

# OVERCOMING PROBLEMS (Part 2)

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Last month the first part of this teaching was published. In this edition you will read the concluding part of this teaching which I believe will be a great blessing to you. Read the first part before you read this especially if you have not read it before so you can fully comprehend the teaching.

## 6. LEARN KNOW-HOW FROM YOUR PROBLEMS.

Don't fight a problem. And never complain when a problem strikes. Instead start asking questions about the problem. For it is full of know-how for you. A problem is one of God's ways of teaching and training his people to develop to mature manhood in Christ.

***“Count it all joy, my brethren, when you meet various trials, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.” (James 1:2-4)***

I remember when I had a problem sometime ago, I asked God why he was allowing me to go through all that, and he said, “Some things are better learned when experienced than when told.” There are some teachings we receive from the word of God which we sometimes don't take serious, and we sometimes doubt such principles; in such cases, it becomes necessary for God to let us experience certain things to drive in that teaching and principle from his word. That has been the principle of God, and it will not change. Ask, “What is God saying to me in this problem?”

### a. **Be glad you have problems, it proves you are alive.**

A dead man does not have problem in the grave for he is resting from all problems.

### b. **Believe that a problem is not inherently bad but good, seeing that it is meant to toughen you and build you up in Christ.**

Problems produce mature minds and mature men. It builds up your capability to deal with issues and difficulties. It helps you to acquire practical experience for the training of your children. Problems make one mature. It trains men; it makes men.

Problems cause or propel a man to think. Problems create mental reactions. Negative mental reaction is injurious to man. But positive mental reaction will produce solutions. Problems don't leave you the way they met you. They either leave you battered or better depending on your attitude to them. They help to move you forward when you approach them positively.

### c. **See buried in a problem amazing values and treasure.**

In each problem there is something unique that God wants to pass across to you as an individual. As you have this mental attitude towards problems, you will not be afraid or worried when faced with a problem, but you will face the problem with interest and boldness.

A positive thinker does not in the face of a problem react, he responds to the challenge through resourceful thinking to overcome. All the scientific breakthroughs and products are results of solving or tackling a problem.

Problems are opportunities in disguise. Problems are opportunities to break new grounds. Problems are stepping-stones to greater heights. May be the reason why you lost your job is to get a better job, or to push you to start your own business, or to frustrate you enough to cause you to further your education and improve your skills which you have been postponing for a long time.

May be the reason you are going through what you are going through is because you are no longer as close to God as you used to be, and God wants to let you know this and make you find time for him.

There is always something to learn from a problem. There is a blessing in every crisis. If we analyze it well, we will see the blessing. One man said, "I thank God I got fired from my teaching job. For when I got fired, I got fired up." He became one of the multi-million dollar salesmen of his company.

If companies refuse to employ you, employ yourself by creating your own job. Break new grounds. Winners are simply ex-losers who got mad. They got tired of failure, and decided it was time they win. Don't give in to any difficult situation, but learn what you have to learn from it and move on.

**d. Approach every problem with a think-pray formula.**

As you think positively, you pray to God for guidance into the root and solution to the problem. Prayer will help you to be calm and unmoved. It will also move God to help you. As you pray, ideas will begin to come to your mind from God on how to overcome.

**e. When one door closes, another opens.**

If it is obvious that the problem confronting you has closed up the opened door, you don't need to kill yourself or give up. All you need to do is to remember that once there is life, there is hope. When one door closes another opens. Find the new door that God is opening for you. Forget the closed door and go for the opened door.

***"We know that in everything God works for good of those who love him, who are called according to his purpose." (Rom. 8:28)***

Prayerfully find the new opened door and do not give up. Store this principle in your mind and heart. Be conscious of it and you will always have victory over every problem that confronts you.

**7. SEE YOURSELF AS BEING BIGGER THAN YOUR PROBLEM.**

See and think of yourself as God sees you. Believe as a child of God you have the authority of Jesus over all things including the problem confronting you and the spirit behind it.

***“For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith.” (1 John 5:4 NIV)***

***“And raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the HEAVENLY PLACES in Christ Jesus.” (Eph. 2:6)***

***“And what is the immeasurable greatness of his power in us who believe, according to the working of his great might which he accomplished in Christ when he raised him from the dead and made him sit at his right hand in the HEAVENLY PLACES, far above all rules and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come; and he has put ALL THINGS under his feet and has made him the head over ALL THINGS for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him that fills all in all.” (Eph. 1:19-23)***

God in these passages has given us authority in Christ over all problems of life and over all forces of darkness. That is why he says in Mk. 11:23,

***“Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘be taken up and cast into the sea, and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him.’”***

If we don't have the authority of Jesus we can't overcome. In Christ we have authority, and that is why we can say to the mountain move, and it will move. Jesus is not talking about the physical mountain for he does not expect us to be moving all the physical mountains on the earth. He is talking about those problems and difficulties that stand before us, hindering us from moving on easily and freely. You and I have been placed in a position of authority over all of them; whatever they may be.

See yourself as being bigger than the problem for you have the authority to move it if you don't doubt. Doubt is the only thing that can hinder you. Believe it, and it will be so in your life.

Many times when we are faced with challenges, we tend to forget who we are in Christ and our covenant connection with God. This leads us to panic and worries. It is very important that every child of God walk daily in the consciousness of who he or she is in Christ Jesus even in crisis time. This will help us to challenge every challenge and overcome in the strength and power of Christ.

- a. **Do not feel inferior and inadequate in the presence of a problem.**  
Think of yourself as being superior to all problems.
- b. **Cast off the self-limiting concepts.**

Norman Vincent Pearle said, "You are what your self-image is." So begin changing your self-image. Cast off the self-limiting concepts, which are rendering you ineffective. Be what you really are – a child of God, unlimited, free and great, really great. Start being that now in your mind and presently you will be that in reality.

**c. Empty out the fear–panic–inadequate feeling and start thinking with objective rationality.**

See the problem straight. Defuse emotional reactions. Activate creative thoughts.

**d. Cut every problem down to size.**

Chip-off the easiest elements first until you can handle the problem core. You must learn to analyze the problems that confront you to enable you know the actual cause of the problem, and deal with it. Blaming the devil or someone for your problem won't solve the problem; rather, settle down to find the true cause of the problem.

**e. Never let any problem overcome you.**

Always remember that you are bigger than the problem, and by the virtue of your nature and position as a child of God, you have the spiritual and mental power to overcome.

Never depreciate yourself or emphasize your limitations. Many defeated persons were defeated simply because they are "self-limitators". You are what your self-image is. You are what you think you are. If your self-image causes you to see yourself as weak and incompetent in handling your problem, then you will be exactly that – weak and incompetent. Never build a case against yourself. Think right about yourself and your ability to freely handle any problem. Build up yourself–image based on what the word of God says you are and capable of doing by the reason of your faith in Christ Jesus.

**f. Throw the word "can't" out of your vocabulary.**

You can, if you believe you can overcome. You can, because your Father can. You can, because you are more than a conqueror (Rom. 8:37). Say, I can, and not I can't. Memorize and be conscious of this scripture:

***"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Phil. 4:13 KJV)***

Believe it, think it, and confess it and it will be a reality always in your life. You can!

**8. BELIEVE THAT GOD IS WITH YOU IN YOUR PROBLEM**

***"... And lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age." (Matt. 28:20)***

Most times when one is in difficulty and facing a hard problem, especially when the problem seems to be unmovable we tend to think, believe and confess that God is not with us again. Maybe we have done something wrong which has made him to turn his back on us. I have thought and said such things many times before. And I know you

have done so too. We both know that, that is not true about God. Even when we have done something wrong, God will forgive us when we repent. He doesn't leave us when we are in difficulty. He can use a problem to draw our attention to our sin, expecting us to repent. And when we do, the problem is taken away just like that. That does not mean that every problem is caused by sin. Whatever the cause may be, one thing is sure, and that is, God is always with us, even in the midst of the problem either to show us our sin or to deliver us from the problem.

Believe that God is with you always because he has promised he will do that, and he cannot fail his promise, because he loves you and seeks your welfare.

**a. Practice the presence of God.**

Be conscious of God's presence in your life. Meditate on God all the time. Be conscious of his presence all the time. It will help you to relax and not be worried in the face of problems. Objectify the presence of God if necessary. Practice his reality.

**b. Walk on developing your capacity to believe if you are finding it difficult to believe that God is with you.**

**c. Believe your way out of a mental overcast.**

Faith dissipates gloominess. Change your thinking and believe God. Throw out every thought that tells you God is not with you or cannot help you.

**d. Believe and affirm that, since God is with you, nothing can be against you.**

***“What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?” (Romans 8:31)***

**e. Think on God and let him go to work on you.**

If you take your mind off your problem and put your mind on God, it will help you relax, and receive revelation and counsel from God on how to deal with your problem.

***“Thou will keep in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth in thee.” (Isa. 26:3)***

**f. Practice trust until you can trust. Then trust.**

**9. PRAYER CAN OVERCOME YOUR PROBLEM**

Pray your way out of problems. Pray confidently because God will surely answer you. Prayer of faith moves God to come to our deliverance. Problem time is a time to seek God through prayer, for prayer is an expression of inability to help one's self. And truly, we need the help of God to solve all problems.

God said his power is made perfect in our lives in time of weakness (2 Cor. 12:9). And when we pray, we express our human weakness and our need for God's

supernatural wisdom and power to sail through. While we think positively, we need to pray to God to direct and help us with solutions. Always use pray – think – pray formula.

- a. **Analyze your problem in details to externalize the problem, rather than allow it to break you down in your mind.**
- b. **Be sure to reduce the human error element by emphasizing God’s truth – submit to the counsel of God as you receive it in the presence of God during prayer time.**
- c. **Practice the quiet-time to get the mind quiescent and relaxed, to allow intuitions or ministrations from God through your spirit to come to you.**
- d. **Do all that you can, and then leave the result to God.**  
Let go and let God.
- e. **Think and confess positively to victory while you pray.**  
Never give up. Never! Always keep going for right solutions. Confess your faith as you manage your thoughts to agree with your confession of faith.

#### **10. BELIEVE THERE IS SOLUTION TO EVERY PROBLEM.**

There is no problem without a solution. In any and every problem there is a clue to its solution. If properly analyzed in a calm posture, it will be discovered. Never give up trying for solutions. Any problem will yield ultimately to sustained effort.

- a. **Affirm your capacity to solve your problem.**
- b. **Cultivate the power to “hear” by the inward ear and thus receive God’s guidance.**
- c. **Remind yourself always that every problem contains the seeds of its own solution.**
- d. **Remind yourself that every disadvantage has a corresponding advantage - there is always something to gain from a problem.**
- e. **Practice meditation and experience mental defusing.**  
Meditation on God’s words and personality helps you to take your mind from your problem, and to relax.

***“Thou will keep in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth in thee.” (Isa. 26:3)***

- f. **Keep on believing, thinking and praying.**

Your victory is sure in Christ. It is promised and guaranteed with the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life. It will not fail to come if you will hang in there and not give up. Keep believing, thinking, praying and confessing victory.

## SUCCESS TITBITS

1. **Expectation is the mentality or attitude for receiving.**
2. **Expectation provokes manifestation.**
3. **Expectation is positioning oneself to receive the miracle desired.**
4. **Love is the greatest weapon in the universe. Where all else fails, love always wins.**
5. **Love is so powerful that the one who experiences it is always more productive than the unloved.**
6. **Love brings out the best in a man.**
7. **A loving environment is a good environment for creativity and productivity.**
8. **Love makes a man happy, and when he is happy, he is energetic. And when a man is happy, he lives a healthy life.**
9. **Wisdom is better than physical strength.**
10. **Foresight and planning is very important for survival and success.**
11. **If you get carried away by today and fail to look into tomorrow, you may find yourself in serious trouble.**
12. **Failure to plan for tomorrow is invitation to crisis.**
13. **Preparation for tomorrow is laying foundation for a successful tomorrow.**
14. **If you fail to sow today, you will have nothing to reap tomorrow.**
15. **If you don't sow the right seed in the season for sowing you will reap confusion and sorrow tomorrow.**
16. **Preparation gives birth to success.**
17. **Laziness brings poverty.**
18. **Hard work brings prosperity and success.**
19. **He that works hard today will be honoured tomorrow.**
20. **Love work. Don't be lazy.**
21. **The secret of success is to find a need and fill it.**

## WISDOM FOR ASSOCIATION

1. **Some people are bad news. Avoid them.**
2. **Associate with the right people – Heavenly minded people.**
3. **Take time to know your friend to determine the extent of your relationship**

4. Always pray that God will unmask every person that seeks a relationship with you.
5. To be intimate with someone you do not know is like dining with the devil, and anything can happen. Prayerfully seek to understand the person before you get intimate.
6. Your friends can enhance your public image or mar it. Seek company with those who will enhance it.
7. You will always move toward anyone who increases you and away from anyone who decreases you. You are created with a desire to increase. Decrease is unnatural.
8. Never allow what people say about you to change your opinion of yourself. What you think of yourself is more important than what people think about you. People's opinion should not determine your opinion of yourself.
9. You will only be remembered for two things; the problems you solve or the ones you create.
10. When God wants to bless you, he puts a person in your life ... When Satan wants to destroy you, he puts a person in your life. Watch out!

## RENEWING THE MIND

1. The activity in the human mind determines the experience of each man.
2. It is the use of your mind that makes men to mind you.
3. Success and failure is in the mind, it depends on how a man thinks.
4. Creative thinking moves a man forward, but negative thinking paralyses and destroys a man.
5. Problems cause or propel a man to think.
6. How you think determines if you will overcome, and if you will, how soon.
7. All the scientific breakthroughs and products today are results of solving or tackling a problem. Use your brain and don't be afraid of problems.
8. Your thoughts have presence. They are like currents moving through the air. Those thoughts are capable of drawing people towards you or driving people away from you.
9. Thoughts are things- living things.
10. Thoughts have magnetic power to draw to you what dominates your mind. So what is on your mind?