

*The Success  
Diaries*

*Chronicles of overcoming struggle and  
achieving success*

Howard Rose, Jr.

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## DEDICATION

I want to dedicate this book to my lovely, beautiful, joyous, supportive, wonderful, and always encouraging Wife, Patience Lavon Rose. To me, this book represents the epitome of the fruits of a successful relationship. You pushed and encouraged me to move forward with Success Thoughts and much of what I have written within the confines of this book, all of which is a part of Success Thoughts, is because of your encouragement and support to be all that God has purposed and called me to be. Baby, I humbly thank you for all that you are to me and pray for many, many more years to come with you and that you reap tremendously from every seed you have sown into me. You are the fruit of my love's labor.

I love you greatly, dearly, immensely, and intensely.



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My Mother, Veronica M. Rose

Howard Sr. & G. Lynn Rose

Andrea M. Rose

Tramul & Jennifer Love





# *Chapter 1*

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≈ *Milestones* ≈



*My Thoughts On Milestones*

I wanted to entitle this section "*Milestones*" because these words have marked so many different places in my life. They are very indicative to times in my life where I was at low points and had to learn how to encourage myself in the midst of my circumstances.

It's not easy to find reassurance in the heart of adversity. In fact, it can be down right difficult. When you have pressure on you seemingly from every side, you have to come to a place where you find what I like to call "*your center.*" It's the place where you are able to dig deep inside yourself after having been beaten and life appears to be standing over you with a look of disdain, daring you to rise again.

While you're in that horrid and awful place in your life, you have to learn to find your center. You have to learn come to grips with several truths that exist beyond the confines of where you are:

1. You're not a alone in what you're going through, no matter what it looks like or how it feels.
2. What you are going through is only for a season.
3. If you continue to move forward, you will eventually come out of where you are as long as you maintain a healthy, positive attitude about your life and circumstances.
4. There is always better for you beyond where you are.
5. You *can* make it.

One thing you must realize about life is that it happens without your permission. Things happen, circumstances arise and appear many times beyond your control. Listen, you may not be able to control one single, solitary thing about the things that happen but the one and only constant that you can change in every given situation is you. You are the only thing that life cannot change, no matter what happens. I understand that circumstances befall us and they can be quite devastating to us but we determine the outcome of how we will turn out, whether good or bad.

Once you have made up in your mind that you will press forward with your life, no matter what, life can happen all it wants to. It's your response to life that will gauge your success and greatness or your defeat and demise. Holding to the words that are used to entitle these milestones can help solidify your standing in life's happenings whereby you achieve victory while in the nucleus of your trials. I urge you to take these words to heart and make them a part of not only your vocabulary but your lifestyle.



# *Triumph*

**Definition:**

*The joy or exultation of victory or success; a victory or conquest by or as if by military force; a notable success.*

It's a wonderful feeling to experience accomplishing something. Whether great or small, feeling triumph gives such a sense of achievement that many times can be unmatched. Life will continually pose obstacles, many of which are purposed by design to bring out of you what was placed in you so that you could fulfill your purpose. One key thing to realize is that you have within you the ability to overcome every obstacle already, so therefore, attaining victory is inevitable (*incapable of being avoided or evaded.*)

The size of the obstacle doesn't matter. What matters most is your attitude toward every obstacle that postures itself against you. Once you begin to appreciate the smaller victories in your life, the larger ones are just a more “grand scale” event for you and every time you experience that feeling of triumph it will remain with you. It will serve as a reminder of what you are truly capable of when you determine to press through any and every adverse circumstance that comes against you and your life. The joy and exultation that sweeps over your soul will be what is waiting for you at the end of every trial.

Learn to also recognize the notable successes in your life that give you the opportunity to relish in triumph. Again, from the smallest to the largest of circumstances in your life, every one is a mile marker. Continuing to press forward and continuing to keep a mindset of moving forward, always forward, will eventually give you one of the greatest feelings of accomplishment. Looking back over the things that you have triumphed over will give you such a feeling of satisfaction and accomplishment nothing can compare to.

Seek triumph on a daily basis. Seek the victory that rightfully belongs to you as a result of your perseverance. Always remember the joy that awaits you at the end of your efforts.

## *Prominence*

**Definition:**

*standing out so as to be seen easily; conspicuous; particularly noticeable; projecting; leading, important, or well-known:*

You must realize and understand that you were fearfully and wonderfully made. You have qualities about you that make you unique in your own right and some of those qualities make you stand out in a crowd. They make you noticeable in certain things you do. This is all a part of you being who you were destined, designed and created to be. You were created to be well-known by what you and who you are.

Learn to embrace those beautiful qualities about yourself that were made to cause you to stand out. You must learn to love you for you, love who you really are. If you've been told things about yourself that were negative, belittling, and demeaning, remember how bad those things made you feel? That is a clear indicator that there is just the opposite that lies within you. You have to be willing to invest the time in *yourself*, whether anyone else does or not. You owe it to *yourself* to make *you* a better *you*.

There are things about you that the world may have yet to see that have the capacity and potential to make the world around you a much better place but we will never know if you don't step out! The whole point behind personal development is taking from your personal experiences the fundamentals of how your life was developed and stepping out of the shadows into the limelight of your life and allowing everyone to see how *you* made it out from the dark places that sought to hold you captive.

Take your place in life and love who you were made to be. If you stand out, you do so for a reason. Be the leader that you were made to be. Take the lead where you belong. Denounce the lies that were told to you of who you are and begin to move with and in purpose of the important person you are. Remember that you are somebody. You are a leader. You matter, on purpose, with purpose! Stand out and walk with prominence!

## *Determination*

**Definition:**

*The act of coming to a decision or of fixing or settling a purpose.*

Many people have a reference termed to them as being “strong willed” in nature. No matter what you say to them, they have their mind made up to press forward in what it is they envision in their mind. That is a clear sign of determination rooted deeply within them. So must you come to this place about your purpose and everything having to do with it.

I like this word because it has been one of my words of mainstay that captures the essence of my heart and mind throughout my life. I have seemingly seen more lows than highs, according to my own definition. But I have kept the same attitude about life in never giving up. Granted there have been *many* days that I felt like it. I could feel the innervation of defeat all around me but determination seemed to always stand far and above all else. In the midst of everything I have faced, I have had the hand of God The Father on my life reminding of the majesty of His presence near me, not allowing me to fall, pressing me to never give in, that there was always a brighter day coming.

You must come to a place in your life where you make a decision (a determination) that the things that matter most in your life is where you will begin to focus your effort and energy. You must have pinpoint and accurate focus and not allow anything or anyone to deter you from your destiny's path. You must determine (fixate) in your mind the one main objective and goal in your life: to fulfill your purpose to the fullest.

When you have come to your place of determination, that place where you realize that nothing else matters but you walking in your purpose, a transformation of the heart and mind will take place. No one will be able to sway you from you walking in your purpose. Know that distractions will come to try and dissuade you from the direction you should be heading, but as long as you hold to your decision of staying on course, success is ineluctable (incapable of being evaded; inescapable).



## *Perseverance*

### **Definition:**

*Steady persistence in a course of action, a purpose, a state, etc., especially in spite of difficulties, obstacles, or discouragement.*

It's difficult many times to stay a predetermined course when things become difficult. But you must also understand and realize that the higher up you ascend in life and in your purpose, the more difficulty level only increases. The good news in this is that the lessons you encountered prior to the current ones you presently face are designed to assist you with finding the answers you need for where you are.

One thing you must be mindful of is not allowing discouragement to settle in due to the obstacles life throws at you. When you have an attitude of perseverance, it comes mostly from having faced many challenging and daunting conditions before. This also comes about from realizing that you were made to be a winner, no matter what the case.

You again must find your proverbial "*center*" and buckle yourself down with the mentality that you will stay the course of your destiny, come what may. Life will always pose its challenges, each with its own entailments, nuances, and constant, continual moving parts. You cannot deviate from your purposed course that has been set before you. You have to maintain the consecution (*chain of reasoning*) in the direction you are headed, knowing that you will always face tribulations. There are always things that will come against you but have you a made up mind to press past the obstacles that betide you?

Determine in your heart and mind to be persistent with the successful course of action you have decided to take. The success of you fulfilling your purpose depends on this. Know that life's storms will come, but they're only temporary. You're the permanent factor in the equation. Do not allow life to cause you to quit because of impermanent troubles.

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