

THREE: THE ACTIVE DECISION *I am a person of action.*

The active decision for personal success is crucial to you right now. Becoming a person of action is a choice, not a process. You either are a person of action or you are not! It is time to state your case: what are you??

*Chamberlain - was a heroic colonel in a desperate losing battle position with most of his men dead: Chamberlain just stood there, deep in thought, quickly sorting the situation. We can't retreat, he thought. We can't stay here. My future is immediate. I will grasp it in both hands and carry it with running feet. When I'm faced with the choice of doing nothing or doing something, I will always choose to act! — **What about you?***

***I am a person of action.** Many people move out of the way for a person on the run; others are caught up in his wake. I will be that person on the run! **The Active Decision** is a wake-up call. Taking consistent action is crucial to the realization of a successful life. We're often amazed, even baffled, by the accomplishments of highly successful people, yet many of their accomplishments occur because of relentless action.*

1. The Active Decision

An army of sheep led by a lion would defeat an army of lions led by a sheep!

Failure only exists for the person who quits. I do not quit!

I am courageous. I am a leader. I seize this moment. I choose now!

When faced with a decision, many people say they are waiting for God. But we must understand that in most cases, God is waiting for us!

A person who doesn't move is destined for mediocrity.

Successful people make their decisions quickly and change their minds slowly.

Unsuccessful people make their decisions slowly and change their minds quickly.

Many people move out of the way for a person on the run; others are caught up in his wake.

2. Failure is the Grease for Success:

You neither learn nor grow by your successes, only by your failures. Failure is the grease that keeps the world's engines running. It's the adrenaline that sparks the human condition, which keeps us grasping and groping and growing. But, you have to know how to deal with failure—and, most importantly, **how to free yourself of its yoke.**

Failure only exists for the person who quits. I do not quit. I am courageous. I am a leader. I seize this moment. I choose now.

a) Overcoming Fear:

Step one: To overcome fear, we must first identify it.

When the tiger is charging you, two choices arise: stand motionless in fear to be mauled, or attack the tiger and see what happens. In standing motionless your fate is certain. In attacking the tiger a myriad of possibilities exist, including the tiger becoming afraid (or simply thinking you're insane) and running away.

The bear and the woman – This is a true story of a man who was attacked by a bear.

His wife yelled "NO", grabbed a stick and beat the bear on the nose. The bear left!

The point is, we must push through our fears to grow and become more.

Step two: Analyze, “What if fear was no longer a factor”?

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You are a person of action.

Success happens when preparation meets opportunity.

When you're faced with the choice to do nothing or do something, you will always choose to act.

An army of sheep led by a lion would defeat an army of lions led by a sheep!

Step three: List your three main fears:

1a. state an affirmative decision for each of the fears you listed.

1b. what actions are you committed to taking (on a consistent basis) to make your fears irrelevant?

1c. create a list of action steps for moving beyond each fear.

3. Embracing the Power of Action:

Successful people make their decisions quickly and change their minds slowly. Unsuccessful people make their decisions slowly and change their minds quickly.

Remember Chamberlain - the heroic colonel in a desperate losing battle position. Chamberlain possibly the most successful USA colonel said: “I have deep within me the inability to do nothing. I may die today, but I will not die with a bullet in my back. I will not die in retreat. I am, at least, like the apostle Paul; who wrote, “*This one thing I do . . . I press toward the mark.*”

Jefferson - USA founder Thomas Jefferson had an appetite for action. He said, “Do you want to know who you are? Don't ask. Act. Action will delineate and define you.”

Take Note: We are all either in a crisis, coming out of a crisis, or headed for a crisis.

Greatness comes at a cost. What will you have to give up to get what you want? Will it be time? Will it be petty habits or limiting beliefs? Will you have to give up your fears?

Remember: thoughts don't change anything until they are acted upon. Action changes everything.

When faced with a decision, many people say they are waiting for God. But we must understand that in most cases, God is waiting for us! It greatly aggravates me when I hear people say, “But I can't always do my best work.” *If you can't do your best work, than do your second-best work. But whatever you do, move! Get going!*

A person who doesn't move is destined for mediocrity. As I said before, when faced with a decision, I often hear people say, “I'm waiting on God.” I promise you, in most cases, God is waiting on you! Yes, God feeds the birds, but He doesn't throw the worms in their nests. He's given you a healthy mind to gather and sort information, and the courage to come to a conclusion.

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a) Capitalizing on Your Strengths

We can excel in one area.

Fear no longer has a place in my life. I have exposed fear as a vapor, an impostor that never had any power over me in the first place! I do not fear failure, for in my life, failure is a myth. Failure exists only for the person who quits. I do not quit.

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You neither learn nor grow by your successes, only by your failures.

Stan Lee - "Failure is the grease that keeps the world's engines running. It's the adrenaline that sparks the human condition; failure keeps us grasping and groping and growing."

**GOD GAVE US MEN OF ACTION
HE GAVE US NOAH, HE GAVE US JOSEPH, HE GAVE US MOSES,
HE GAVE US GIDEON, HE GAVE US DAVID, HE GAVE US DANIEL,
HE GAVE US PETER AND PAUL**