

Audacious Faith

A CHRIST-CENTERED BUSINESS COMMUNITY FOR WOMEN

*6 Steps to Get You from
Where You Are to
Where You Want to Be*



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Dr. Joe Vitale, motivational speaker and author, often says: "*The fastest way to get where you want is to be happy with where you are.*" Believe it or not, this mindset works! It may take some changes and soul searching on your part, but in the end, it'll be more than worth it to adopt this positive mentality.

The apostle Paul echo's Dr. Vitale's words from a spiritual perspective. Philippians 4:11-13 says: "For I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me." (NRSV)

Paul wrote this while in prison. So, even then, he had a mindset to be content.

While you should strive to make your dreams come true, **concentrate, also, on yourself and your journey.** When you spend less time wishing things were different and more time accepting what you've got, you've already found a sense of peace and happiness right there.

Here are some tips that can help you become who you want to be right now:

- 1. Feel gratitude.** When you live in the present moment, it's easier to express feelings of gratitude. Jesus said, "Don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. (Matthew 6:34 NRSV) When you're grateful, you **remain positive and appreciative in every joyful moment in life.**



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Sometimes people get too caught up in a sense of entitlement, which leads to negative feelings. Concentrating on gratitude, instead, will give you peace and take you in the direction of your dreams.

2. Be faithfully optimistic. Some say that life is all about optimism. But when you combine faith with optimism, there will be no stopping you! Remember these faithfully optimistic words:

- "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:11 NRSV)
- You get a new start each day, each moment: "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalm 118:24 NRSV)"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28 NJKV)
- Let faithful optimism be the driving force that keeps you going.

3. Exhibit the traits you desire. Jesus said, "You will know them by their fruits." (Matthew 7:16 NRSV). The apostle Paul names these fruits of the Spirit as: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another. (Galatians 5:22-26 NRSV)

It was Gandhi who said that **you should be the change you want to see in the world.** Heeding these wise words, you can become the person you wish to be and go where you wish to go. With some persistence and perseverance, and the Holy Spirit guiding you, **you can change your life and create change in the world.**



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- 4. Adopt an abundant mindset.** Jesus said, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." John 10:10 (NRSV) Take a moment to determine what abundance means to you. Are you hoping for money, a fulfilling career, or a relationship that lasts a lifetime? Know what you want, then adopt an abundant mindset. Once you do, you've aligned yourself in the direction of your goals.
- 5. Find the silver lining.** As you go through life, you will no doubt realize that things are not always going to go your way. As you stay faithfully optimistic, hold onto this promise that, "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1 NRSV) But even in tough times you can know that, "all things work together for good." Instead of allowing negativity to consume your life, seek out the silver lining. ***This fresh attitude can be the difference between being held hostage and achieving your goals.***
- 6. Take small steps.** When the place you're going seems far away and unachievable, it's important to break it down into small steps. Give yourself an achievable goal with a realistic time frame. Break that one down into smaller goals.

When you avoid getting overwhelmed, you'll gain the confidence to persevere. We are encouraged that, "tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint. (Romans 5:3-5 NKJV)

You're Already There

It's a good idea to practice one of these tips at a time until you've incorporated them



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into your life. Perhaps you can spend a week perfecting one strategy and, then the next week, add another one to your repertoire while continuing with the first one. Soon enough, you'll be a natural at all of them!

Once you choose a powerful and positive mindset, you'll find that **you've already achieved much of what you want**. Just remember: You *already* have the traits, mindset, and lifestyle you desire, and you know that success is inevitable, but only when you have the will to break through the obstacles in your mind!

With Christ as your partner, you will be led in the direction you are to go. "The human mind plans the way, but the Lord directs the steps." (Proverbs 16:9 NRSV)



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