

## Next Level Thinking Part 1 by Ps Larry Elliott

Progress always requires change.

Going to a new level always requires changing your mind, and learning to think in a fresh and dynamic way!



### That's why: Next Level Thinking

Mark Victor Hanson best-selling author of "Chicken Soup for the Soul" shares this story: I was doing ok earning 1 million dollars a year, but Tony Robins was earning 156 million so I asked him what I'd have to do to go to this new level? He said to me; who do you hang out with? who do you allow to influence you? He said my group are all millionaires, he said that's your problem, you need to start hanging out with billionaires, **"they'll get you thinking on the next level"**

**Philippians 4:8 KJV** "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."



Paul was on to something very important, our thought life!



**One good thinker observed the reason we don't address our thoughts is we don't think that thoughts make that much of a difference**

### 1. Do thoughts actually make a difference?

**Philippians 4:6-7 KJV** "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Benjamin Disraeli - "Nurture great thoughts, for you will never go higher than your thoughts."

**Matthew 6:31-34 KJV** "Therefore take no thought, saying, what shall we eat? or, what shall we drink? or, wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

Jesus and Paul are basically saying:

Yesterday's thinking determines today's attitude and action, today's thoughts will determine your outlook on life tomorrow

### What are you Thinking?

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😄 Have you done something really SILLY and then you say “What was I Thinking?”

Is our desire for increase in our lives strong enough to prompt us to change our THINKING?

Not just what are you thinking, but HOW you are thinking?

All these scriptures are showing us how important it is to think healthy, positive thoughts about ourselves.

You cannot love life if you're always thinking negative thoughts.

We can all struggle with this. I encourage you to make up your mind to work toward changing your way of thinking.

The best way to become a positive thinker is to ask God for help, and to ask for it often.

The hardest part of being set free from negativism: is simply admitting that it's a problem and asking God for help.

Many people are afraid to be positive or to allow themselves to hope because they've been hurt or disappointed so much in life.

It's actually easy to fall into that way of thinking because we do sometimes face so much disappointment we become afraid to be positive.

However when we begin to study the Word, we realize our negative thoughts have to go and we can trust God to restore us. We need to practice positive thoughts in every situation.

If you're going through a difficult time, expect that God will work things out for your good. As a Christian, it's time for you to fight for good thinking, because your mind won't automatically come into agreement with God's plans.

I encourage you to spend time examining His Word and comparing it to your thought life. Give God time to help you put your thoughts in line with His. He will show you how to be a more positive person, and small steps you can take to unlock your next level thinking.

## **2. Learn to think the way God thinks**

**Isaiah 55:7-13 NKJV** “Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD. “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. “For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which

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I sent it. "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 everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."



If you are willing to change your thinking, you can change your feelings, and that will begin to change your actions, change your actions (based on positive faith filled thinking) and you will change your life.

**1 Corinthians 2:9 NKJV** "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."

**1 Corinthians 2:16 NKJV** For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ."

No matter what's going on today in your life, God wants to Increase your life and He has good things in store for you.

God wants to take you to new Levels in your life, allow him to Increase the level of your thinking and you will be on your way!

You will begin to make better decisions and the anointing in you will Increase so you have greater influence

He wants to Bless you so you can be a Blessing (not just financially) Don't get stuck in a rut of old low level thinking, arise, there is more to life

That's why cultivating "God's way of thinking" is so important!

**Proverbs 4:18 AMPC** "But the path of the [uncompromisingly] just and righteous is like the light of dawn, that shines more and more (brighter and clearer) until [it reaches its full strength and glory in] the perfect day [to be prepared]. [Il Sam. 23:4; Matt. 5:14; Phil. 2:15.]

Think Increase, Think Big, And Think Expansive!

**Start expecting the unexpected; see things through your eyes of Faith**

As you do, God will begin to show up and work things in your favour, take a step towards victory by thinking Godly Thoughts about your life and situation!

### **3. Why is good thinking so important:**

- I. Good thinking creates the foundation for good results

**Proverbs 23:7 NKJV** "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, but his

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heart is not with you.”

Just like the natural law of Seedtime and harvest works and each seed produces after its own kind and cannot produce something else.

**Genesis 8:22 NKJV** “While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease.”

The same principal operates in the mental and moral world, so we can apply it with the same accuracy here as well

**IN other words the quality of our thinking leads to the quality of our results:**

- Poor thinking produces negative progress
- Average thinking produces no progress
- Good thinking produces forward progress and nurtures better results and next level thinking
- Great thinking produces great progress and momentum and leads to increased opportunities.

II. Good thinking increases your potential

The reason we don't see our dreams come to pass is we faint in our minds and give up. We want and desire change but aren't willing to pay the price to change our thinking to the next level we want to go.

**Galatians 6:8-9 NKJV** “For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.”

Real change begins at the point of the proper renewing of the mind and this starts the process of increasing our potential

III. Good thinking produces Better thinking.

Winning is a HABIT

And that begins to release CREATIVE THINKING

**Ephesians 4:17-23 NKJV** “This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. But you have not so learned Christ, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful

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lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

**Renewed:** it often means (by implication) *repetition, intensity, reversal*, etc and To be new, youthful, fresh or regenerated

**Spirit:** in your character, personality and whole being

**Mind:** *intellect*, that is in thought, feeling, or will; by implication understanding.

Thayer Definition:

- 1) the mind, comprising the faculties of perceiving and understanding and those of feeling, judging, determining
  - a) the intellectual faculty, the understanding
  - b) the higher powers of the soul, perceiving divine things, and recognizing goodness and hating evil
  - c) the power of considering and judging soberly, calmly and impartially
- 2) A particular mode of thinking and judging, i.e thoughts, feelings, purposes, desires

**Ephesians 4:24 NKJV** and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness."

### **BUT it needs to become a HABIT**

The Habit Poem

I am your constant companion.

I am your greatest helper or your heaviest burden.

I will push you onward or drag you down to failure.

I am completely at your command.

Half the things you do, you might just as well turn over to me, and I will be able to do them quickly and correctly.

I am easily managed; you must merely be firm with me.

Show me exactly how you want something done, and after a few lessons I will do it automatically.

I am the servant of all great men.

And, alas, of all failures as well.

Those who are great, I have made great.

Those who are failures, I have made failures.

I am not a machine, though I work with all the precision of a machine.

Plus, the intelligence of a man.

You may run me for profit, or run me for ruin; it makes no difference to me.

Take me, train me, be firm with me and I will put the world at your feet.

Be easy with me, and I will destroy you. **Who am I? I AM HABIT**

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A habit can be formed in 21-30 days! but it will take a further 21-30 days to form the new one (Caroline Leaf "the Christian Mind Scientist says 63 days is the LIFE-CHANGING NUMBER)

**Isaiah 40:26 NKJV** "Lift up your eyes on high, and see who has created these things, Who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, by the greatness of His might and the strength of His power; not one is missing."

The people of God in Isaiah's time had blinded their minds' ability to see God by looking on the face of idols. But Isaiah made them look up at the heavens; that is, he made them begin to use their power to THINK and to VISUALIZE correctly.

If we are children of God, we have a tremendous treasure in nature and will realize that it is holy and sacred. We will see God reaching out to us in every wind that blows, every sunrise and sunset, every cloud in the sky, every flower that blooms, and every leaf that fades, if we will only begin to use our ABILITY TO THINK and VISUALIZE THAT JESUS PAID IT ALL!

Prayer Starter: God, I admit that I struggle with negative thoughts and I need Your help. Line my thoughts up with Your Word. In every situation, remind me that You will work things out for my good.

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