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Get Enthusiastic About Today

To get what you want from today: success, happiness, your personal goals, you and no one else is responsible. Your friends and loved ones may be helpful, but the final responsibility is yours. How excited about living are you? Pinch yourself and see if you are really alive? There are some seeds of greatness still inside. This is another day, that the Lord has made and we're a great part of it, if we're still here. It's up to each of us, to do our part, to make sure that it stays great "Each of us was born with a spark of Divinity, but it's up to each of us to fan our spark." _SB Fuller (This spark is enthusiasm.) The degree of your get up and go is in direct proportion to the amount of enthusiasm you possess and use.

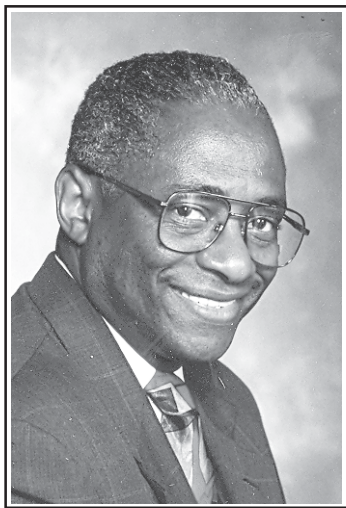
What is Enthusiasm? Enthusiasm comes from two Greek words "En, which means "in" and Thees," which means "God," In God. To be inspired or possessed by God is enthusiasm. It is a strong feeling on behalf of a cause or situation. Another way of thinking of enthusiasm, a go for it attitude, a mental point of view, that excites and exhilarates. Lack of enthusiasm is like a Coke without the fizz.

Victor Hugo said: "enthusiasm is the fever of a reason."

Emerson said: "nothing great was ever achieved without it."... "Enthusiasm is the highest of men, the passing from the human to the divine."

Enthusiasm is the feeling within that inspires and prompts one to act without the thought of reward. It is that inspiring, vitalizing, propelling power that takes possession of an individual and causes him to lose himself in what he is doing. We often think of the spirit at an athletic event, where we joyfully embrace another person beside us, and we have never met them. Enthusiasm creates enthusiasm in others, it is contagious, it motivates, inspires, it's invisible and of inward intensity. It is the most powerful form of energy that we can generate.

Since this is the last time that we may be together, in 2011. I wanted to share something that maybe stimulating for the rest of this year, but at the same time a launching pad for 2012. Therefore, each time that we look in the mirror, tell that image, **you are nature's greatest miracle. You are rare and unique in both mind and body, it is not another just like you, anywhere in the world.** Starting today, tell you; "today I begin a new life. I will greet this day with enthusiasm in my heart. I now resolve that ever person I meet today will be a better



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person because I will inspire him or her to greater hope, faith, freedom and happiness." We do have a choice whether to rely on long held values and beliefs of yesterday; despite changes in our daily experiences growing out of the changing conditions of today. Sometimes this new technology calls us to look beyond the known and depend only on Hebrews 11:1. Faith can equip us to cope and thrive in the face of those difficult aspects of life that, as with Job and his friends, we don't understand. This is particularly true as we move into the New Year and new technology.

Is there a major difference between being excited and being enthusiastic? When it comes to mobility, it's about the same difference as between a River and a Pond; which is obvious. The water of a river is dynamic; it moves with an irresistible force. A pond is static; its water only moves when forced by the wind or from some other outside influence. And so it is with people. Some moves enthusiastically; yet others seem bogged down in inertia and moves only in response to an outside force. The question becomes, are you a river or a pond? Daily we see examples of both. Many people have no desire to be like a river, although I'm sure, some of us do. Faith (Enthusiasm) is the foundation

for our challenging but worthwhile journey. Without it we will shrink and retreat from challenges and struggles, and continue to do business as usual. So we wait for the wind or some other outside influences. Unfortunately, as we do business as usual and the world continues to change at an accelerated rate, doing business as usual is simply not enough. Let's readdress the question, are you a River or a Pond?

So where are and how can we encounter and obtain this getting enthusiastic about today? Meantime, yet as we face new difficulties and challenges into the unknown; Enthusiasm seems harder to come by. One must let go of long held beliefs that are no longer helpful. This letting go, creates space for new beliefs beyond earlier understandings. This kind of thinking calls for us to consider making a mental change, where in lies our entire belief system. New books, new contacts, new mentors and new thought patterns all designed to help you reach your goals. For the New Year, I'm suggesting that we follow Og Mandino's plan for mastering one 'emotions. "I will learn this secret of the ages: weak is he who permits his thoughts to control his actions; strong is he who forces his actions to control his thoughts. Each day, when I wake, I will follow this plan of battle before I am captured by the forces of sadness, self-pity and failure. If I feel depressed I will sing. If I feel sad I will laugh. If I feel ill I will double my labor. If I feel fear I will plunge ahead. If I feel incompetent I will remember past success. If I feel insignificant I will remember my goals." I will follow the plan enthusiastically.

Wishing You Bright Memories and Beautiful Moments During This Christmas Season!

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