

Outwitting Fear to Embrace Prosperity



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Every summer, Dr. Barbara Waterhouse and I taught a prosperity course using a variety of resources and processes to expand our understanding of this popular topic. One of our favorite books was Napoleon Hill's classic "Think and Grow Rich."

In structuring the class, we chose to begin with the final chapter, entitled "How to Outwit the Six Ghosts of Fear." In this lesson, Hill called these ghosts Fear of Poverty, Criticism, Ill Health, Loss of Love, Old Age and Death. And as if that were not enough, he reveals a seventh condition, which he says is "more deeply seated and more often fatal than all of the six fears." This he calls susceptibility to negative influences.

The point of identifying these troublesome ideas is clear. When we seek to apply the law of circulation by declaring our good through prayer and affirmation, resistance arises from within us in the form of these hidden fears and susceptibilities.

This is what prevents us from moving forward and achieving our deepest desires. To ferret out such proclivities, we must be willing to acknowledge them, release them completely and consciously reject the possibility of them reentering our daily thoughts.

Hill wrote that if we neglect this inner work, we will forfeit our right to attain the object of our desires. An honest inventory includes identifying patterns of complaining, finding fault, sarcasm, indigestion, hopelessness, self-pity, lack of self-confidence and worry. These are only examples of the kinds of activities that prevent us from achieving our most desired outcomes.

I invite you to join me in applying a proven method for reversing such limitations. Begin by declaring that you no longer indulge in the debilitating behaviors you previously used for some limiting purpose.

Reject your past behavior with the same vehemence that Jesus used when he said "Get thee behind me, Satan!" Then, fill your mind with the object of your greatest desire, and declare this to be the truth of your life right now. ✚