

Chapter seven

Gratitude



CHAPTER SEVEN GRATITUDE

1 The illustrations given in the last chapter will have
2 conveyed to you the fact that the first step toward
3 getting rich is to convey the idea of your wants to the
4 formless substance.

5 This is true, and you will see that in order to do so it
6 becomes necessary to relate yourself to the formless
7 intelligence in a harmonious way.

8 To secure this harmonious relationship is a matter of
9 such primary and vital importance that I will give some
10 space to its discussion here. I will give you instructions
11 which, if you follow them, will be certain to bring you into
12 a perfect unity of mind with God.

13 The whole process of mental adjustment and
14 atunement can be summed up in one word: gratitude.

15 First, you believe that there is one intelligent substance
16 from which all things proceed. Secondly, you believe
17 that this substance gives you everything you desire. And,
18 thirdly, you relate yourself to it through a feeling of deep
19 and profound gratitude.

20 Many people who order their lives rightly in all
21 other ways are kept in poverty by their lack of
22 gratitude. Having received one gift from God, they cut
23 the wires which connect them with Him by failing to
24 make acknowledgment.



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25 It is easy to understand that the nearer we live to the
26 source of wealth, the more wealth we shall receive. It is also
27 easy to understand that a soul that is always grateful lives
28 in closer touch with God than one who never looks to Him in
29 thankful acknowledgment.

30 When good things come to us, the more gratefully we
31 fix our mind on the Supreme Power, the more good things
32 we will receive — and the more rapidly they will come. The
33 reason for this is simply that the mental attitude of gratitude
34 draws the mind into closer touch with the source from which
35 the blessings come.

36 If it is a new thought to you that gratitude brings your
37 whole mind into closer harmony with the creative energies
38 of the universe, consider it well, and you will see that it is
39 true. The good things you already possess have come to you
40 because of certain laws. Gratitude will lead your mind out
41 along the ways by which things come. And, it will keep you
42 in close harmony with creative thought and prevent you from
43 falling into competitive thought.

44 Gratitude alone can keep you looking toward the Infinite
45 and prevent you from falling into the error of thinking that
46 the supply of riches is limited — and to think that would be
47 fatal to your hopes.

48 There is a law of gratitude, and if you are to get the
49 results you seek, it is absolutely necessary that you should

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50 observe this law.

51 The law of gratitude is the natural principle that action
52 and reaction are always equal and in opposite directions.
53 The grateful outreaching of your mind in thankful praise to
54 the Supreme Power is a liberation or expenditure of force;
55 it cannot fail to reach that to which it is addressed. And, as
56 a result, God responds with an instantaneous movement
57 toward you.

58 “Draw nigh unto God, and He will draw nigh unto you.”
59 That is a statement of psychological truth.

60 And, if your gratitude is strong and constant, the
61 reaction in the formless substance will be strong and
62 continuous. The movement of the things you want will
63 always be toward you. Notice the grateful attitude that
64 Jesus took — how he always seems to be saying, “I thank
65 Thee, Father, that Thou hearest me.” You cannot exercise
66 much power without gratitude, because it is gratitude
67 that keeps you connected with power.

68 But, the value of gratitude does not consist solely in
69 getting more blessings in the future. Without gratitude
70 you cannot keep from being displeased with things as
71 they are.

72 The moment you permit your mind to dwell with
73 displeasure upon things as they are, you begin to lose



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74 ground. You fix attention upon the common, the poor, the
75 squalid, and the mean — and your mind takes the form of
76 these things. You will then transmit these forms or mental
77 images to the formless. Thus, the common, the poor, the
78 squalid, and the mean will come to you.

79 To permit your mind to dwell upon the inferior is to
80 become inferior and to surround yourself with inferior things.
81 On the other hand, to fix your attention on the best is to
82 surround yourself with the best and to become the best.

83 The creative power within us makes us into the image
84 of that to which we give our attention. We are thinking
85 substance, and thinking substance always takes the form of
86 that which it thinks about.

87 The grateful mind is constantly fixed upon the best.
88 Therefore, it tends to become the best; it takes the form or
89 character of the best and will receive the best.

90 Also, faith is born of gratitude. The grateful mind continually
91 expects good things, and expectation becomes faith. The
92 reaction of gratitude upon one's own mind produces faith.
93 Every outgoing wave of grateful thanksgiving increases
94 faith. The person who has no feeling of gratitude cannot
95 long retain a living faith. And, as we will see in the following
96 chapters, without a living faith you cannot get rich by the
97 creative method.

98 It is necessary, then, to cultivate the habit of being

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99 grateful for every good thing that comes to you — to
100 give thanks continuously. And, because all things have
101 contributed to your advancement, you should include all
102 things in your gratitude.

103 Do not waste time thinking or talking about the
104 shortcomings or wrong actions of plutocrats or trust
105 magnates. Their organization of the world has made
106 your opportunity. All that you have received really has
107 come to you because of them.

108 Do not rage against corrupt politicians. If it were
109 not for politicians we should fall into anarchy, and your
110 opportunity would be greatly lessened.

111 God has worked a long time and very patiently to
112 bring us up to where we are in industry and government.
113 And He is going right on with His work. I believe that He
114 will do away with plutocrats, trust magnates, captains of
115 industry, and politicians as soon as they can be spared.
116 But, in the meantime, they are very necessary. Remember
117 that they are helping to arrange the lines of transmission
118 along which your riches will come to you. Be grateful to
119 them. This will bring you into a harmonious relationship
120 with the good in everything and the good in everything
121 will move toward you.



CHAPTER SEVEN
QUESTIONS

1. What are the three steps by which you enter into relationship with the Supreme Power?

- i. _____

- ii. _____

- iii. _____

2. Explain why and how gratitude keeps you in close touch with God.

3. Explain the operation of the law of action and reaction.

4. Why should you fix your mind on the best?

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5. Explain the relation between gratitude and faith.

6. Explain why and how all things are good.

EXERCISES
GRATITUDE

This is possibly one of the most important concepts in *The Science of Getting Rich*. Write down your thoughts on this chapter and reread them frequently.

[illegible]

RESULTS

As a result of what you have learned from this chapter, state what you intend to do in the future to ensure you begin doing things “in a certain way.”

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

