

# *DIGGING DEEP*

VOL ONE

## *MINDSET*

# DIGGING DEEP

Vol:1

## MINDSET

LAWAL OLUWABUNMI

**This book is dedicated to everyone out there who has thought of giving up on life at one point or the other. This book will help you retrace your steps and get back on track.**

## QUOTESTOKNOW

1. You have to stay in your strength zone and leave your comfort zone before you can attain success in life.
2. If you have failed to plan , you have eventually planned to fail.`
3. You can do it, if you think you can.
4. When preparation meet with opportunity, it results into success
5. When one operate in line with his strengths there is no limitation to man's creativity.
6. The only difference between a failure and a winner is that failure failed to plan and they fail to do what the winner as done night.
7. If you are to be motivated ,you need a motivator and when you become motivated, you possess two great power because you become a self motivator and a motivation to others.. Lawal Oluwabunmi
8. Battle are what you are born to win, winning start from within.
9. A strong mind produces a strong will.
10. Knowledge is power so to say but wisdom shed light on knowledge.
11. Only the winner are of great and useful advantage to the society because they never give up .
12. Never hesitate to do the right thing at the right time, because time wait for no man.
13. Action goes a long way in quest for success.
14. Positive action is inevitable, while progress is desired.
15. One who knows him\herself can never get to the end –LAWAL OLUWABUMMI .
16. Becoming is better than being.
17. It is easier for one to take risk and chase his dreams with a mindset that he has nothing to lose.
18. Practice affirms confidence.
19. You have to get to the darkest night before the morning come.
20. It's what you are born to face, just make sure you face it when you are ought and mark a good result.

# CONTENT

**Quotes to know**

**Acknowledgment**

**MINDSET**

**\*Definition**

**\*What makes heroes extra-ordinary**

**\*Types of mindset**

**- positive mindset**

**- negative mindset**

**- negpositive mindset**

**- posnegative mindset**

**- words I leave you with.**

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**Mumuni opeyemi, Adekunle mojeed ...you guys are the best ...**

**Thank you all ♥**

## **YOU CAN HANDLE YOUR PROBLEMS WHEN YOU HAVE THE MINDSET**

A strong mind is what we say produces a strong will and your mind energizes your strength and your willingness to handle problems.

### **MINDSET**

According to Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary; mindset is said to be *“set of attitudes or fixed ideas that somebody has and that are often difficult to change”*.

**Another dictionary says** *“It’s a way of thinking; an attitude or opinion especially a habitual one”*.

Problems attack the mind and look for a way(s) to paralyze it, but if you have the mindset to overcome, nothing on the surface of the earth can stop you.

Mindset is simply a set of attitudes. For example, if you have been trying to carry a bucket of water but to no avail, and one day, you just sit down and begin to think of your inability to carry just a bucket of water. At that moment, you are thinking about what makes you fail, and you are trying to change your mindset.

After that process, you start to take another step of possibilities in your mind. You start to have the thought of “...if I want to carry that bucket of water, I will, if I try harder and I can, if I set my mind to it”.

That is where it all starts from. Then, when next you want to carry the bucket of water, you will not only carry it with all the strength you possess, but with all your mind focused on the task, and at the end of the day, you will find out it ends in success.

We go through different kinds of problems/challenges in life, but when our mind is set to 'destroying the barrier', so will it be. But leaving such problems unattended to is dangerous.

If you don't face your problems, then your problems will face you with the aim of destroying you. So, it's time you decide who destroys who, who wins and who loses.

**A quote says "impossibility can only be found in the dictionary of the fools".  
That word "I CAN'T" is the force behind failure.**

The word "possibility" is the first word you'll come across in the journey of a winner/hero/heroine/legend. Never tell yourself that you can't do it or make it because it gives the devil total power over you and with that, you might not be able to accomplish anything in life if you don't decide and have a re-think.

The position, place or level you are now is calculated with the mindset you had long ago. For you to be successful, you need to picture yourself forming new connections as you meet the challenges and learn to keep on going and you will see that things will change for good.

Our champions and idols are super heroes who (in our thoughts) were born differently from us; we don't like to think of them as ordinary people who made themselves extraordinary.

This should pop up these questions in you: Can't I become extra-ordinary

- Can't I become a hero?
- Can't my name be on the list of heroes?
- What is the difference between me and the "great people of today"?
- When I die, what will the world remember me for?

➤ What do heroes have that I don't have?

## **WHAT MAKES HEROES EXTRA-ORDINARY**

They do more than what ordinary people do, or should I say they do more than what a human being is expected to do, because they know there are still some hidden treasures that await discovery in them.

One of the things that makes them extra-ordinary is their “**MINDSET**”.

You can also make yourself a champion/idol or extra-ordinary when you have the right mindset. Most people have this kind of heart. A song by

**NELACHRYSTARS CREW**says:

- **Have faith in yourself** **Theory One**
- **Believe that you can make it.** **Theory Two**
- **Strengthen your inner mind** **Theory Three**
- **And don't give up easily** **Theory Four**
- **Let nothing hold you back** **Theory Five**
- **Keep on pushing harder** **Theory Six**
- **That's how you learn** **Theory Seven**
- **To be a winner** **Theory Eight**

**Song by NELACHRYSTARS**

If you check every story of a hero or a heroine, you will notice that there is a force behind every of their steps. Take Benjamin Solomon Carson Sr. (born September 18, 1951). Carson was the Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery at the Johns Hopkins Hospital from 1984 until his retirement in 2013. As a pioneer in neurosurgery, Carson's achievements include performing the only successful separation of conjoined twins joined at the back of the head; performing the first successful

neurosurgical procedure on a fetus inside the womb; performing the first completely successful separation of type-2 vertical craniopagus twins ; developing new methods to treat brain-stem tumors; and revitalizing hemispherectomy techniques for controlling seizures .

He became the youngest chief of pediatric neurosurgery age 33. Carson has received more than 60 honorary doctorate degrees, numerous national merit citations, and written over 100 neurosurgical publications.

The operation he performed for the Siamese Twins was a very hard and risky one, but do you know what he did? He never thought of failure and was never ready to do anything that will make him fail.

You should also know that Carson's life too wasn't all rosy; when Carson was five, his mother learned that his father had a prior family and had not divorced his first wife. In 1959, when Carson was eight, his parents separated. Carson was an average student, he was looked down upon but he strived, fought and won.

I know YOU CAN and YOU WILL, only if you take the right steps. It is easier for one to take risks and to choose one's dream with a mindset that he/she has nothing to lose.

You might just think life is unfair or not going well for you, but my dear, regard it as a test for your success. Let me share a story with you.

When I was in secondary school, I had set of four friends and we were all so determined to succeed and get to great places on the surface of the earth. But when I left school. I felt like all those dreams were shattered, and was not full of life.

At a point, I felt like I was stagnant, I felt like “this is not the normal me”, not knowing it was the time to face life heads on.

But I thank God for my life, because my dreams didn't die. I fell, I was disappointed, I was abused but I never let that push me down. I thought life was unfair with all I was going through in life, but I'm grateful to God at the end that I didn't give up.

Even if everything in your environment is not okay, just stay strong, even if your country's economy is not well, just focus and be determined to succeed.

***“When Preparation meets with opportunity, the result is success “ but  
“when lack of preparation meets with the greatest opportunity, the result  
will be total failure”.***

The preparation here is mindset and hard work, both work for each other, in the sense that, without positive mindset, you can't have the feeling of wanting or having the decision of working, and you can't work without the mindset of doing so.

If any small or little opportunity comes around, your result will be success. Because you have followed the golden rules of the winners.

Right mindset without preparation, results in failure (even when bigger and more rewarding opportunities come knocking loudly at the door), because you have failed to follow the golden rules of the winners.

There is only one clear difference between a winner and a loser; winners don't give up when they fall, they rise up and continue with their journey while losers do otherwise. Mindset is the first key needed.

Take for instance, a very awarded and well-known inventor and businessman whose name is Thomas Alva Edison (February 11, 1847 – October 18, 1931). He was described as America's greatest inventor. He developed many devices in

various fields such as electric power generation, mass communication, sound recording, motion pictures, phonograph, and the long-lasting, practical electric light bulb. Records have it that he tried for “999” times before he got what he wanted.

If he did not have that great mindset at that time, he probably might have not been this celebrated as “a hero of great inventions”. And believe me when I tell you that all wasn't smooth for him; he had thousands of reasons to give up, life threw various challenges at him.

For instance, Edison attended school for only few months, and was taught later by his mother. Much of his education came from reading R. G. Parker's School of Natural Philosophy and from enrolling in chemistry courses at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art.

Edison developed hearing problems at an early age. The cause of his deafness was attributed to a bout of scarlet fever during childhood and recurring untreated middle-ear infections. Around halfway through his career, Edison attributed the hearing impairment to being struck on the ears by a train conductor when his chemical laboratory in a boxcar caught fire and he was thrown off the train in Smiths Creek, Michigan, along with his apparatus and chemicals.

In his later years, he modified the story to say the injury occurred when the conductor, in helping him onto a moving train, lifted him by the ears. Being completely deaf in one ear and barely hearing in the other, Edison would listen to a music player or piano by chomping into the wood to absorb the sound waves into his skull. The waves would then pass through the cochlea and into the auditory nerve and finally into his brain. Due to this method of listening, he could not stand vocal vibrato nor hear at the highest frequencies.

Despite all these, he never gave up and just imagine, his effort, time and all the money he used for that ‘999 times practical! His trials were not in vain, his money was not wasted, his time and energy resulted in something meaningful.

Today, Thomas Edison remains a hero and generations after him will continually benefit from his achievements because he had worked really hard to ensure this. He backed up his dreams with the mindset that all will come true as he followed the golden rule of the winners.

There is hardly a room in the world that is not depending on the works of Edison who invented the light bulb in 1879. These works made him popular, famous, rich and respected among all.

William Henry Gates III (born October 28, 1955) is another American business magnate, software developer, investor, and philanthropist. He is best known as the co-founder of Microsoft Corporation. Bill Gate originally was a school dropout, surprisingly. But the irony here is that an ordinary drop out is now a multi-billionaire and a great inventor. He fell, he failed, he was disappointed, was abused, was mocked but, he never allowed all that to push him down, he rather made them stepping stones.

Now, if we are talking about world greatest men, Bill Gate is one of them. From 1995 to 2017, he held the Forbes title of the richest person in the world .

The greatest example we can have again is “Jesus” he died for us without giving up. Even when he was in pain, he never gave up, he had a mission to save the world. He died, he rose and accomplished just that! Nothing stopped him. Jesus felt abused and discriminated but he never gave up for our sakes.

So my dear reader, I hope you learn from these three examples and make use of them to get to your place of success.

There is no human on the surface of the earth that wants success, and won't go through some challenges or problem. But do know that we are born to overcome challenges. Nobody is born a failure/loser; failures only make themselves lose/fail. If a person likes, he/she can leave his or her problem solved or half solved or not even solved at all, it all depends on the mindset the person has.

About the time you are about to quit, is when your victory is near, and it is the day you die that you stop trying, it all depends on having the right mindset.

I'm sure it was when Thomas Edison was about to quit that that he discovered the solution to his problems and we can't say Edison wasn't discourage or was trying to be stopped but he didn't stop because he knew where he was going.

Every problem that comes your way is what you are born to overcome, because winners never quit and quitters never win, whenever you are failing, you should consider yourself winning.

Like 2Face said in a song, he said

**Stand up Stand up**

**For something**

**No let you doubting**

**Stop your moving**

**It's not easy**

**Am not pretending**

**To tell you the truth  
It takes a lot of workings  
So I stand in front of you and say  
Don't give up  
Cos you'll make it one day  
And the winner never quit  
And the quitter never win  
If you try and you fail  
Don't be shy of defeat  
Cos it take a lot courage  
To keep moving  
So stand up on your feet  
Your mistakes no respect  
Instead you learn from it.**

I really love this verse in the "Hold On" by "Joel and 2Face" because he fought hard to get to where he is presently in the music industry.

Just as "Winners do not start a journey with the mindset of Losing and Losers do not start a journey with the mindset of Winning... i.e. if you have the mindset to do a particular thing and you try severally and it doesn't work out, just

keep doing it, because the more you try the better you become at that thing which means, from your 'better', you can get the best.

Have the right mindset so that all problems and challenges will bow before you. Make a difference in all you do or intend to do.

An adage says "*Do not hesitate to do the right thing at the right time*". That's because, the time and season you see today wait for nobody no matter how rich or wealthy you are.

I tell people that there are three things money cannot buy:

**-GOOD HEALTH**

**- SOUL/LIFE**

**- TIME**

The only thing you can do is pray to God that may our time to succeed or do great things never elude you (Amen).

## TYPES OF MINDSET

There are different types of mindset, same way we have different types of people on the surface of the earth. Your mindset is what brings about what next to do. Sometimes, life is just the way it is. Some people don't know that life is not as smooth as they think, only a fool is born to life just to live, but really, we are born to reign, to rule, to make a difference, and above all, we are all created to fulfill God's purpose for our life. And "what's that purpose?" The purpose is that, at the end of the day, we reign and rule with him in heaven. Most people think life is a bed of roses or a place of play and that is how some live their lives

You have to leave your comfort zone and stay in your strength zone before you can attain success..... it's simply "*No pain, No gain*". If you don't work for something you can't achieve it. You can't stay in your house and expect money and food to come to you except you have people working for you. Every great and successful man worked hard for it.

These are the types of mindset I have come up with:

- A. POSITIVE MINDSET**
- B. NEGATIVE MINDSET**
- C. POSNEGATIVE MINDSET**
- D. NEGPOSITIVE MINDSET**

We all know **Positive** is good while **Negative** can mean bad sometimes and I'm sure you will be wondering what **Posnegative and Negpostive**.

These two mindsets were coined from observing the set of people around me. Some have good mindset to start with, but at the end of the day, they end up doing what was not planned for. These two mindsets will really help enlighten you about

how to start well and end well. Most people backslide, today they are good and the next day, they are something else. It's funny a times that some can exhibit about a hundred character within a day. People like that change like chameleon and we can't blame them at all because it is the kind of mindset they have.

Take for instance, what if I tell you that mad people speak words of wisdom? Most people won't believe what I've just said but, it is not a matter of believing or not. Sometimes, they are normal while most times they are not, these kinds of people change from time to time and that is not what we want to declare for every human.

If you are a saint, be sure known for that too. Don't be a thief today, then a saint tomorrow, it shouldn't be that way; some people will say I am neither a Christian, a Muslim or a traditional worshipper, then I ask "*what are you?*" I get replies like "I'm just me" or "I'm just myself"; all I just do is laugh because I'm like, "you don't follow God neither do you follow Satan, then which one will be your reward at the end of the race".

## **POSITIVE MINDSET**

This kind of mindset has the right set of attitudes or fixed ideas that are of difficult to change. It is the best mindset one can have. When one has this mindset, challenges will run away from you because a strong mind produces a strong will.

Who you are now, was determined according to the mindset you had long time ago and the decision you make today will determine how your future will be.

**Who are we?**

**We are soldiers, guardian and protector of life and territories**

**Life is nice and cherished, not to be taken**

**But if one feels otherwise, his shall be taken**

**We fight and back down never**

**Cos if the angel of death starts calling**

**We say not today.**

**Soldiers are wonderful people filled with positive mindset.**

**Though they face death many times yet they have survival instinct. A soldier who loses focus on the battle field is a dead soldier. A soldier with a negative mindset has died before going to war.**

**You need to understand that you are a soldier because life is a battle field.**

**The very moment you realize that life is a battle field is when your journey truly begins, It either you win or you lose. The decision is yours.**

### **What kind of decision maker are you?**

Will your decision keep you from destroying your destiny and future or will it build it for you? **King Solomon** relied on God to give him wisdom, knowledge and understanding to lead the people of Israel and he was a good decision maker. Solomon was the only king in the Bible that never fought any wars whatsoever because, he believed in God and he was a good decision maker. When God asked him what he wanted, he didn't ask for wealth, health nor the head of his enemies, it showed he was a good decision maker, he asked for God's direction. Perhaps, if he had asked for wealth and other things, he wouldn't have been great like he was.

David (King of Israel) was another good example. When the enemies invaded his country and took all in the land while he was away, he sought for direction from God on what to do, and God told him "to pursue, overtake and recover all the enemies had taken" and he did.

The decision to ask God for direction was a good one. Probably if he had gone on his own to the war, he come back disappointed. Despite all the people David killed during his time and all the sins he committed, God still called him a man after his heart. David was a good decision marker.

**What type do you want to be? The question is left for you to answer.**

**A good decision maker follows the following step:**

- a. Do not rush to take decisions.**
- b. Have a long-lasting thought before you make a move**
- c. Ask God for direction and he is willing and just to help you**

According to “*Every Teenager’s Little Black Book*”, These are some of the decisions people make that destroy their future.

- 1. Developing Wrong Relationship:** the type of people you spend your time with do have the most influence on the mindset you develop. An adage says, “*show me your friend and I will tell you who you are*”. Do not develop wrong relationship, bad company corrupts good manners. Do not move or relate with those that cannot add to you, because if they don’t add to you, definitely they will “take” from you. I believe we all want to grow everyday, so move with the right people.
- 2. Making Quick Decisions:** Before making a decision, you have to take time to think it over. The more you think, the more you get the better picture of what you are to do.
- 3. Wait For Your Big Break:** You must get off the couch and pursue your God-given destiny. You have to leave your comfort zone and move to your strength zone in order to attain success in whatsoever you choose to do in life. You can’t sleep on your bed and expect “something” to happen, you have to work in order for you to have a reward in life, work according to your God-given destiny. For some people, God has destined them to be fashion designers, but they choose to go for medicine which is not what God’s plan for them, and at the end of the day, they realize they are not succeeding in the aspect they choose. But when you ask God for direction, he is willing to help you, God said in Matthew 7:7 “*Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find: knock and it shall be opened unto you*”
- 4. Giving Up:** This will be best and vividly explain in chapter five. Both winners and losers face challenges but the winners never give up; they keep pushing forward until they have achieved what they want.

Before you make up your mind on anything, make sure you think it over and over again, before you take any step. Never joke with the time you have because, there will be a stage that you won't have such time, just like the adage says "*The time you see waits for no man*".

I love people that make impact in others' life. Galiloe Galilie, was a great scientist and inventor who ever lived. There was a time he studied the stars and wanted the people to know how the stars moves. So, he published this in a book, and after that he decided to sell the book to everyone. He knew that if he should sell the book, he would be jailed and be killed by Christians then, because they believed that he was going against the work of God. But because of the great mindset he had, he sold the book out and he was truly jailed and killed. There is something that inspires in all these heroes and heroine and that is the type of mindset they had. They never cared about how much they were going to lose or the strength they were wasting and they didn't even care what was going to happen next, they took great risks all they thought of was probably "*I want to achieve this no matter what it takes*" they were always good role models.

No matter what you have set your mind to, always go for the right mindset which is the positive one, a good mindset produces a good will. I will like to share a story I came across in a book a long time ago "**you can if you think you can by Norman Vincent peale**. There was a man ,He was younger back then, not long out of college, he found himself in a predicament requiring some fast thinking. It was some years after something terrible happened in his community which claimed almost all the lives of the youths there. He was lucky to have survived. He was asked to give an invocation at a Memorial Day Meeting in the community hall, with a large crowd waiting. But he figured he could handle the few sentences of an invocation even though he was very young and inexperienced back then. As he

was approaching the designated area of prospect park, he asked a police officer “*how many people are in the hall?*” and the police officer answered “*Oh! About 300 people*”.

He proceeded to the platform and introduced himself to the chief speaker of the day, he informed the chief speaker casually that he was scheduled to give the invocation then he sat down, picked up the programme and examined it. To his surprise, he saw that he wasn’t listed for an invocation at all, but believe it or not, he was scheduled to give a speech. Immediately he saw it, he froze, he had no speech prepared. What was he to do?

He rushed over to the master of the ceremony (MC) and chattered “*There has been a big mistake, I was asked only to give an invocation but you have penned me for a speech sir*”. The MC replied “*well the fact of the matter is that, if you are down for a speech, I guess you will have to give one*”.

“*But*” he protested “*I just can’t do that. To make a speech you have to be prepared and I am not*”. *It is not just possible for me to rush one now, and besides, look at that crowd. Somebody else will have to speak in my place*” he said to the MC.

The twist here is that, someone overheard his conversation with the MC, the person looked him over appraisingly “*what is the matter son?*” he asked him “*Are you afraid?*” he asked again.

Afraid? That’s not the half of it, he frankly acknowledged “*A huge crowd like this is enough to scare the life out of me*” and the man told him to stop telling himself that he couldn’t do it or express fears, and that he should start thinking courage and start creating a positive mindset.

He told him to “practice affirming confidence and another thing he’d suggest was that he should stop thinking of himself. So, the man told him to come with him for a moment, and when they got to a place the man asked him if he knew the women sitting somewhere across. The boy’s answer was “no”. *The man replied, “the women are those who lost their children as a result of the terrible thing that befell the community”.*

So, the man told him *“isn’t there anything you can say to these women, you certainly can live them forgetting yourself and start feeling compassion for these wonderful women, then get up and give a talk just for them, you can do it!”* the man said. At the end of the day, after giving a deep thought to what the man told him, my old friend did greatly well in the speech he gave.

You can make things happen if you have the right mindset. With the speech he gave, he touched so many souls and they were happy that someone could give them hope like that. Moreover, if it weren’t for the great and timely motivation he got from the old man, coupled with the mindset he had, it wouldn’t have been possible for him.

My dear reader, I plead with you that no matter where you find yourself, always have the right/positive mindset.

Take for instance Guglielmo Marconi who invented “Radio”, it took him ten good years underground research and stress, but because of the positive mindset he had, something meaningful came out of his research, he never gave up. Back then, his original radio box was as big as a room of loft. Guglielmo Marconi was young when he invented it and we all could see the benefit of transmitter-box for mankind, he had the right mindset from the beginning of time and he never

allowed what people said to pull him down. Ten good years of stress, breakdown, loss of money and so much more, but the result of his creativity lives after him.

**Have the right mindset and things will start working for you.**

Bill Gates is another good example. He invented the computer software. Bill Gates was a school dropout and he once said “*My best friend in school would have high scores like A1 and I would have scores like C4 and D, but today, that my friend is a Microsoft engineer while I own Microsoft*”. Do you see sense in what he said? The friend was more brilliant than he was, but the friend now works under him, we all can see the benefit of computer and how it makes Bill Gates an “*erroneously*” rich man; he had the right mindset and things worked for him, he never looked at the fact that he was a school dropout but made sure he produced something good out of himself.

You might be in a place you don't like but you can still produce something reasonable out of your life. Do not look and think about how people criticise you, focus on how you can move forward. They can neither create nor kill what God has planted inside you, so why do you allow those words of theirs to pull you down? You should take criticisms as challenges and prove to oppositions that you are worth more than what they think. Show them you possess something great and no man can stop you from getting to your promise land. Positive mindset will help you get there.

## **Negative mindset:**

### **A soldier with a negative mindset has died before going to war.**

The Yoruba people say “*Oun ti o da o loruko meji, ko da ni*” which means “*Anything that is bad doesn't have any other name than 'bad' and anything that is good has no other name than 'good'.*” Most people make mistakes when it comes to decision making, some say words like “*se no be to make up mind on something ni*”? And that is where negative mindset comes in. In such case, individual tends to make quick decision which can lead to destruction. If we can all look back from the moment we started to make decisions for ourselves, the quick decision are mostly the one's we regret making or probably are not good enough for the situation, but decision we made after a deep thought are always (probably at the end of the day) turned out fine. But the decisions made based on God's directions are always the best we've ever made in our lives. Minority would agree with me because they've never taken such step - I mean as asking God for direction- but believe me, it is the best you can ever think of.

Negative mindset is the bad and harmful set of attitudes of fixed set of ideas that somebody has and can't be changed or might be very difficult to change.

A mansion is not built in a day, you'll start from somewhere, changing is not easy but it also depends on mindset. I told somebody sometimes ago that, if I want to do something (say buy a car or a house), even if the king comes to meet me not to buy it without giving a very strong reason, that I won't listen to him and will go on with my mapped out plan. Now, if I can be that determined about getting material things like that, how much more my own life? And this is

what I know happens to most of us; if we want to do something it takes the Grace of God to change your plan.

There is something I want you to understand; when we make the wrong decision, our conscience will tell us that we have just made the wrong decision, but most of us are “thoughtless” and not spiritually fit. It is like.

We, most times, think the world is ‘ok’ for us but we need to go beyond that thought and move closer to God and his word, so that whenever we take the wrong step, the Lord will correct us. Those who made decisions based on negative mindset yesterday are not people to talk about or be proud of today,

Negative mindset is like sowing a seed, you realize the effect of your mindset when your fruit begins to grow. But there is one good thing about it, which is, you can always cut off the bad fruit and re-plant a good one, that is the advantage God gave us as individuals, the power to always retrace our steps and come back to him, as he is always ready to welcome us back to his home.

Negative mindset is always harmful and that is why whosoever wants to succeed in life must have the right mindset at the right time.

I came across a poem in Napoleon hill’s book “Think And Grow Rich”:

**Verse 1: If you think you are beaten, you are,  
If you think you dare not, you don’t  
If you like to win, but you think you can’t,  
it is almost certain you won’t.**

**Verse 2: If you think you’ll lose, you’re lost,**

**For out in the world we find,  
Success begins with a fellow's will  
It's all in the state of mind**

**Verse 3: If you think you are outclassed, you are  
You've got to think high to rise  
You've got to be sure of yourself before  
you can win the prize**

**Verse 4: Life's battle don't always go  
To the strongest or faster,  
But soon or late the man who wins  
Is the man WHO THINKS HE CAN!!**

Life is very simple; you are whatever you think of yourself. A wise man once said  
*“whatever the mind of a man can conceive and believe, it can achieve”*.

If you think you can, surely you will, it is a simple theory. The decision/mindset you made/had long ago is the result you are producing now. Anytime I see young ladies and even women begging for alms or go into prostitution, a side of me pities them and the other side doesn't. The reason a side of me pities them is that, we are all humans, and it's because the feeling for human is there no matter what they have done wrong. The other side of me that doesn't pity them is simply because, it was the wrong mindset they had long ago that is manifesting now.

“The secret of success in life is for a man to be ready for his opportunity when it comes”, this quote is another one that x-rays the difference between a failure and a successful man. A failure doesn't know the secret but a winner does.

Always think about your intelligence, talent and personalities; are they just fixed? can you develop them at all? One thing I'm very sure of is, people with negative mindset cannot attain success in life except they change their mindset.

A successful man will profit from his mistakes and try again in a different way. Winners also fail but one good thing about them is that they tend to learn from their failure. Fine! People think you won't get there and you also believe it or probably you believe you can't make it. Winners have the right mindset; they keep on trying until they are called or crowned winners.

An adage says "only a hungry mind can grow" you have to set free your mind and then refill it with positive thoughts, it is when your mind is filled with positive thoughts that you can achieve great things in life.

It is always hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed, failure is not the end, you can start all over again and you will achieve all you have ever imagined, if you have the right mindset.

Abraham Lincoln once said "*That some achieve great success, is proof to all that others can achieve it as well*". You can too if you have the right mindset. Those who are successful today are those with the right mindset. Negative thoughts cannot help achieve greatness in life.

Lincoln failed several times before he got to the top but because he had the right mindset, he never gave up and in this 21<sup>st</sup> century, when we mention great past USA leaders, most people mention Abraham Lincoln as the first because he never gave up till he got to the top, he never allowed negative thoughts to over shadow his mind. But while he was failing, he kept on thinking that one day, he would get to the top and so did he.

People with negative mindset have nothing to prove to themselves and others. They end up being losers and even God does not want us to fail.

According to third John 3,” *Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth*”. This is God’s plan for us, he doesn’t want any of his children to be failures or losers.

### **How Do You Know You Have The Negative Mindset?**

- **Your Conscience Will Alert You:** Everyone God created has what we call conscience and what one’s conscience does is to tell you what’s wrong and give you good advice but, for us as children of God, ours is beyond having a conscience, it all depends on your relationship with your maker (God). When you have the Holy spirit, it is beyond having conscience, right from time the Holy spirit was sent to lead us through, teach and bring to our remembrance what we might have forgotten or will still forget. So, listening to the Holy spirit guarantees success, but if you choose not to listen to him, it always comes with its disadvantages.

Bringing it down to our “(ordinary) conscience”, whenever you are about to go wrong, you hear something inside you, alerting you that what you are about to do is wrong or right and it is left to you, if we give it a chance to decide for us but most people tend to obey the flesh instead of “the spirit”. This is what leads to the fall of many in life.

I will be using myself as an example; whenever I’m about to do anything, the Holy spirit will start up a conversation with me; it is most times like this:

*Me: I will just look for a good lie 'jare', that's all I can do to save myself.*

*Holy Spirit: Bunmi! Oluwabunmi!! Of God, nawa, na real wa, do you think after the lie, that's the end.*

*Me: What was that supposed to mean, who call you for my mata now?*

*Holy Spirit: Do you think when you start a lie, it just ends it all, my dear, the lie will lead to another and another and another till you are short of lies. What is the real reason of lying when you can always say the truth and be free? When you lie you sin against your maker and not only him including yourself and the person you are lying to. So, Oluwabunmi, don't bother to lie, it won't save anything. God doesn't want that and we both know it is very wrong to lie.*

*Me: Ah ah ah I don hear jor, too much talk*

*Holy Spirit: Oluwabunmi don't do it, it is very wrong, don't do it (like four times)*

*Me: I don hear ah, na wetin cef, come dem born you born me na wa o.*

*That is how the conversation usually go then if I end up doing that which is wrong, this is always our conversation.*

*Holy Spirit: Your body don come down bah, tell me what you just gained from the lie that is not sure of saving you, don't you know she can later discover the truth and it will be very disappointing. You sinned now and this is not an unknown sin, you did it on purpose, I wonder how you will go about it.*

*Me: Ehn that was all I could think of*

*Holy Spirit: All you can do now is ask for forgiveness and promise never to do it again and go to the person and tell the truth, that is the only way you can retribute your way.*

*Me: God I'm sorry, I will go and tell the truth now.*

My dear reader, for someone likes me, I do always get punished for my wrong because I'm always warned by the Holy Spirit but I go into it.

People with a grown mindset, on the other hand, see their qualities as things that can be developed through their dedication and effort, they are happy if they are brainy or talented, but that's just the starting point but, people with negative mindset don't even know anything called talent or probably they know but are living far away from it, what most of them think of is "*let me sha live life the way it comes*" No! I oppose, life comes the way you want it, you can change it for you to benefit from it.

Never go the wrong way or meet the wrong people to make a decision because he who makes the wrong decision becomes the wrong person.

- **God will Send Someone in Person to Tell You or Thing to Show You as a Sign: Our God** never gives up on us and he is too loving to leave us half way, most time before you take a wrong decision as a child of God, he sends someone close to you, to warn you against it or about what will happen relating to the wrong decision you are about to make, and most of us are so blindfolded by our decision that we turn deaf ears to such warnings.

Human being has the right to choose different things but most of us tend to choose the wrong things of life. *The plan God has for us are of good and not of evil, to give us an expected end.* Wrong mindset produces wrong action and wrong action produces wrong result.

- **Dreams:** Some don't believe in dream, but I do because, dreams are warnings against things that are to happen ahead. Some people with the wrong mindset

dream concerning a wrong decision or happening but, when they wake up, they just behave as if nothing ever happened, while some will tell the wrong people about the dream and they will be told things like “*All dreams are fake*” “*You only dream about what you talk about before you sleep*” “*it the continuation of your gist with friend*’. My dear, God is for us and not against us, he will never get tired of giving us enough reason to make the right decision decisions and it all happens in our minds.

Sometimes you see a sign board talking about something and you know it is talking to you but you choose to ignore, it’s not right, Negative mindset is the beginning of every destruction and it’s not God’s plan for us to be destroyed. Change your mindset now and see wonders happen with God’s help.

### **Posnegative Mindset**

This is a very common one in we human beings. Today, you behave normal tomorrow you behave abnormal and it often destroys most people who do not retrace their steps. So, it is always advisable that in all you do, cultivate a positive mindset.

The best way I can explain this is when someone who is a believer and knows the word of God, allows the things of the world to dominates his/ her life.

Allow me break this down; knowing God and doing His will is a positive mindset because with him in your life, you will always do the right thing at all time [That is if you allow Him lead the way], and that makes you a believer. Now, through your journey in life, things will come your way that you might not be able to handle at a particular time, and maybe you have prayed so hard

to God to help you in handling what you are going through, and the answers is not forthcoming, friends and family are showing the wrong way and you decide to follow, and do not wait on God on that particular issue, my dear your mindset has changed, you have deviated from the truth which is [God].

These are positive attitude and rewarding mindset that later turn to a negative mindset.

Define yourself; if you chose to be bad, please be and if you chose to be good, please be good, you can't be hot and cold at the same time, you can either be one of the two.

Please allow me share a story with you my dear readers. There was a particular man named Segun, he was so poor, he couldn't even afford a meal a day, that was how poor he was. So, one day, he was out as usual to search for work, when he got to the bus-station, a man happened to be seated next to him at the station and when bus arrived, the man next to him stood up and his purse fell down, Segun happen to be the only person who saw it and he immediately picked it up and ran towards the man and gave him the purse, The man was very surprised that in this 21<sup>st</sup> century, such could happen. He thanked Segun and gave him his business card and some money to show gratitude. Indeed, Segun today has been blessed by a total stranger.

Segun was as poor as a church rat, but despite that he didn't go away with someone else's purse because it didn't belong to him.

Before we humans take an action, we have already taken such action in our heart/ mind, that is why God doesn't deal with the body but the heart. Segun made a decision in his mind to always do what is right at all time, even when it is not convenient for him and this is the kind of mindset I want us to work with.

Your mind is so strong that it commands and controls your body and physical action, you decide inside your mind the step you want to take each time you want to take them, having the wrong mindset is easy and very pleasing; you cannot be good and bad at the same time.

This *posnegative* mindset works like this; you start with a good mindset and end with a wrong mindset. Allow your mindset to be in one direction, don't allow a wrong mindset to destroy the good work you started; if you have started on the right [ positive mindset] please make sure you end with that same energy.

Now back to our story about Segun; so the next day, Segun went to the man's office and he was allowed in immediately, he was very happy that day because when he got to the organization, he met important people waiting to see the same person he was there to see but he was allowed in immediately because the man left an instruction for his employees. He got into a conversation with this man and he didn't hide anything from him. When this man finish hearing Segun's story, he was moved to tears and the man told him that he didn't cry because of his sad story but he cried because of his mindset. He thought "he could have used the money and debit card in the purse to help himself but he chose not to do that which is wrong."

That very day, the man offered Segun a job and that was the beginning of a new story for him. Segun started work immediately and this very man entrusted all he had in Segun's care; things were going on smoothly until Segun's mindset started changing. Segun wanted more out of life, he wanted more from the pay from his job, he wanted all that the boss put in his care to be his and believe me, all these didn't just start in one day, it started gradually and really, it's easy to

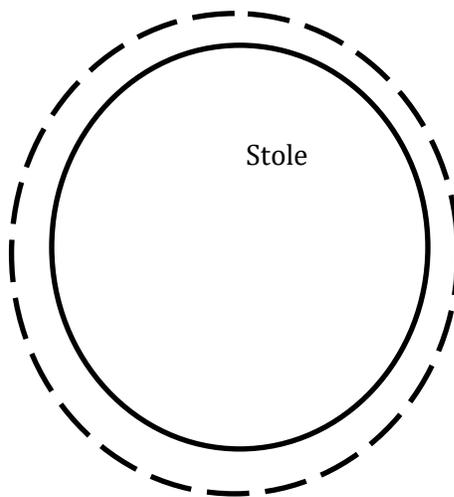
curb a negative mindset when it is still tender[when it is still an epidemic] than when it is well developed[when it is a pandemic].

Segun probably might not have been consumed by his negative mindset if he had rebuked it when it started springing up, but he allowed it grow each day until it consumed him.

Negative mindset will always give you ‘seemingly successful ideas’ that when you try out might turn out as planned. So, in Segun’s case, the plan he came up with was to take a huge amount of money from the company and lie to the boss that he was robbed, and believe me, it worked and do you know why? The boss trusted him so much because of what he has done in the past, this plan worked perfectly for him only for a while.

After about a year of all Segun has been doing, karma caught up with him and I will love to illustrate how karma works.

- The world is a circle,



This is where Segun stands in the circle; whatever Segun does where he is stands will always come back to meet him, be it good or bad.

As usual, Segun came back to the office with bruises that he was robbed not knowing this time around, the boss trailed him and saw that no such thing happened. Segun was immediately arrested all that he owned was collected to pay off all he stole and he was sentenced to few years imprisonment. Not long after his sentencing, he died in the prison as a result of other negative and condemning thoughts he developed and that was how Segun ended his life.

Segun's life is a great lesson to learn from, and negative mindset is the beginning of a man's failure. In life being oneself is the best, Segun was a man of truth from the beginning of the story but greed changed his mindset to a negative one.

Don't ever pray or hope to be someone else and don't strive to be who and what you are not but, always pray to be yourself, the person God destined you to be. No one can be you; you cannot be someone else, just know that for sure.

People who are unstable don't achieve anything at the end of their race in life; if you have chosen the positive mindset, stay true to it and do not divert. It is who people see they work with.

If you have set a goal for yourself with a positive mindset of achieving it and if along the way, the mindset changes, take a break and think about how and what made you want to do what you are doing, let that put you back on track.

Sometimes peer pressure is the reason some people have a change of mindset towards life and towards whatever they have set to do. Over the years I have come to understand that though some set of persons out there might possess some kind of

trait, possess, that doesn't mean we are alike, our thinking will always be different our view of life will always be different in one or two ways.

That brings me to this conclusion: do what only you can do, bring the 'you' inside out in everything you have decided to do, do not start with 'you' and end with someone else.

You are the best version of yourself, your friends might tell you to do it another way, they might not be right, follow you own instinct. A song writer said in one of her song and I quote:

**Everybody is searching for hero**

**People need someone to look up to**

**I never found anyone who fulfill my needs**

**A lonely place to be**

**So I have learned to depend on me**

**I decided a long ago**

**Never to walk in anyone's shadow**

**If I fail, if I succeed**

**At least I lived as I believe**

**No matter what they take from me**

**They can't take away my dignity**

**Because the greatest love of all is happening to me**

## **I've found the greatest of love of all inside of me**

**(Whitney Houston "Greatest Love")**

No one can talk like you, no one can laugh like you, no one can think like you do, do you know why? It is because you are 'you', and no matter how they try, they can't do it the exact way you can do it, they can only try. So, dear reader, start with the positive mindset and end with it, so you can get the result you have always wanted. In order to get the result you want, get a jotter, write down all your plans, take a step after the other, and if you see that you are going against the plan at any point in time, retrace your steps and get back on track.

An adage says, *bad company corrupts good manners*, so whoever you follow determines what follows you. Who you follow explains a whole lot in your personality and that's why I've always loved my friends (Emmanuella Christine Obah and Ezimadu Ifeoma Naomi) they are the two special trees in my life (Love and strength). Nothing can change that, no one can change who they are and when they see you're going the wrong way, they come together and correct you in love. You can see my reflection in them and vice versa, if you follow a group of people with no vision, you'll end up without vision yourself even if you had one from the start. The people who are called your friends have the greatest influence in your life.

Do not associate yourself with people you have the same weakness with. If your weakness is low self-esteem, do not go around with people having the same weakness(es) as you, because you will end up with nothing to offer each other. But if for instance, you have a low self-esteem and you work with people who have high self-esteem they will have a good influence on you, helping you fight that weakness and with time, you will be able to stand up for yourself.

I love my friends and I can say this a million times because I know how much they have affected my life. Friends will lead you in the right or wrong way, that depends on the type of friends you keep. You automatically become bad, even if you are good when you keep bad set of friends. A saying says, “*A blind man cannot lead another blind man*”. If you know you are not good in an aspect of life, move with the people who have that strength in that aspect. You alone cannot do it; we all need help at some point in our lives. Believe me when I say, friends are easily accessed anytime.

Stick to who you are, because it’s the best. If you keep watch on most people with positive mindset who later turn otherwise in their journey through life, they usually do not have good end. It is simply like having a good beginning with a bad end (does that sound good to you?).

Posnegative is a mindset I don’t pray to have because its whatever you pray for and wish for that comes to you. As an individual, I never had the mindset of writing a book, but at a point in my life, I realized I needed to share what I know with people and the people who I surround myself with had a good influence on me; I can tell you that I have the ability of knowing 50% of who you are, just by checking up the people you spend most of your time with.

Never believe in failure, in short, hate it. Failure will drag you down to where you don’t want, it will make people mock you, so in all you do, strive hard to be successful.

There was a particular day in secondary school, I was writing an exam and I was to answer six questions and I knew the answer to 5 questions only and when I was done with 5, I couldn’t submit, because I wanted to get all correctly, time passed and I was the only one remaining in the exam hall and my teacher then Mr. Olatide

begged me to submit and I refused knowing fully well that time is still on my side. I did not give the book to him till I got the answer to the last question, you don't know how much you know until you dig deep, you don't know how far you can go until you try harder. You don't know the miracles your mind can perform until you put it to work. I wasn't going to leave any mark for him i.e. my teacher. The mindset I carried into the exam hall made me perform excellently and for the record, I got all. I always believe what I do affects who I am. So, always stick to that positive mindset and you'll see the sky is just a starting point. Be who you are born to be, never wish to be anyone than yourself.

## NEGPOSITIVE MINDSET

Never hesitate to retrace your step when you lose it, we all make mistakes but the wise learns from it. There is nothing as best as being good, it is not always easy to retrace one's steps especially when you have dived deep in a negative mindset. Negative mindset is the beginning of the biggest failure of a man, and the ability to change to a positive mindset makes you a winner.

Neg positive mindset is when an individual has a negative mindset and on the long run, he or she realizes how wrong he or she is and retrace their steps and are now on the right path. There is nothing as good as having a positive mindset. Yes, no one is perfect but you can always work towards perfection. It can be achieved. Neg positive mindset is just like the story of a man who has always been a pessimist all his life, he never believed anything good could come out of his life. He always set his goal with the mindset of not being able to achieve it. then he realized there's more to life than thinking negatively, he saw a glimpse of light in himself and that was a turning point for him. He was able to achieve all he couldn't achieve over the years when he started thinking positively and believe me, he was able to change many lives with his story. He gave people hope and today even if he is no more, he lives in the heart of so many.

In this our generation, I hear some people say "*guys, I will have to enjoy my life first before thinking about anything serious*". I cannot definitely say I love their way of life, but you know at some point they know what they are doing. What pains me most are young ladies with great future ahead of them ending up being miserable for the rest of their life

## **Note to the Young Ladies**

If he promises you a car, you can work hard and get yourself one, if he promises you a house, with hard work you can achieve that too, if he promises to take you out of the country, with determination you will travel the world. Never, ever sell yourself short or live beneath your potential. You are beautiful, you are talented, you are going places, you can achieve whatever you set your mind to achieve, with hard work and determination. You are worth trillions of pounds; you shouldn't be bought with change of naira. You are special, work towards being independent. Be a woman any man would be so proud to have, be a woman worth fighting for. When they ask you what your price is? Confidently tell them you are priceless; you are more than gold or silver.

Life is full of ups and downs, but when you know what you are doing, you will definitely find your way out. Life is not a bed of roses, but if you are wise, you will be a better person, wake up with purpose, constantly tell yourself wherever you go, you must spring forth.

Neg positive mindset's good example is when a sinner comes back to Christ, we all know it is not easy, a mountain is not built in one day but with determination, it can be achieved. This is the time things become tougher and life begins to throw challenges at you because you are a changed person; this is the perfect time to show such challenges, all you've got.

Sometimes ago, my Pastor said when he was younger, he smoked and followed Fela for twenty years and that was his greatest failure, a wasted twenty years. Now, anytime he preaches, he makes reference to his past and always tells us not to walk in such lines. But you know what some youths did? They replied among themselves "*Abeg let us enjoy ourselves and even maybe go astray before coming*

*back to Christ*”, and I was really shocked. But it was obvious that their minds were made up. Failure stories are shared by people who are above us for us to learn and the ability to learn makes you a purposeful person. A saying goes, “*what an elderly sees sitting down, even if a child climbs the tallest tree, he or she can never see it*”. So, when a wise elderly person tells you something or share an experience with you, it means they want you to learn from it.

At one point in life, you will fail, even the outstanding ones like Abraham Lincoln, Nelson Mandela, Thomas Edison, Mary Slessor, at one point in life failed. But do you know what made them winners, and what made them live in us? Inasmuch as they are gone, it is the ability they had to learn from past mistakes and never allowed such mistake repeat itself and they never gave up. These people’s lives are huge lessons to be learnt, even generations to come continue to talk about them.

Being good is the best, because despite the fact that you will always have challenges, opportunities will never cease to come your way. You wouldn’t be the one searching for opportunities but it would come looking for you because your mind is set on the right path. I do tell myself this when I achieve something new, “*how I wish, I started long ago*”, I would have achieved more by now. If you have the opportunity to start early, do not wait, kick start it!!

One of the things I have learnt from my mentors is that, if you have failed in the past, do not dwell or focus on such failure, learn from it and avoid making/repeating such failure. Opportunities sometimes disguise as problems and it is always not easy to identify such, but the ability to recognize a problem as an opportunity makes you a better person.

Always force yourself to do something profitable even when it is not convenient, success is not achieved in the comfort zone, it is achieved in the strength zone.

Always know that each day is an opportunity to start something new and a day is a 'minus' from your life. The good news is that, *time waits for no man*. You can decide to turn your own clock backwards but eventually the world clock is what everyone works with.

Laziness is the surest guarantee for failure and I tell people, laziness is what brings about procrastination. Why do it later when you can do it now? The kind of power laziness carries is a bit hard to fight because it has a way of stopping from doing the right thing at the right time but, if you have been able to fight it, that's a winner's starting point.

The only difference between ordinary and extra-ordinary, is '*extra*' – never settle for less when you can achieve more, keep trying, keep digging you will soon reach your goal. Do not stop when you are tired, stop when you are done. Discover that hidden treasure and work on it, that is where you will breakthrough. Even the bible says, *the talent of a man will make way for him*. Yours might be singing, or dancing, talking, writing learning how new things work and so on. But the first step to success is 'self-discovery'.

Please allow me share this story with you: There is this particular girl in my school, in the sociology department, she is blind and what amazes me anytime I see her is her zeal; she never settled for a special school for the blind, she is here and she's doing fine and I told my friends that the girl knows who she is and where she is going, even those without visual impairment are yet to discover who they are and where they are heading to. There is more inside when you have discovered yourself. Please learn from her, the way I have.

We all complain about the country we live in, how bad the economy is, how it kills dreams, how there are no opportunities but, in this same country, we have people

who are successful in their chosen career, not because the country provided them with opportunities but because of hard work and determination, they were able to achieve it. You have a purpose you must fulfill. I believe in you, I believe you can do it, nothing can stop you, keep pushing and you will see things move sooner or later. Believe things start when you want them to, pursue your goal, chase your dream, nothing is impossible to achieve. It all starts with your mindset and sooner or later you will testify. A song writer says;

**“There is a hero, if you look inside you heart,**

**You don’t have to be afraid of what you are,**

**There is an answer if you search within yourself,**

**And the emptiness you felt will disappear**

**And then a hero comes along with the strength to carry on**

**With the strength to carry on**

**And you cast your fears aside**

**And you know you can survive**

**So when you feel like hop is gone**

**Look inside you and be strong**

**And you’ll finally see the truth**

**That the hero lies in you”**

## **\*\*\*THE WORD I LEAVE YOU WITH**

### **The book**

**Before you were born, God has a book on you. (Psalm 139 vs 15-16). Contained in this book are your members. Your intestines , eyes, liver and every organs and parts of your body are carefully recorded. This book was written in chapters and it contains all the journey of your life. It contain your failures and your success. If you dig deep you can easily know if you are walking according to what was written in that book or you are offline. You are not born to be a loser or to be a complete failure( Jeremiah 29vs 11). You were born with a positive mindset because God who created you is a positive God and when he created you he breathed a part of himself into you(Genesis 2vs7) What you need to understand is that we are all connected .**

**-Life is a puzzle**, you are one of the unique pieces to complete the puzzle, you are needed that is why you are created. Your existence matters, you are super important, you are brave, you are talented, you are good, you have vision, you have dreams, you have goals, and it is never too late to start something. Becoming a millionaire at 60 is very good, graduating at age 35 is a success, if you realize your life have been a mess, you decide to take action at age 40, my dear it is a good start; you are ‘you’ and you are important.

I do not believe in the saying that says “*A fool at 40 is a fool forever*”. If a fool at 45 realize he/she has been a fool and decides that he/she no longer wants to be a fool, so be it. Please allow me share with you something I wrote down years ago about life.

- **Life is a Car (it takes us to our destination)**

You know what, a car can be funny at times, the way you handle/treat it, determines how often the car develops fault. If life is a car, then you are the driver, so it is better you treat and fuel it well so you can get to your destination fast and well. It doesn't matter your speed; we will all get there. And do not forget speed kills.

- **Life is a Journey (you decide how you want your journey to look like)**

Monica Ogah said in her song

*“Life is a journey*

*You better put your shoes on”*

You are here for just a little time and as someone who is on a journey in life, you should always be ready for all kinds of things e.g success, failure, positivity, negativity, lack and so much more.

- **Life is a Game (it is either you win or you lose)**

Monica Ogah continued in her song

*“Life is a game*

*You better get your games on*

*This life e no be bed for roses*

*Na something wey I don notice”*

In life, the decision is yours, if you want to win or lose.

- **Life is a game shoe (I say the shoe you wear determines how far you will get)**

No matter how beautiful your shoe is, if it can't go far, then it is of no use. The shoe I am talking about here is your mind How far can your mind motivate you to go further, even when you are tired? It's your mind that motivates you never

to give up, now you see the why it is your shoe. Train your mind to what you want it to be and what you want it to turn to.

- **Life is a Dress (The way you dress in your journey through life is the same way you still be addressed)**

Always be prepared, be battle ready all the time, you don't start thinking putting on your shoe, cap, and the rest of them, when the battle comes. Life will always throw challenges at you, always be prepared. You know why? It's because that's what winners do and I know for sure you are one.

- **Life is a School (He who wills, learns from it)**

Everyone you meet in your journey through life is an institution and believe me, you don't just meet people by accident; you needed to meet the last person you met to be where you are now. Life comes in stages; you have to finish a stage before you can move to another one.

Some of the friends you have are there to help you learn at every opportunity you get, do not be an island, you should learn from everyone, (even the foolish one), there is always a lesson to hold on to.

Those lessons you learn in life are what makes you better or bitter, listen more and talk when need be, share your experience and learn from those you share theirs. Life is really a school.

- **Life is a Story (it's either you listen or you are listened to)**

Every individual has different story and different view of life. When you run your own race well, you control crowd and people listen to you. When your life is a mess, people don't listen to you but 'your mess' advertises itself. One thing I know is that we all have the power to choose the part we want to follow.

- **Life is a place (it never changes from how and where it is)\**

Only the people change but life itself never changes. Do also remember that life is no life without the people in it.

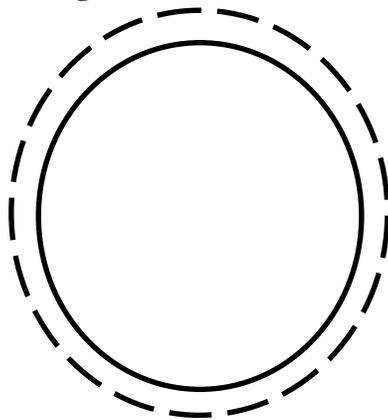
- **Life is a Market (we all come to buy and sell what we have and go to our different homes)**

No matter how crowded a market place can be, at the end of each day, no one stays back in the market; everyone goes home. You know why? A market will forever be a market, it's not a home, and everyone needs to head home after buying and selling. No matter how powerful, rich, wealthy, influential, successful, kind, wicked, helpful, useless, useful you are, you have an end.

However, some people don't end because of what they have done, because they left their foot print on the sand of time. I encourage you to do some good to someone, so that when you are gone, you will continue to live inside of them.

You don't need to give them money; any act of goodness is accepted, no matter how little it is, live your footprint on the sand of time. Life indeed is a market place.

- **Life is a Circle (What goes around (definitely) comes around)**



Whatever you do at any part or any place of this circle will definitely come back. My dear, one funny thing about life being a circle is that, whatever you do if it doesn't come back to you, your generations to come will benefit from it, either

good or bad, everything counts, even very little thing counts. I tell people, “*don’t do what your generations to come will blame you for, do something they will praise (and pray for) you for*”. Life is indeed a circle.

- **Life is an Experience (it’s true that “*experience is the best teacher*”)**

What we all know today was learnt from either past experience or someone else’s experience. Experience make us better persons.

- **Life is a Battle (it’s either you are defeated or you come out victorious)**

If you go to a battle field unprepared definitely you would be defeated and remember the saying, “you don’t prepare for a battle on the battle field but you prepare before the battle begins”. So, the question still remains “*how prepared at you?*”

Some challenges will come your way, so be battle ready, such challenges or problem, came to bring you down, they have come to cut short your journey and if you aren’t prepared enough, such challenges will take the best of you.

- **Life is a mystery (if life is a mystery, then unfold it!)**

- **Life is you (there is no life without you and I)**

Life is no life without human beings, things happen because we have lives in life, you and I are the main reason it is called life, that is how important and valuable we are in life.

- **Life is an Organization (if you are not needed, then you won’t be employed)**

We all know how a standard organization work, we have different departments and different people occupying different positions in every department in the organization, no matter how low a position might be, they are important; the driver, the gate keeper, the helpers, the management etc. they all are important,

you are here because you are needed, this life is an organization with you and I being the employee, don't ever think low of yourself, no matter your position, you are important.

- **Life is a Pen (it writes whatever you write with it)**
- **Life is Good (Make it good for yourself)**
- **Life is Whatever you Make it**

Life is not always perfect. For real, life is never perfect but it's always what you make it, so please make your life count, make it memorable, live your life to its full potential. There is more to you than you can imagine if you think deeply, you will find more good inside of you. Don't allow people talk you down. When your light is shining so bright, people try so hard to bring you down with their words. But you know what? Whenever such happens, look them straight in the eyes and tell them that *their words of downfall is too cheap for you to buy*, tell them you are far too expensive for such, tell them to try harder next time and please add this;

*“If my light is too bright for you, instead of trying to dim my light with your hateful words, why don't you ask for a shade, because I 've got many for people like you”*

And believe me that will be the last time they will walk up to you and try to dim your light.

When the enemies tell you, you can't do it, do it and show them result, allow your result be the proof you can do it over and over again, stay true and focus. I love you with the love of Christ and please if you need someone to talk to, my dear, there is only one person who listens and has the solution to all you are going through and that is **GOD**. He is the only true friend you can have, he is always available morning, afternoon, night, drop all at His feet and you will see

miracles happen, I am a living testimony, I have a friend in JESUS and I urge you to have one in Him too, He is the only one who is true and never fails. when it seems all is over, it is always just beginning with Jesus, life outside him is no life, he is all you can dream and hope for.

Thank you so much for coming this far with me, I hope you have been able to learn one or two things from this book, I will continue to pray for you and please if you can follow every step explained in this book, then you are on your way to a successful life. More volumes are coming out on **Digging Deep** by my humble self (Lawal Oluwabunmi Mary) stay tuned, Love ya!!

**WATCH OUT FOR THE NEXT VOLUME**

**SELF-BELIEF AND YOUR FEARS**

**VOLUME 2 OF DIGGING DEEP**

**BY LAWAL OLUWABUNIM MARY**