

Successful Thinking Skills

THE SATISFACTION OF UNSELFISH THINKING

- Helping people brings great satisfaction. When you spend your day unselfishly serving others, at night you can lay down your head with no regrets and sleep soundly.
- If you can learn to think unselfishly and become a giver, then it becomes easier to develop many other virtues: gratitude, love, respect, patience, discipline, etc.
- There is no life as empty as the self-centered life.
- There is no life as centered as the self-empty life.
- The spirit of generosity created by unselfish thinking gives people an appreciation for life and an understanding of its higher values.
- If you are successful, it becomes possible for you to leave an inheritance for others. But if you desire to do more, to create a legacy, then you need to leave that in others.
- When you think unselfishly and invest in others, you gain the opportunity to create a legacy that will outlive you.

How To Experience The Satisfaction Of Unselfish Thinking:

1. Put Others First

- If you want to become less selfish in your thinking, then you need to stop thinking about your wants and begin focusing on others' needs.

"Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself." Philippians 2:3

- Make a mental and emotional commitment to look out for the interest of others.

2. Expose Yourself To Situations Where People Have Needs

- It's one thing to believe you are willing to give unselfishly. It's another to actually do it.
- To make transition, you need to put yourself in a position where you can see people's needs and do something about it.
- You can serve at your church through Nursery, REALIFE, Ushering, Greeting, and Guest Services.
- The point is to learn how to give and to cultivate the habit of thinking like a giver.

3. Give Quietly Or Anonymously

- Once you have learned to give of yourself, then the next step is to learn to give when you cannot receive anything in return.

4. Invest In People Intentionally

- As you go into any relationship, think about how you can invest in the other person so that it becomes a win-win situation.

5. Continually Check Your Motives

- Continually examine your motives to make sure you're not sliding backwards into selfishness.

ENJOY THE RETURN OF BOTTOM-LINE THINKING

- FWC's bottom-line is to win people to Jesus and get them filled with the Holy Spirit. We are striving to expand God's Kingdom.
- Bottom-Line thinking makes it possible for you to measure outcomes more quickly and easily. It gives you a benchmark by which to measure activity. It can be used as a focused way of ensuring that all your little activities are purposeful and line up to achieve a larger goal.

How To Enjoy The Return Of Bottom-Line Thinking:

1. Identify The Real Bottom Line

- Hitting the target feels exhilarating and you can hit it only if you know what it is.

2. Make The Bottom Line The Point

- Set aside any emotions that may cloud your judgement and remove any politics that may influence your perception.

3. Create A Strategic Plan To Achieve The Bottom Line

- Once the bottom line has been determined, a strategy must be created to achieve it.

4. Align Team Members With The Bottom Line

5. Stick With One System And Monitor Results Continually

Reflection Time:

Am I continually considering others and their journey in order to think with maximum collaboration?

Do you want to help yourself put others first and to develop and maintain unselfish motives?

Am I staying focused on the bottom line so that I can gain the maximum return and reap the full potential of my thinking?

Evaluate Yourself

Take a moment to evaluate yourself in each area of thinking discussed in the book. Rate yourself on a scale of 1 to 10 (with 10 being the highest):

_____ *Understand the Value of Good Thinking:* Do I believe that good thinking can change my life?

_____ *Realize the Impact of Changed Thinking:* Is my desire for success and to improve my life strong enough to prompt me to change my thinking?

_____ *Master the Process of Intentional Thinking:* Am I willing to pay the price to cultivate the habit of giving birth to, nurturing, and developing great thoughts every day?

_____ *Acquire the Wisdom of Big-Picture Thinking:* Am I thinking beyond myself and my world so that I process ideas with a holistic perspective?

_____ *Unleash the Potential of Focused Thinking:* Am I dedicated to removing distractions and mental clutter so that I can concentrate with clarity on the real issue?

_____ *Discover the Joy of Creative Thinking:* Am I working to break out of my "box" of limitations so that I explore ideas and options that will enable me to experience creative breakthroughs?

_____ *Recognize the Importance of Realistic Thinking:* Am I building a solid mental foundation on facts so that I can think with certainty?

_____ *Release the Power of Strategic Thinking:* Am I implementing strategic plans that give me direction for today and increase my potential for tomorrow?

_____ *Feel the Energy of Possibility Thinking:* Am I unleashing the enthusiasm of possibility thinking to find solutions even for situations that seem impossible?

_____ *Embrace the Lessons of Reflective Thinking:* Am I regularly revisiting the past to gain a true perspective and think with understanding?

_____ *Question the Acceptance of Popular Thinking:* Am I consciously rejecting the limitations of common thinking in order to achieve uncommon results?

_____ *Encourage the Participation of Shared Thinking:* Am I consistently including the heads of others to think "over my head" and attain compounding results?

_____ *Experience the Satisfaction of Unselfish Thinking:* Am I continually considering others and their journey in collaborating with them in my thinking?

_____ *Enjoy the Return of Bottom-Line Thinking:* Am I staying focused on results in order to gain the maximum return and reap the full potential of my thinking?

We trust that your thinking has improved. However, the reality is that nobody can expect to master every kind of thinking. That's why you should follow this advice. On each kind of thinking if you score...

8-10 Spend 80% of your time doing this type of thinking

6-7 Spend 20% of your time doing this type of thinking

0-5 Bring someone onto your team who scores an 8, 9, or 10 for this type of thinking.