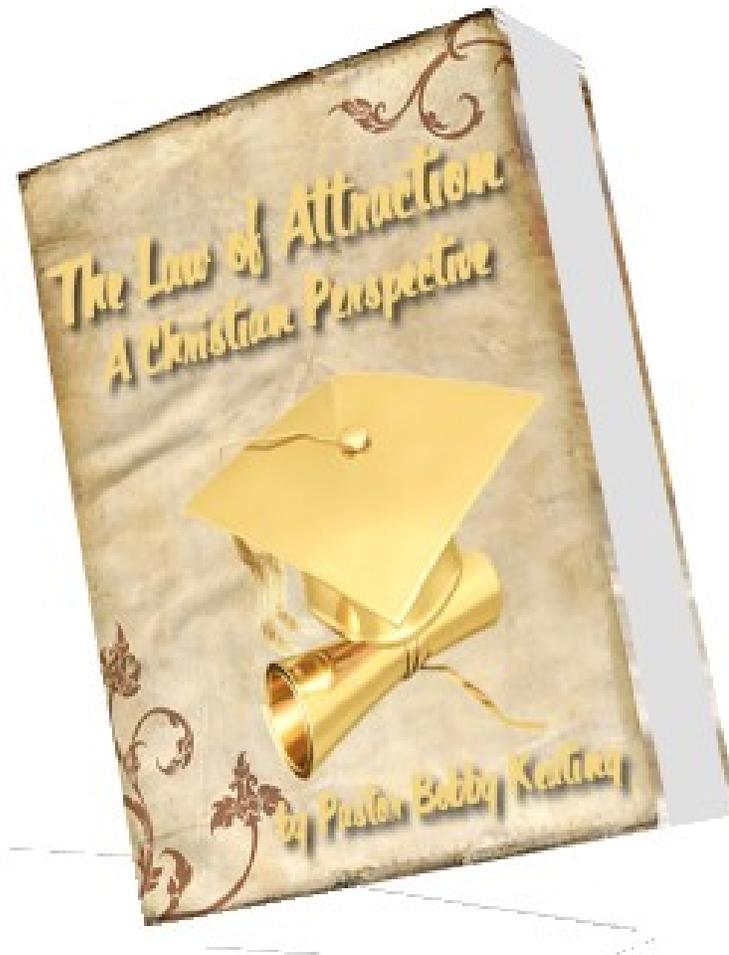


*The Law of Attraction  
A Christian Perspective*

*by Pastor Bobby Keating*

This is an introduction to the Christian Perspective of the Law of Attraction. You owe it to yourself to take a close and objective look at this material.



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## **A Warning**

When you begin this study, prepare yourself to be attacked by your enemy. You are about to enter a world with a new and fresh look at yourself and your relationship with the Universe – the Creator of the Universe. You will be learning principles that the world does not want you to learn. You will be developing concepts that are opposed to the world view. You will be recreating the way you think and your pattern of actions.

The enemy of mankind, in often very subtle ways, will try his best to discourage you. He will come against you with the aid of many who are close to you and many for whom you have a deep respect. He will try everything to plant negative thoughts and ideas into your path. He does not want you to learn that he is powerless and that he can only affect your life in the areas in which you give him permission.

Do not be surprised when he tries to confuse you with ideas that may, on the surface, seem to be valid. You are about to change your perception of the world into which you were born. You are going to break the bondage that the devil has placed on you over many years. You are taking the first steps to renewing your mind and your perception of this physical world and your spiritual life as well.

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## **A Brief History of the Law of Attraction**

### **The Law of Attraction – The Christian Perspective**

Quite some time ago I was introduced to the Law of Attraction, a wealth building program that promotes the idea that we can attract whatever we want in this universe and repel those things that we do not want in our lives. The Movie “The Secret” is credited with propelling this idea or system of thought into the mainstream of human experience.

The actual beginning of this modern day concept of the Law of Attraction is attributed to a gentleman who lived in the 1800. His name was Wallace D. Wattles. He wrote a book called ‘The Science of Getting Rich – The Proven Mental Program to a Life of Wealth.’ His primary motivation for his book and his system is ‘to get rich.’ If you were to read this book you would see that Mr. Wallace was under the same impression that most secular humanist are, still today. He was familiar with the myth that you must be poor to be pious. He was taught and was familiar with the teachings of the ‘church authorities’ that wealth breeds sin. He summarily rejects this idea but, instead of researching the truth, he dismisses all of the truth and attributes good things to an ‘Intelligent Substances’ which is ALL. He attributes this as a ‘Living Substance’ that not only is ALL but lives in All of us.

I wonder if Mr. Wallace had taken the time to understand the true nature of ALL (God) would he have come to the same conclusion. This is my greatest contention with the majority of Christian teaching, then and now. We are taught that God wants us to be poor and not to be tempted with material things. I do not know where this is substantiated in Scripture. The Holy Bible I read tells me the exact opposite. God wants us to prosper as our souls prosper. He wants us to seek Him first. He wants us to diligently study His Holy Word in order that we might be good stewards of all that He gives us.

Often people say that Jesus said 'It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.'" This is true. Jesus said that. We must however realize that He was referring to the rich young man who was in love with his wealth. The rich young man was more in love with his wealth than he was with God. He had asked Jesus how he could have eternal life. Jesus told him to sell all of his possessions and give it all to the poor. The rich young man did not realize that Scripture tells us that everything we give will be returned to us and multiplied. The rich young man did not realize that by obeying Christ he would have actually become even wealthier.

When we look only for wealth, we actually lose more than we could ever gain. When we seek first the Kingdom of Heaven (God), we gain more than we could ever want. The rich young man in this account was not familiar with the Law of God or the Law of Attraction. Unfortunately neither was Mr. Wallace. In his book, he attributes all of the truly godly qualities of our Creator to a less intrusive metaphysical concept. He was working under the same misconception that most Christians work under. That is the misconception that God does not want us to prosper.

Ask yourself a question. How can poor Christians do the work of spreading the Gospel and helping others? It is a clear fact that, in this world in which we live, you must have money and resources to be able to reach others. God could very easily cause a loaf of bread to miraculously appear in front of a hungry child. According to what I have learned in His Holy Word, He wants you and me to put the bread in front of the hungry child to bring Him the honor and the glory. If you do not have the money to pay for the bread, where will it come from?

Mr. Wallace has taken what the Bible says and has secularized it to appeal to those whose opinion of Christianity has been jaded by those who want to control Christians. He has

presented a viable and workable theory. He simply, as have many, left out the most important element of the theory. He left out God.

After having done a great deal of research, I have determined that this does work to some degree as it stands. The good news is that it takes on an entirely different level of success when the fundamentals of this process are given the correct perspective.

This is information that everyone, Christian or non-Christian, needs to explore. I want to shed some very relevant light on this process that will enable thousands of people to reach the level of success that God intends for His beloved creation, mankind.

It is my desire and intention to introduce this analysis and application to both Christian believers and those who are not Christians. Many of you have seen the numerous offerings of this system (simply do a search for 'The Law of Attraction' on Google or Yahoo or any of the search engines and directories) and have dismissed it as hoodoo or neo-pagan claptrap. I want to dispel those ideas and demonstrate that this 'concept' is neither paganistic in its origin nor spiritual hoodoo in its derivation. Every segment of this system is biblically based and, without trepidation, I submit that it works on a level that most people could not even imagine.

There have been literally thousands who have realized a great deal of success by applying what is being offered. As it is, though, most Christians have a discernable problem adhering to the principles that are promoted by the mainstream. I want to show everyone the absolutes involved and the truth that makes this system work. This will not only produce amazing results in your position in life but it will also deepen your faith to a level that most Christians have not even considered.

In order to truly understand the biblical principles that come into play, we must realize that, although inadvertently, most Christians (I would even say, the majority of Christians) have been taught near truths, not necessarily wrong but purposefully misleading. Much of this is through innocently believing ideas that have been passed down from the early formation of the organized 'church.'

There are some basic biblical concepts that have been taught with a slant that does not necessarily make them false in every instance but they lead people, believers and non-believers, to wrong conclusions. Of course, there are also some damaging misconceptions being perpetuated by otherwise well meaning Christians.

I have discovered that Christians can often be their own worst enemy. Too many who were called to believe have been summarily dismissed and discouraged by those who are supposed to be sharing the Gospel. (More on this later.)

Before we get into the 'meat and potatoes' of this analysis, we need to look closely at who we are, where we are and why we are. We must understand God's purpose for creating this physical universe. I believe in the omniscience of God. I believe that He is all powerful. I believe that He, with simple spoken words, created everything that is. If you do not believe this, don't worry. Bear with me and continue reading.

First of all we need to think about God's purpose for creating a physical universe. Jesus told us in John 4:24 (NKJV) that "God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." This clearly means that God is a spiritual being, living in a spiritual kingdom. This also tells us that we have the capability to commune with Him through our spiritual being. This also tells us that He has absolutely one purpose for

creating a physical world, a world filled with everything that we know to be beautiful and useful, all of the bounty and resources that any physical creation would or could need or want. The Genesis account of creation notes that everything that was created was ‘good’ in God’s eyes. When a perfect God expresses His pleasure in His creation, it must be pretty close to perfect. The important thing that relates to us, human beings, is that He created this entire world before He created mankind. He created this physical world as a habitat for His physical creation, mankind.

When we are able to grasp the concept that God created this physical world and everything in it for us, we can then understand that He wanted (and wants) us to enjoy all of it. He created all of the land, sea, sky, animals, gold, silver, diamonds, etc. for me and for you. It is mankind’s disobedience that caused us to relinquish ‘dominion’ over everything that exists in this physical world. But, He had a plan for that as well. He caused His Holy Word to become physical flesh in order to give us a way back to Him and to restore, to those who love Him, ‘dominion’ over every good thing that exists.

We will begin the analysis of The Law of Attraction in a Christian perspective by looking at the major premises that drive this system. To substantiate the validity of this system for Christians, I will use scripture from the Holy Bible (Old and New Testaments) to clarify the concepts in terms that are sound Christian principles. Once you understand how this works for a Christian, I will delve into the practical application of these biblical principles.

## **The Reality of ‘The Law of Attraction’ in your life now**

Whether we choose to believe it or not, the Law of Attraction is at work in your life at this very moment. This is the nature of a law, natural or manmade. If you have ever been stopped by a policeman and were told that you broke a law, you may understand this. You may not have been aware of that particular law that you are accused of breaking. In the eyes of the law enforcement officer it makes no difference whether you were aware that the law existed or not. Ignorance of the law is no excuse. Ignorance of the law of attraction is no excuse either.

We may not want to accept the fact that every good thing and every bad thing that happens in our life happens with our permission. Christians have been taught to blame the devil for every bad thing that happens to them. This is a great cop out! By blaming every misfortune that befalls you on an outside force, beyond your control, you do not have to assume responsibility for the results. This, even though a pitiful situation, is a common and everyday experience.

The devil made me do it! I was a victim of circumstance. These are merely excuses that people like to give for their failures and misfortunes. This is also very untrue. Humans love to find someone or something to blame for the circumstances in their lives. It is unfortunate that these excuses are often validated by ‘good’ ministers who reinforce the victim mindset. These circumstances are in direct relationship to our ‘mindset.’

Is it not true that Jesus defeated the devil? Is it not true that Jesus not only forgave our sins but also gave us dominion over the devil and the world? Are we not told in the Bible

that all we have to do is resist the devil and tell him to leave? Satan is a defeated foe. He no longer has dominion over Christian believers. He only has permission to do the things that you allow him to do in your life. His advantage is that most Christians do not 'want' to believe this because believing this will take away their excuses for failure. Believing that the devil can only do to you what you allow him to do places full responsibility for your circumstances on you. For most, that's a bitter pill to swallow.

Whether you accept it or not, you attract everything that is in your life and you repel those things that are not in your life. Face the facts. Accept responsibility for your own actions (voluntary and involuntary.) If you read closely the section on 'Words', you will see that every word you speak, think, write, read and hear is a powerful force in forging your life. When you read the section on 'Mindset' you will see that the strongholds that you have built are a result of your developed mental attitudes toward yourself and the world (your reality) in which you live. This is a good place to interject a warning to parents. The words that you speak over and to your children not only affect the circumstances in their lives but they also affect their perception of themselves, their 'mindset.' If you tell a child often enough that he is stupid, he will believe you and act stupidly. Tell him that he is worthless and that is the way he will perceive himself to be. Tell a child that he is a good person, show him the example in your actions and he will develop that attitude. Children need, crave, the approval of their parents in order to develop a healthy attitude toward themselves. Often when we pass along the negative treatment that we received as a child, we perpetuate these generational curses.

What is important here is that we realize that what we say, what we think, and the manner in which we act and react determines what we attract to our lives.

This will be further demonstrated in our extensive study of the Law of Attraction – A Christian Perspective at the [Christian Success Institute](#).

## The Scientific View of the Law of Attraction

Science can be defined as a systematic knowledge of the physical or material world gained through observation and experimentation. Science is therefore an attempt at explaining the 'laws' and 'theories' that give definition to the functioning of the 'physical' or 'material' world in which we live. The scientific laws are ideas and concepts that can be proven through a systematic regimen of observation and comparison that proves that the expected outcome will always be generated.

When we apply this attitude, the scientific attitude, to concepts that we find in the Law of Attraction, we can see that the premises of this law meet the scientific criteria that are set forth for any law. There has been extensive study of the effect of physical laws on psychological responses in the world. This gives a psychological foundation for 'positive thinking' and the development of the Law of Attraction.

Science teaches us that there is matter and that there is energy. If we look at the composition of matter we can break it down to its atomic structure. All matter is composed of atoms. Every atom has a nucleus (protons and neutrons) and electrons which orbit around the nucleus. All electrons orbit the nucleus of the atom in a prescribed 'orbit' or energy level in order to maintain the stability of the atom. Electrons can be compelled to assume a higher orbit by the addition of some 'energy source.' They can be compelled to assume a lower energy level or orbit when they emit or give off energy. When atoms are aligned they create a 'motive' force or vibration. An example of this is the aligning of atoms in a piece of metal to cause it to become 'magnetic.' This creation of positive (+) and negative (-) poles is a fact of nature or science.

Whether you are familiar with this 'law' or not, every atom of your being adheres to it. Science, by its definition, has also shown to us that if there are physical laws that can be observed and quantified, there are probably similar 'laws' in other areas that exist even though, at present, they cannot be quantified.

The vibrations of each atom are in accordance with the physical laws that govern this physical world. They have definite effects, both positive and negative, on everything that exists. This is a fascinating fact. For me, science in itself proves that there is a magnificent Creator who planned for every possible thing that could ever exist. The mere creation of matter and energy is an amazing thing. The ability to create this matter and energy and to create the laws that will govern all matter and energy shows the absolute nature of Almighty God. God not only created all of the matter and energy that exists but He also put laws into effect that would cause them to work in harmony.

Everything that exists vibrates. If something exists on the physical level, it is composed of atoms. Every atom is composed of electrons, neutrons and protons. The relationship of the 'atomic' components generates a vibration.

Words that you speak are created by your vocal cords vibrating. Radio signals are generated on a spectrum of vibrations. Electricity vibrates by the disruption of electrons on an atomic level. The power to create and the power to destroy are a generation of vibrations.

In the 1980's the term 'vibe' was coined to describe a feeling. Good vibrations and bad vibrations were the designations used to describe the feelings that one receives from another or emanates from itself. I am sure that each person reading this has encountered someone and 'gotten the feeling' that the person was trustworthy or not. We humans and all animals can 'sense' the vibrations that are emanated by others.

Have you ever met an individual at a party or a meeting or a simple introduction by a friend and had the feeling that that person was not who he portrayed himself to be. I surely have. There was a certain 'vibe' that they person gave off that caused alarms to go off in your head. Now I know that the next example is something that no one has ever experienced. Have you ever heard a politician speak and deep within your heart you knew that they were not being truthful?

What we have to realize about science is that it can only define things in the physical world. Since the physical world has its roots in the spiritual world, so does science. Science however is not an end in itself. Science simply shows the immense power of God. He not only created everything that exists from absolutely nothing but he also created a set of physical laws which govern the disposition of everything physical. What we, as Christians, must understand is that even though the physical laws do not govern the spiritual world, the spiritual laws do govern the physical world.

Unfortunately science can only concern itself with the physical existence of matter and energy. It is a subset of the laws which govern all existence. These are God's Spiritual laws.

In consideration of the Law of Attraction, the physical laws of matter and energy do apply. A piece of metal can be affected on an atomic level to render it 'magnetic' by aligning its atomic structure. Does this scientific law apply only to metal? As it applies to the Law of Attraction, we as human beings can also become 'magnetic.' Even though you may not realize it, you are magnetic. The polarity in your body can affect a watch or even a TV set.

Some of you may remember, back in the old days, every TV set had 'rabbit ears,' an antenna that resembled the shape of rabbits ears. When the signal would get fuzzy or snowy, often simply touching the antenna with your hand would further tune the reception. There are many other examples of this. Just think about it. Rub your feet on a carpet and touch your finger tip to a metal object.

You can also magnetize yourself to attract things that you want and too often things that you do not want. This is the purpose for this study. When you study the Holy Scripture diligently and put certain principles into motion, you will align your spiritual being with the spiritual being of the Holy Spirit of the Creator of all that is. You will then be able to attract those things into your

life that you want and to repel those things which you do not want. This spiritual magnetization is a gift from God.

There is a more in-depth explanation of the effects of vibrations as they apply to the Law of Attraction in the student member's area of the [Christian Success Institute](#).

## The Significance of Words

The dictionary (<http://dictionary.reference.com>) definition of 'word' is:

–noun

1. a unit of language, consisting of one or more spoken sounds or their written representation, which functions as a principal carrier of meaning. Words are composed of one or more morphemes and are either the smallest units susceptible of independent use or consist of two or three such units combined under certain linking conditions, as with the loss of primary accent that distinguishes *black'bird'* from *black' bird'*. Words are usually separated by spaces in writing, and are distinguished phonologically, as by accent, in many languages.

Words (spoken, thought or written) carry an immense amount of power. They are the expression of every possible emotion. Words can be soothing, reassuring, affirming, edifying and empowering. Words can also be deceptive, irritating, aggressive, hurtful, devastating and destructive. Their power resides in their intent and use. Even in the worst of situations, kind words can sooth anger or hurt. They can also rip the heart from someone when spoken by someone they love. (See Proverbs 15:1 - A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.)

There are literally thousands of instances that demonstrate the effects of words. The Holy Bible begins with an illustration of the creative power that words hold. (Genesis 1) They resonate with power, sometimes positive and at other times negative. Also, let's reference John 1:1-3 –“In the

beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. “

Everything that exists was called into being with words by ‘The Word.’

In James’ Epistle 3:5, the apostle tells us that “Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles!” There is power in the use of words, power to create and power to destroy.

In the Apostle Peter’s first epistle we are given some great instruction for using our tongues (words). 1Peter 3:10 (NKJV) says, “He who would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit.” Basically, I understand this to mean that, if I love life and want to live a good life, I must not use negative words to express the emotions of my heart, nor should I dwell on any negative thought.

Let me interject here that, until you can control your thoughts and speech, you are vulnerable. Until you take control of your ‘thought process,’ there is an enemy, Satan, who has a carefully thought out plan to destroy you.

King David, in the NKJV wrote about a man’s words 63 times. One of my favorites and also one that truly exemplifies the use of words in attracting good things to come to us is Psalm 54:2 “Hear my prayer, O God; Give ear to the words of my mouth.” This is something that we need to inscribe in our hearts. If we want good things, blessings, in our lives, we must be careful of the words that we use (speak, think, write, etc) because God, the magnificent Creator, the absolute creation force, hears EVERY word that we speak. In attracting the things that we want it is

important to realize that we need first to attract the attention of the One who has the ability to create what we want.

We must understand also that it is critical for us (those of us who want to attain success) to DILIGENTLY study God's Word. Proverbs 4:4 (NKJV) states, "He also taught me, and said to me: "Let your heart retain my words; Keep my commands, and live." God wants us to read, re-read, study, and hide His Holy Word in our hearts. This is one of my most important instructions for the principles used in the Christian perspective of the Law of Attraction. Fill your heart, your mind, your life with the Holy Resonating Word of God. This will attract God's blessings. By filling yourself, your conscientiousness, with God's Holy Word will cause His light (Christ) to shine through you, lighting the path for good things to come to you.

Do not 'worry' about physical possessions. God created everything that exists in an amount that is enough for all who love Him. Everything already belongs to you. You are heir and so-heir of the Kingdom with Christ. How can I say this?

Romans 4:13 - For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would be heir of the world was not through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith.

Romans 8:16-18 - The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

Galatians 3:28-29 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.

What does this have to do with words? Everything that exists was spoken into existence. Whether you believe it or not, everything in your life is the result of the words spoken before you, over you to you and by you. You can and do create the reality that you live in because of the words that you speak, think, read and write.

## The Biblical View

All of us, to some degree, have experienced the outcomes of some endeavor. It may have been horrible or just bad, or maybe mediocre or all right, or really good or great or absolutely fantastic. To some degree, in my short 50 something years, I have experienced all of these outcomes. If you take a close look at some of the most successful people in history, you'll learn that they also have experienced the entire spectrum of outcomes such as these. However, if you look at the area of their greatest endeavor, you'll clearly see that all, without exception, win their goals by using one principle or skill that Solomon purports to be of the greatest necessity. When you study the success training Bible study at the [Christian Success Institute](#), you'll read that same concept (skill) repeated time and time again. When you study the lives of our founding fathers, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and others or study the lives of John D. Rockefeller, Henry Ford, Sam Walton, Walt Disney, Bill Gates and many others you'll see this skill used without fail. This skill is so incredibly powerful that hardly any achievement is ever reached or accomplished without its use.

This skill, of which Solomon was convinced, is not a difficult skill to learn; yet very few learn it. The difficulty lies in its application. With all of the advertising and marketing done today, we are programmed to expect 'instant gratification.' We want what we want and we want it now in abundance. We try things for a little while but if we cannot get the maximum return with the least effort, we give up and move on. This is precisely why there is so much money made by get rich quick scam artist. People today want to sit on the couch and have a magic business that just pours money into their bank account with as little effort as possible. Instant gratification with as little effort as possible is no different than playing a lottery and it is very rarely rewarding.

This skill that has been the one key to success for many is, as Solomon puts it, 'diligence'. The dictionary defines diligence as - constant and earnest effort to accomplish what is undertaken; persistent exertion of body or mind. Often we are told that diligence is equivalent to 'hard work', but this is not necessarily true. Solomon helps us understand that diligence is 'working smarter not harder'. I have a friend who is extremely successful and he always told me that success comes from working smarter and not harder. There are many out there in this world who work hard all of their lives but never succeed.

Diligence is not a natural trait of human beings. Our natural drive is to get as much as we can, as quickly as we can with as little effort as possible. Diligence is an acquired or learned skill that takes 'perseverance', 'dedication' and 'motivation.'

In order for us to fully understand what Solomon's concept of diligence was we must look at his reference point. Solomon was involved in mining. His choice of a word that has been translated 'diligent' has its roots in mining. He even admonishes us to seek wisdom and understand as though we were looking for gold or silver (again a mining reference).

In Proverbs 20:11 (NIV) Solomon tells us. "Even a child is known by his actions, by whether his conduct is pure and right."

We see that diligence is not simply 'perseverance', 'dedication' and 'motivation.' It is also initiated by what is 'pure and right.' When we take the example of mining, we can understand 'pure'. We dig and dig and dig until we find a nugget of ore. We take that ore and apply heat until all of the impurities are burned away leaving the pure gold or silver. We can apply this to our study of success. We diligently study until we find that nugget of wisdom. By apply the heat

that is generated by situations in our life, we burn away all that does not have a use until we are left with the pure nugget of wisdom that will give us the result that we need.

Diligence, therefore, is a learnable skill that is comprised of creative persistence, a 'work-smarter' effort that is rightly planned and performed in an efficient, effective and timely manner that results in a pure and high quality of excellence.

Don't let self-doubt enter in. At this point you may be thinking that you do not possess the qualities that are necessary to be a creative and persistent person. You do have these qualities. They are raw and possibly well hidden beneath the rubble of your life but they can be mined and refined simply by a little effort. Your enemy in this physical world does not want you to succeed. Your success is 'to the glory of God' and the ruler of this world does not want you to bring glory to Christ. He will be diligent in his efforts to discourage you. Be persistent and motivated by the purest of motivations – developing a closer relationship with Christ in order to learn and bring God glory through Christ.

Always remember that you are a member of the royal family of the King of Kings. You are a special creation of the Creator of the Universe. You were created on purpose and with a purpose. Almighty God loves you dearly and not only wants you to succeed in life but also has given you the method and means. All you need to do is 'study to show yourself approved in the eyes of God.'

Let's take a close look at some of the outcomes or rewards that you will realize by developing 'diligence.' It is natural for human being to seek the path of least resistance. It is our nature to 'go with the flow' and not to 'swim upstream'. Solomon understood that we need to be motivated to take a path that is not as easy as the one that we have pursued. He tells us that being truly diligent will bring us priceless rewards, while a lack of diligence will result in

devastating consequences. Following is a list of some of the rewards that Solomon has listed for us as a motivation to become diligent. Before we begin with Solomon's list, let me interject that the truest reward is a deep and personal relationship with Christ. That is the best reward that you will ever need and should ever want. As you continue through this success training you will begin to realize the absolute truth of this.

***The diligent student will gain advantage.***

In Proverbs 20:15 (NASB), "The plans of the diligent lead surely to advantage," and Proverbs 20:15 (NLT), "Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity,"

Which would you consider to be the better situation, in every effort that you put forth to have a position of strong and unshakable advantage or the handicap of doubt? Solomon clearly tell us that 'the plans of the diligent lead surely to advantage'. No matter what the situation, whether we are in competition with an individual, with a company, with time or simply a situation, those who are diligent will have the advantage. This will result in greater productivity, lasting achievements, greater wealth and fulfillment in life.

***The diligent student will gain control of situations rather than the situations having control.***

In Proverbs 12:24 (NIV) Solomon teaches us that, "Diligent hands will rule, but laziness ends in slave labor." Would you prefer to control your situation or have your situation control you. The case with most people is that their situation controls them. Solomon teaches us that the diligent will not only control his situation but also will enhance the situation of those around him.

***The diligent student will experience true fulfillment in life.***

In Proverbs 13:4 (NIV) Solomon tells us that, "The sluggard craves and gets nothing, but the desires of the diligent are fully satisfied." When we look around ourselves we see that here in

the USA there is a great hunger, not for food but for possessions. The hunger is excited by the vision that is forced upon the people by television and the media. We Americans have a greater amount of debt and lower savings than any previous generation in our nation's history! No matter how much we get, it's never enough. Just imagine what it would be like to be totally fulfilled and satisfied with what you have been blessed with. This is the reality of the diligent.

***The diligent student will attain the respect and admiration of those in authority.***

In Proverbs 22:29 (NKJV) Solomon tells us, "Do you see a man who excels in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before unknown men." Everyone in our society is looking for the attention of those in power – our 15 minutes of fame. Those who are truly diligent do not need to look for attention or recognition; they are sought after by those in authority. The accomplishments of the diligent outshine others so brightly that they draw the attention of those around them.

***The diligent student will have their needs satisfied.***

In Proverbs 28:19 (NKJV) Solomon states that, "He who tills his land will have plenty of bread, but he who follows frivolity will have poverty enough!" He is telling us that those who work diligently in their area of endeavor will have their material needs met abundantly. He also warns that those who follow foolish men will suffer poverty. He is in essence telling us that those foolish men who appear on the surface to be successful will try to lead you into 'get rich quick schemes'. If it sounds too good to be true, you can bet that it is. When you encounter these people (and there is an abundance of them on the Internet,) run away from them.

***The diligent student will experience ever-increasing success.***

In Proverbs 13:11 (NKJV) Solomon writes, “Wealth gained by dishonesty will be diminished, but he who gathers by labor will increase.” Solomon wants us to know that the diligent person’s provision and prosperity, his wealth and status will constantly grow. Those who gain their wealth through devious methods or with no work will soon be left lacking. Take for example big lottery winners. In a very short time they are usually broke again. If you look at the luxurious accommodations that the Casinos in Los Vegas offer to high rollers, you wonder why they are so generous. They do not do this out of kindness. They know that no matter how much the high roller wins, he will always end up losing more than he will win.

***The diligent student’s efforts will be profitable.***

In Proverbs 14:23 (NKJV) King Solomon tells us that, “In all labor there is profit, but idle chatter leads only to poverty.” He tells us that all diligent labor results in profit and that that profit is through reaching the goals that we have set. It doesn’t matter where the labor is applied. If we diligently work at our job, we will profit. If we diligently work at our studies, we will profit. If we diligently work at our marriage, it will grow into a beautiful relationship. If we diligently labor at raising our children, they will develop a strong relationship with us. All diligent labor will profit.

## Happiness – The Primary Drive for Success

This may seem like a diversion from our topic but, at this point, there are a few things that we need to discover before we can truly appreciate a successful life. What good would it do us to have all the wealth and riches in the world and not be happy with our lives?

I think that I'm safe in saying that the majority of human beings have a desire to be happy. Look at the advertisements on TV and Radio and Periodicals and even those in your email. We are constantly enticed to buy products or engage services that are going to bring us happiness. Some even believe that wealth will bring happiness.

What do you think would bring you happiness? Too often people will say that wealth will bring them happiness. I would be quick to point out that there are thousands of wealthy people who are miserable. If you were to say that good health would make you happy, consider all of those you know who are very healthy but have poor marriages or hate the job that they're in. In order to answer this question, we need to delve a little deeper. Is there really anything in this material world that will bring you lasting happiness?

Consider the fact that we are not simply physical beings living in a physical world. We need to ponder the question, "Am I a physical being who occasionally has a spiritual experience?" or "Am I a spiritual being who is at present having a physical experience?" Often we are told in the Bible about the spiritual aspect of our being. If we want to understand what would make us happy, we need to understand who we are.

In the first chapter of the Book of Jeremiah we are given the answer to the question of who we are as God talks to the prophet. He tells Jeremiah that He knew him before he was conceived in

his mother's womb. How often have people read this and simply not understood the profound implications.

We are spiritual beings who have existed in the mind of God since before the beginning of time. We are the reason that He created this magnificent physical world. He created us to be spiritual beings living in a physical world (to have a physical experience).

Because of the enmity between the devil and God, Paul tells us that we are engaged in a constant struggle, the physical body and the spirit. Satan wants us to consider only our physical being as a source of happiness but true lasting happiness originates in our spirit. Everything else is only an illusion, an attempt to keep us on the wrong path seeking happiness where it doesn't exist. Happiness begins in our spirit. If we are not aware of our spirit, we have no clear understanding of happiness and how to attain it.

The seed of happiness comes from joy. When our spirits are joyful in our relationship with Christ, we can then understand and seek true happiness. The only real joy comes from a close and personal relationship with Christ. When we understand that the eternal part of us, our spirits, are the wellspring of happiness that we can physically enjoy, we begin to seek the happiness that will dramatically change our lives, both spiritually and physically.

Solomon wrote nearly 3000 years ago that a merry heart was like a medicine. Medical researchers today are proclaiming the discovery that the emotion disposition of a patient affects the recovery process of people who are ill. Some researchers even claim that people who are 'happy' are less likely to become ill than those who have a sad attitude.

Proverbs 17:22 (NKJV) – "A merry heart does good, like medicine, but a broken spirit dries the bones."

We can see that the 'merry', the happiness, begins in the heart and then 'like a medicine' adds health to our bodies. It is an amazing thing to me that Solomon made reference to the bones. Medical research tells us that the marrow in the bones is where our red blood cells are produced and is the seat of the health of our immune system, which wards off illness. We know that when our immune system is weak, we are susceptible to all sorts of diseases and ailments.

The heart is the seat of our feelings and emotions. So, in order to be happy, we must have happiness in our hearts first. Happiness is a heartfelt joy that is consistent, persistent and everlasting.

When you become a diligent student of God's Wisdom happiness will bloom in your innermost being and its sweet fragrance will fill you allowing you to enjoy every aspect of your life, physically and spiritually.

What did Solomon discover concerning happiness? As you study the writings of Solomon, The Proverbs and Ecclesiastes in particular, you can see that he found the true source of happiness – what it takes to attain it, sustain it and make it grow and bloom in you life. You will also discover that there are several barriers to happiness that we all face. We are going to discuss these barriers and how to overcome them in a practical motif.

### ***Looking for happiness in the wrong places***

Solomon, through his experiences, lets us know that wealth alone is not the place to look for happiness. In Ecclesiastes 5:10 (New Living Translation) he states, "Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness!"

As Solomon became wealthier and wealthier, his vast coffers filling with everything that the physical world holds as precious, he put wisdom aside and as his treasury grew so grew his

arrogance. It was toward the end of his days that he realized that all of these physical treasures were nothing but illusions that had seduced him and that seduce many men. He saw that mere physical wealth grew more and more meaningless as the riches grew. The appeal of the treasures dimmed as his years progressed. He referred to these riches and to many other earthly endeavors as vanity. Solomon used the word 'vanity' to describe those things that appeared wonderful and appealing on the surface but, when examined more closely, were of very little worth. Solomon discovered that gathering anything that had no eternal purpose or value was simply void of the power to produce true happiness. No matter how much material wealth a person acquires, it soon loses its appeal and the temporary illusion of happiness.

### ***A lack of being grateful***

Most of us take for granted the majority of marvelous, better yet miraculous, gifts that have been given us. We are so jaded by the material world that we do not take the opportunity to consider the things that we already have much less offer thanks or gratitude for them.

Recently I took my elderly mother for a doctor's appointment. She is truly a beautiful lady of 82 years. I thank God every day that He has given me the privilege of providing her with loving care. I always go with her because she suffers from Alzheimer's and can't remember what to tell the doctor or what he tells her. While we were in the examining room I stood looking at a cutaway chart of the human ear. I noticed all of the intricacies of the bone structure and mechanisms that not only enable us to hear but to distinguish one sound from another. I wondered how anyone could even imagine that this was a result of random accidents over millions of years. The Holy Spirit (my constant companion) whispered gently in my ear how awesome this really was. I was filled with an overwhelming joy and gratitude that God was so matriculate in His design of

the human body. I thought about Proverbs 20:12 (NLT), “Ears to hear and eyes to see—both are gifts from the Lord.”

Have you ever thought about how complex the human body is? What a marvelous design God gave us. How often do you thank Him for the marvelous things that we have in our daily lives that we take for granted - absolutely miraculous things that He has given us that we do not even give a second thought.

Instead of acting like spoiled little children and pouting when we don't get something that we want, we should be in a constant state of gratitude for all that we have. A lack of gratitude sets us up for unhappiness. If we cannot be happy with the simple, how can we be happy with the complex?

It is impossible to be thankful and unhappy at the same moment in time. When you feel unhappy there is a simple little exercise that you can do to lift yourself out of that bottomless pit. This little exercise can increase your happiness level. Make a list of all the things in your life that you should be grateful for. When you begin to feel unhappy, read your list. This will surely over time become a source of happiness in your life.

***Do not covet your neighbor's possessions***

Have you ever caught yourself thinking, “Man, if I had a house like so and so...” or “If I had the opportunities that so and so has had...” or “Man, if I had his money...” These are indications of a devastating sin called ‘envy’. Proverbs 27:4 tells us “Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous; but who is able to stand before envy?”

Envy or covetousness or jealousy is dangerous and will become one of your biggest barriers to happiness. Think about this. How can you be happy and envious or jealous at the same time? You can't. Envy is a negative emotion. You cannot focus on what you have if you are always thinking about what you don't have. Envy will destroy you. Too often people are so consumed by their jealousy that they cannot concentrate on anything positive. The jealousy devours trust and love and kindness and replaces that with lust and anger.

### ***The world owes me...***

I hear and see too many people who think that the world owes them a living. They are under the impression that they are exclusively entitled to anything that they want. This attitude usually leads to deceit. Have you ever encountered someone who was absolutely right about everything, or at least they thought that they were. Proverbs 21:2 (KJV) explains "Every way of a man is right in his own eyes..." I have never met a humble know-it-all.

### ***Selfishness***

The final obstacle or barrier that we need to overcome is one of the hardest. Selfishness is self-centeredness or egocentric. This is when a person relies on his own understanding and ideas. When he holds his own motivation in his own heart and relies only on his feelings. Proverbs 28:26 (NKJV) warns us that "He who trusts in his own heart is a fool..."

A fool is someone who does not have God in his life. A fool is someone who puts his faith in his own understanding and doesn't consider the consequences. Solomon speaks often about the folly of the foolish and the ultimate misfortune of those who are foolish in their actions and attitudes. Basically we need to understand that we must "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;" Proverbs 3:5 (NKJV).

The person who relies solely on his own understanding is basing his views and opinions on a very limited resource of knowledge. He is betting his entire future on his limited understanding of the way things work. Do you see why Solomon refers to this type of person as a fool?

Next we are going to see how we can overcome or tear down these barriers to our happiness.

The best way to reach a destination is to follow the road signs. Solomon, in his Proverbs, has given us the road signs that we need to follow to achieve true and lasting happiness. These are important keys to learn. Without a clear understanding of these simple principles, we can neither understand nor have the understanding to accept the directions on our path to success.

### ***Understanding who you are***

When we begin to get a picture of who we really are and why God created this magnificent world, we begin to look in the right place for the only true source of happiness. Drawing from my own experiences from a long hedonistic life, I can honestly say that there is no true and lasting happiness when we concentrate on physical and material things. Wealth and physical pleasure have their season but they do not produce the attitude that is necessary for happiness. Understanding that we are primarily spiritual beings sheds light on the path to an everlasting happiness that material things will never produce. Our spirits, that eternal part of our being, will live forever. Our physical bodies are not going to survive. As the years pass we begin to see the vision fading, the hearing more strained, the energy level a bit less and our get-up-and-go will do just that. One day we'll realize that our get-up-and-go got up and went without us.

To really appreciate happiness it must come from deep within our spiritual being. When we concentrate on feeding our spiritual being he grows strong. When we delight in our spiritual life,

we begin to understand who we are. The Psalmist (King Solomon's father King David) told us to 'delight in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart'. When we become diligent students of God's Holy Word a deep reaching joy starts blooming in our hearts (a merry heart is like a medicine). A deep, close and personal relationship with Christ will bring you happiness, not just a spiritual happiness but also the ability to truly appreciate and be happy in the physical world as well.

### ***Developing an Attitude of Gratitude***

We saw in the previous discussions that our lack of gratitude is a stumbling block to our attaining happiness. The remedy for this is to make a list of things that we need to be grateful for. Every day, as part of your morning ritual, read over some of the things on your list and take a moment to thank your Creator for those things. During the day, at some point, read a few of the things that you have on your list and say a simple thank you prayer to your Holy God for His love. In the evening, read the list again and again express your gratitude. Make it a habit to thank God for the things in your life that you have been taking for granted. Be sincere, realizing that without anything else added to our lives, God has been gracious and merciful. He has given us all of the small things and He has given us the greatest Gift of all. He has given Himself in love that we might have a way to Him.

### ***Envy or jealousy is a destroyer of happiness***

When we concentrate on the things that others have and that we lack, our focus is on a negative aspect of living. If you let the seeds of envy, jealousy or covetousness grow, they will produce something that will choke any possibility for happiness. Make a habit of thanking God for the blessings of others. When you see someone with a better car or home or boat than you have, thank God for his or her good fortune. Learn to let the accomplishments of others bring

gladness to your heart. You may not realize it but often those who possess bigger and nicer things than you have just might be very miserable in their personal lives. You may never know what they have had to sacrifice to get what they have. Often their show of happiness is nothing more than a thin veneer that is covering deep scars of unhappiness.

***Move from the center of your world. Place Christ as your center and your focus***

Christ told us to “seek first the Kingdom of Heaven...” Some humans never move out of that “mine” stage of childhood where the child makes claim to everything in reach. No matter how strongly we want to believe that we are the center of the universe, we’re not. When we make Christ the center of our lives and we focus on Him, everything else will be added to us. Instead of concentrating on the creation, we need to concentrate on the Creator. Instead of concentrating on the material things, we need to concentrate on the One who owns all of it and who has the power to bless us with stewardship of vast wealth for His glory.

***Walk wisely***

King Solomon tells us in Proverbs 4:7 that Wisdom is supreme and that we should seek understanding at all cost. This is crucial to living a successful life. We must realize that wisdom is not something that you keep in your mind or stuffed away in a file cabinet somewhere. Wisdom entails action. It is the application of the knowledge that we learn through study and meditation and through discussion to our daily lives. It’s the same with money. Money is nothing but paper until you use it. Wisdom is only ideas until you use them.

We are told in the New Testament that Christ has been made wisdom for us. Therefore it is easy to see that in order for us to walk with wisdom we must walk with Christ. Success depends on

your relationship with Christ. Wisdom is the effective application of the truth learned to the daily life of the successful Christian.

**Review the section** that you have just read on Happiness. Identify the barriers to happiness that are at work in your life. Write a list of the barriers that you can identify. Determine whether these barriers are because of:

1.)\_\_\_\_ your insistence on doing things your way with your own understanding

2.)\_\_\_\_ your lack of an attitude of gratitude

3.)\_\_\_\_ your seeking happiness in places that are not the places you should be looking (the wrong places)

4.)\_\_\_\_ your envy or jealousy of others

5.)\_\_\_\_ your sense of 'me first' or that you are entitled to something.

Prioritize this list. Determine which of these attitudes is the most influential and the one that needs the most attention.

Under each of these barriers, list ways that you can overcome or break that barrier down.

Prioritize that list starting with the easiest to accomplish. Beside each of these, ways place a target date for accomplishing that goal.

This, in essence, is mapping your path to success in overcoming the barriers that stand between you and your true happiness.

Make a list of all of the things that you should be thankful for in your life; you physical being, your relationships, etc. Make a habit of reading over this list and taking a moment to thank God for all that He has done for you.

Share what you have learned with someone who needs it.

## For Times like These

So often I hear people complaining about all of the bad things that are happening in our society today. They talk about the 'good ole days' when life was good. I sometimes think about the character, Walter Middy. Walter Middy was a daydreamer. He was always fantasizing about an exciting adventure. His life, in his opinion, was pretty droll and humdrum. Nothing exciting ever happened to him.

I think that it is human nature to want something different in life, to be somewhere else, to have different circumstances. I can see the worry and frustration on the faces of those I meet. The News telecasts are full of what's wrong with society today. I have heard some say that they wish that they had been born in a different time or, worse yet, they wonder why God put them here in this time.

This brings to mind a conversation between Mordacai and Esther (Hadassah) in the Old Testament book of Esther. He made a profound statement that to me seems to answer this question of why we live in these desperate times. Mordacai told Esther in chapter 4:14, "For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance shall arise for the Jews from elsewhere, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows but that you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this and for this very occasion?"

We must all realize that God is all knowing, all powerful and ever present in the affairs of mankind. He, as was told us in the first chapter of Jeremiah, knew us before we were placed in the womb of our mother. He knows the circumstances of today. He sees the bad and the good and He has a plan for all of it. He placed me and you and everyone else here 'for times like these.' He has given each of us special talents and abilities to deal with situations that we face. It is up to us to learn what it is that we need to do and how to do it. God has a purpose for each one of us and He knows the time for that action. We are none of us accidents. He has a purpose for creating us. We were created on purpose for a purpose. "Who knows but that you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this and for this very occasion?"

In order to deal with the situations in our lives and to survive the circumstances in which we live, we must diligently study God's Holy Wisdom and above all else trust in Him.

## **The 5-step application of this Law of Attraction**

- 1.) Identify yourself
  - a.) Who am I?
  - b.) What is my position?
- 2.) Identify your objective
  - a.) Contrast
  - b.) clarity
- 3.) Focus
  - a.) Diligent Bible Study
  - b.) The power of prayer
  - c.) The concentration of prayer energy
  - d.) Positive affirmation in prayer
- 4.) Allowing your prayers to be answered
  - a.) The biggest mistake
  - b.) Words
- 5.) Believing the believable

We have introduced the concept of The Law of Attraction from a Christian perspective.

The world thinks that this concept is a secular one, one that was discovered by those who have no belief in God and who disdain the very mention of God. The purpose and intent of this introduction is to re-introduce the Christian principles that cause this Law of Attraction to work.

The concept was introduced to mainstream society by a movie. This is so often the case. I have noticed that some have completely defined their lives and their belief systems by a Hollywood version of the world that is desired. Man has a tendency to find a life and belief system that justifies the life system that he wants. When they state that Christianity and the laws of God do not apply to them because they choose not to believe them, they make a grave error. A law is a law and it does not make a difference whether it is a physical, spiritual or social law.

Someone can say that he does not believe in large trucks. That belief, however farfetched, would demand to be tolerated. It is his belief and we would be considered intolerant if we dismissed it. If this is your belief, all I can say is do not stand in the middle of oncoming traffic on the Interstate highway.

Let's begin by looking at step #1 – Identify yourself.

You might respond to this, "I am John." This is your name. It does not tell who you are. There are thousands of others named John. You might respond, "I am a doctor." Again, this does not tell who you are. This only signifies your profession. There are thousands of doctors in this world. You might respond, "I am Dr. John and I live in Memphis." Once again, this only gives us your name, your profession and where you live.

The point that I am trying to make here is that you are a unique individual. There is no other human being on this planet that is exactly like you. You have special talents and attributes that no one else has. You are an individual.

You must understand that you were created on purpose and with a purpose. God does not make mistakes and when He thought about you He created a plan that includes you. In the first chapter of the Book of Jeremiah God told the prophet that He knew him before he was conceived in his mother's womb. This defines your being. In answer to the question "Who are you?" you can without hesitation reply that you are a special creation of the God Most High with special qualities and attributes. God created you with a purpose and He gave you all of the necessary instructions in His Holy Word to not only discover who you are but what you need to do.

Step #1 part b addresses another question that each of us needs to discover. “What is my position in this world?” You may think that this relates to your socio-economic position. There is a much higher purpose for the discussion of this question. The shortest distance between two points is a straight line. In the vast expanses of this universe, each one of us has a position that is critical to our understanding of our relationship to every other person or object in the physical universe.

Our spiritual position is clearly stated in the Scriptures. We are children of the Most High God. We are heirs to His Kingdom and co-heirs with Jesus Christ. This is a position of authority. Christ told us that we are given authority through His name. If we accept our spiritual position as The King’s Child, we must understand that there is also a responsibility that accompanies that position. We must act as though we are royalty. We are in a spiritual position of power and authority. Does your physical position reflect this attitude?

Since there is really no separation in the spiritual world and the physical world, we must break down the strongholds (mindsets) that have conditioned our position in life. We must align ourselves with the promises and the expectations that are given us in the Holy Scripture. We must do away with all negative attitudes towards ourselves and those around us. We must recreate our physical reality to reflect the importance of our spiritual reality.

How is it possible for us to do this? First, let’s understand that our present mindsets took many years to be built. Some of us have reinforced these ‘strongholds’ as well. We have allowed the world in which we live to determine our positioning (social, economic, and

relational.) We must enter a new area of life and announce to ourselves that royalty has entered the room. We must first change our mental attitudes about who we are in order for us to retrain ourselves to respond in the correct manner.

You know that you are a child of the Living God, the King of Kings. You know that your spiritual position (where you are) is one of authority. You must realize that every negative thing that you believe about yourself is nothing more than a lie perpetrated by your enemy in order to deprive you of your true position. You must develop the attitude of a diligent student. You must read and reread the Scriptures studying, meditating and discussing the information that God has given you in His Holy Word. The more time that you spend deeply and diligently studying God's Holy Word, the deeper your understanding of who you are and where you are will become. This in turn will feed your spiritual being with the spiritual nourishment that he needs to battle your flesh person and the temptations that your enemy presents.

## Step #2 - Identify your objective

This is an extremely important area of thought for the Christian. Why do you want wealth? Why do you need wealth? What will wealth do for you?

Christ told us to seek first the Kingdom of Heaven. He also tells us to feed the hungry, cloth the naked, house the homeless and give those who are thirsty something to drink. Our object should never be the wealth but what the wealth will enable us to do. Without wealth we are powerless in this world to accomplish what we need to accomplish.

Christ was not telling us that the wealth was bad but our motivation for the wealth and our attitude toward the possessing of wealth can lead us into the wrong thinking.

### Step #3 – Focus

Have you ever tried concentrating on a particular project and having every distraction in the world ease its way into your line of site or hearing? This is particularly true when you sit down to study your Bible. As you begin reading everyone near you seems to have to have your attention - a question here and a question there. Often we try to study after we have had a grueling day at the office. The harder we try to read the heavier our eyes become.

In our daily life this is also the case. When we are engaged in activities that are meant to enhance our spiritual life, every distraction possible will creep in.

In order for us to get to where we want to be is to focus on our destination. Ultimately our destination is the presence of Christ.

Step #4 – So often our prayers are nothing more than pleas for things. We entreat the Almighty Creator to magically zap what we want into existence. We are not really sure that this is right so we add ‘if it be your will, O Lord’ into the mix to relieve our guilt for even asking. If you think it is not His will, do not ask. That would be rude. If it is His will, then why do you need to qualify it?

You must first decide that He does or does not want something for you. If you diligently study the Holy Scripture you’ll notice that God wants you to have and has already created

everything for you. Why pray for something if within your heart you already do not believe that God will help you? You need to allow yourself to believe that your prayers are answerable.

Step#5 - Believe the unbelievable. Society and the world have already determined your station in life. The 'church' has already determined what you are. You have been taught that you really do not deserve too much success. We have been conditioned to expect at most only a little. In order for God's Law of Attraction to work for you, you need to destroy that mindset and believe the unbelievable. You are special. You are loved as much as anyone else. You have special talents and in the plan of plans you have a vital and integral part to place.

The remainder of the 5 Steps is discussed at the [Christian Success Institute](#)

The Success Training Bible Study and the study of King Solomon's Principles for Successful Living with the study of Internet Marketing Principles and Applications are essential parts of this Christian Perspective to the Law of Attraction.

Become a diligent student of God's Holy Wisdom today and understand the principles that God has given each one of us to become successful in all areas of life.

To your success!

Pastor Bobby