when the Spirit comes, He manifests in six ways, namely, wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge and the fear of God

These manifestations of God's Spirit can be categorized into two:

(a) Divine ideas - wisdom, understanding, counsel, knowledge and fear of the Lord.

(b) Divine power - might.

When a man gives to God, the Holy Spirit gives him power to prosper and wisdom to operate. The "blessing" in the above statement refers to divine ideas and divine power. God talks in terms of potential. He sees things not just the way they are, but the way they could be.

This is the illustration God gave me:

If after giving to God, God gives you a mango seed, He has actually given you a plantation. For after the mango seed is planted, it produces a tree which bears fruits containing seeds. If all the seeds are planted, you have more trees and ultimately a plantation. Since I got this understanding, my expectation has changed each time I give to God. I expect a flow of divine ideas and divine power in my life. The fact that you will receive monetary reward after giving to God should not be in doubt at all. But ideas that make the earth produce are the major means by which God will pour His blessings into your life.

R.G. Le Tourneau, a multi-millionaire in the United States, once operated by this principle. He said that

when he became a believer, he noticed that new roads were constantly being created in America and the equipment being used in moving the sand were very small. It took them a long time to move earth. He wondered what was to be done. As he began to pay tithes, he began to see designs of heavy equipment in his dreams. He brought together industrial architects to whom he described what he saw. Then they brought out the designs.

He noticed that whenever he stopped paying tithes the dreams stopped coming. God's Spirit told him that the ideas were in response to the tithes he was giving and that God would bless him through those ideas. After some time, Le Tourneau made the mistake of not paying his tithe. The company went into deficit by the same amount that should have been paid for tithes. After the payment of this backlog, the dreams continued. Giving to God is our gateway to divine ideas.

There is a clear difference between good ideas and God ideas. Not all good ideas are God ideas but all God ideas are good ideas. Divinely-inspired ideas have made a world of difference in my life. So whenever I pay my tithe, I expect fresh insights from God. This is why the Holy Spirit gets people to give more today than ever before. Though it is grossly criticized by the world but this is God's wisdom in operation. Mr. Le Tourneau later raised his tithe to 90 per cent of his income. The 10 per cent remaining was sufficient for him all through his life time. You

need to understand that when we give money which is a physical seed, God gives us ideas which are spiritual seeds. Let me give two examples from the Bible.

Solomon, the wisest king in ancient Israel, operated by this principle.

"Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon, God appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask! what shall I give you.'"³

King Solomon asked for wisdom and understanding and God gave him a new heart.

"Behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you."⁴

Solomon gave an unusual offering to God. He gave a thousand sheep and God responded by appearing to him in a dream. God gave him a blank cheque. This is the genesis of the wisdom and wealth of Solomon. He gained access to divine ideas.

The second example is that of Jacob, one of the ancient patriarchs of Israel. At Bethel, Jacob committed himself to God and promised to pay a tithe.

'This stone that I have set up as a memorial pillar will mark this place as a place where God lives. And everything you give me, I'll return a tenth to you.'⁵

As an employee, Jacob became a very resourceful man because powerful ideas were flowing in his mind. Hence, his employer requested that he should fix his salary by himself. You see, you can come to a point where you become a partner with your employer, when your employer discovers that you are a genius and that you operate by unique wisdom. Eventually Jacob became wealthier than his uncle, Laban. Jacob while explaining to his wives the secret of his lifting had this to say:

"In the dream an angel of God called out to me, 'Jacob.' I said, 'Yes.' He said, 'Watch closely. Notice that all the goats in the flock that are mating are streaked, speckled and mottled. I know what Laban's been doing to you. I'm the God of Bethel where you consecrated a pillar and made a vow to me.'" ⁶

God delivered Jacob from economic bondage of his uncle through the supply of supernatural ideas. What Jacob saw was a miracle. In the natural, it was plain-colour cows that were mating before the watering troughs. But in the spiritual realm, which God opened Jacob's eyes to see, there was divine intervention. God brought spotted spiritual cows, to mate with plain-colour ones. Contrary to the law of reproduction, plain coloured cows gave birth to spotted cows. And according to Jacob's agreement with his uncle, Laban, the spotted ones were Jacob's salary. Jacob

became wealthy. You see, God-inspired ideas can never fail.

The principle of transfer of wealth is scriptural. The only means by which God will do it is through the supply of ideas as He did to Jacob. It is not that some huge amount will disappear from someone's account only to appear in ours. God is not a magician. Note that those supernatural ideas had been revealed to Jacob because he promised to pay tithes. Do not classify a man who does not have money as a poor man, but the one who is deficient of ideas. That is the most miserable of all men.

"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." 7

The poor man is one who is not prospering in his soul. However, the word of God is a wonderful tool for repairing the mind to receive divine ideas. As soon as I began to understand the scripture, God began to open my mind to ideas that I could never have imagined. Now I expect divine ideas daily.

The supernatural realm is a world of possibilities. As you open up to heaven, I pray that God will release into your mind the ideas that will bring transformation into all areas of your life.

CHAPTER 10

TURN YOUR IDEAS INTO REALITY

As a human being, you have not only been given the capacity to dream or to get ideas, but also you have the God-given capacity to turn these ideas into reality. It is a very fulfilling experience for you to see in physical manifestation, the things that were once thoughts or ideas in your mind. I will like to share with you some tips that will help you to transform your ideas into reality.

PURPOSE

Stay within the area where heaven's resources are guaranteed. And that area is the area of your divine assignment.

'All things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.'¹

Heaven's resources are guaranteed when you stay in line with God's assignment for your life. More importantly, you are designed to fulfill your purpose; your mind is designed to cultivate specific kinds of idea seeds. It is not every soil that is okay for every kind of seed. So it is good for you to focus your mind on your area of specialization.

"There are many plans in a man's heart nevertheless, the Lord's counsel- that will stand." 2

Not every idea is a God-idea. It may be a good idea but that does not make it a God-idea. But whatever originates from God is guaranteed to succeed. So I will encourage you to stay in the area of your natural gift and specialty.

"For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith." 3

I encourage you to stay in the area where you have supernatural confidence; that area where you feel that you cannot fail. I want you to understand that your gift is not inferior to that of anybody else.

There is a particular way your mind works. You may have been designed to produce ideas in the area of music; it may be in engineering designs; it may be interior decoration; it may be furniture. Whatever it may be, it is very important that you stay in the area of your gift and do not feel inferior about your gift. You will only shine in the area of your gifting.

ASSOCIATION

“Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up. Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; but how can one be warm alone? Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.” 4

There is power in association. Remember, Adam had seeds in him but he had no womb to carry and nurture those seeds. That is why he needed somebody else. God said, "I will provide him a helper."

There are helpers that God has provided, whose skills and expertise will help the fulfillment of your own dream and desire. There are people whose minds are designed just like a woman's womb to help actualize your dream.

“Where there is no vision, the people perish.” 5

It is also true that where there are no people, the vision will also likely perish. The first assignment of Jesus Christ on earth was recruitment. As soon as His ministry started, He began to recruit. That is why it is important for you to develop people skills. If you want to have friends, you must make yourself friendly.

PERSISTENT ACTION

Nothing moves until you move. It is good for us to dream and to get ideas but we must know when to wake up from those dreams and turn them into reality. One of Newton's laws of motion says that all objects remain in a state of rest until a force is applied. You have to realize that if you see anything around working, there is somebody behind it who is making it to work. The world only moves for the man who moves himself so make that move today. And just like a sport company says, just do it.

"And He said to them, "which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, 'friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him';

"And he will answer from within and say, 'do not trouble me; for the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you.'

"I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs. 6

Just like the man in this story, I want to encourage you to go where the bread is. This man was in dire need. He had an idea; the idea was to get bread for

his guest. He knew where the bread was. He went where the bread was.

You too have an idea. You can sense where you will be able to fulfill this idea. Now make that move. Success will not come to you where you are. You have to go to where it is. Go where your bread is.

If God has given you a prophetic idea or promise or you have had a dream that you will catch a whale, do not think you will catch the whale fishing around in the stream behind your house. Go where the whale is. You may have to take some big risks, take it; but whatever happens, do not sit down, get moving.

The other important fact is that you may not get what you want the first time. The man in our story asked his friend to lend him three loaves of bread but the answer that came from within was: 'I cannot rise to give it to you.' Well, life seems to behave that way sometimes. You just may not get what you are looking for the first time but it does not mean you will not get it the second or the third or the fourth time.

I want to encourage you to learn to handle failure and to overcome rejection. That you did not get it the first time does not make you a failure and should not turn you into a failure. You must develop the mind set that realizes that success grows out of failure. Do not hit yourself on the head with a bat and run yourself down

and criticize yourself unnecessarily because you missed it the first time.

It is also important that you learn to deal with rejection. 'No' does not mean that you have failed. 'No' just means you should come back the next time or you should try it in a different way. You must learn to overcome rejection.

The verse concluded the story by saying that though the man did not give his friend the loaves of bread because they were friends; he had to do it because of the man's persistence.

I want you to realize also that if you will not give up, if you will keep trying, eventually, you will get everything you want in this life. I encourage you today, start that company, register that business, take that shop, go to that person who could be of help, write that examination. Just do it and keep on and on until you succeed.

"It is not over until it is over."

POSTSCRIPT

If you are in a difficult situation right now; if you have a problem; if things have not turned out exactly the way you want, please take comfort in this fact that God once had a problem just like you. God created the heaven and the earth. But the earth turned out to be without form and void, there was darkness

everywhere. However, God got a miracle out of the situation and things turned around. I believe that you too are about to experience a breakthrough. As terrible as the situation was, the Spirit of God was still moving. That is one thing you must realize. God is still moving over your life. Once you get the right condition, He will swing into action. More than anybody else, God is interested in your success.

Secondly, God had new ideas. In the darkness, He saw the possibility of light. Beyond the chaos, He saw order and beauty. He saw seas, rivers, animals, trees, birds and many other things. He saw a new creation. He called out what He saw and translated them into physical reality. Now, you are a co-creator with God. He wants to fill your heart and mind with those ideas and dreams that will re-create your destiny. You can open up to Him. His ideas will lift you to the top. Together with God you will rule in the world, with sound ideas.

Take time to pray. Ask God to remove the greatest barrier between Him and man that is, sin. Ask for wisdom. Worship God. Spend time in His presence. Meditate in His word. Read as much as you can. Give to God's work. Give to men of God. Give to the poor. Give to your family.

A sage once said that there is something more powerful than all the armies in the world put together, and that is an idea whose time has come. By God's

prophetic timing, this is the moment for some powerful ideas to break into the natural realm. At least one is designed to come through you. Act on the content of this book. Get ready. It is your turn to succeed!

GET CONNECTED

God is our power source. Without the flow of His divine grace, we malfunction and life becomes tedious. The thing that stops the flow of His grace is sin. Until sin came, man did not know sickness, failure and poverty. Thank God the price has been paid for our sins. Just acknowledge that Jesus Christ died and rose on your behalf. Accept Him as the Saviour and Lord of your life. You will experience a change in your heart. Say this prayer with me right now:

Lord Jesus, thank you for dying for me on the cross. I ask that you forgive me my sins. You are my Lord from today. Thank you for saving me.

SUCCESS POWER INTERNATIONAL

This outstanding motivational outfit was inaugurated in 1995. The dream was borne out of a passion to help individuals realize their purpose and destiny in life, impart them with knowledge that will help them discover, develop, release and maximize their latent potentials.

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18. MARITAL SUCCESS
19. MONEY MATTERS
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