

PROSPERITY CONSCIOUSNESS

THE 30 DAY CHALLENGE

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The terms “prosperity consciousness” and “victim consciousness” – and other similar and/or analogous terms – are frequently used within the context of personal development, self improvement and achieving Success. But, what do both terms *really* mean? And, why are they so often *linked* together in the same discussion?

Let’s first briefly address the second question. As we then proceed to address the first question, the relationship between the two terms will make even greater sense.

“Prosperity consciousness” and “victim consciousness” are often linked together, because they represent polar opposites of viewing our external world. We generally tend to see our world either with

prosperity consciousness or victim consciousness (or somewhere in between, perhaps), but never both simultaneously. It is impossible to possess prosperity consciousness and victim consciousness at the same time, in as much as it is impossible to define a volume as comprising a vacuum and having dense mass simultaneously.

As such, we tend to view our world from one vantage point or the other – but not from both.

As a result, when discussing prosperity consciousness, it is difficult not to further mention victim consciousness, for if one completely lacks prosperity consciousness, then the life perspective of that individual is that of victim consciousness.

Likewise, when discussing victim consciousness – a destructive state of mind – the objective in overcoming victim consciousness is to attain prosperity consciousness – a constructive state of mind.

Victim consciousness and prosperity consciousness are merely two mutually exclusive, opposite ways that all individuals tend to view themselves, the world and their relationship with the world – including people, events and circumstances.

As such, it would be difficult to discuss either victim consciousness or prosperity consciousness without necessarily requiring discussion of the other.

But, what exactly is “victim consciousness?” And, what exactly is “prosperity consciousness?”

Let’s stop for a second. This is REALLY important, so let’s give this some thought. It may change your life. It did for me (albeit, I must work at it every day).

For quite some time, I did not understand the true meaning of victim consciousness. And, worse yet, I was absolutely sure that it did not apply to me.

In time, as I came to understand the true meaning of victim consciousness, I came to see that I did indeed view the world with victim mentality, thereby inhibiting – if not stifling – my own spiritual, intellectual, emotional, physical and financial growth!

That is why this is so important!

My erroneous understanding of victim consciousness was a grossly exaggerated one. I thought that victim consciousness meant a state of

being wherein other individuals take advantage of us, abuse us, and/or inflict emotional or physical violence against us, and that we openly and passively allow that destructive behavior against our persons, taking no action to bring such behavior to a halt. My understanding of victim consciousness was that it represented a very extreme state of life, usually involving abuse or violence.

Now, that may be true. Victim consciousness certainly would cover such an awful situation. But, victim consciousness is much, much more than that – and it is usually very subtle. Most individuals who perceive the world with victim consciousness don't even realize it!

Simply, victim consciousness means living in a state of being wherein we view ourselves, the world and our relationship with it from the perspective that “things happen *to* us.” That, in all of its glory, is what victim consciousness means.

It doesn't require abuse or violence. It doesn't require manipulation by other people. It is not overt and aggressive. But, it *is* destructive.

“Prosperity consciousness,” on the other hand, generally means living in a state of being wherein we view ourselves, the world and our relationship with it NOT from the perspective that “things happen *to* us,”

but rather, from the perspective that that *we* have control in our lives. Things do not happen *to* us; things happen *because* of us. WE create what happens in our lives – starting with our thoughts, feelings and emotions! From those, actions – and then RESULTS – follow!

Simply stated, therefore, we tend to see the world from one of two perspectives: 1) we have no control, and thus, our lives are at the mercy of other people, events and circumstances (victim consciousness, a destructive state of being), or 2) we are in control of our lives by virtue of having control of our thoughts, feelings, actions, behavior, and, as a consequence, of the results and experiences of our lives (prosperity consciousness, a constructive state of being).

That’s it. If you can understand this and make the “paradigm shift” from victim to prosperity consciousness, you are making a HUGE step in your life towards the better.

Let’s look at a couple of examples of victim consciousness in action.

“She gets me so mad.” “I hate my boss – he is making my life miserable!” “If I don’t get that promotion, I’m going to jump off a cliff!” “This economy is destroying my business” “I hate the winter – it is so

depressing” “My kids are going to kill me – I can’t take it anymore!” “It started raining during my golf game – my weekend was ruined!”

I could go on, but hopefully, you see the point. In each example, the speaker’s life experience was being controlled by external events and circumstances. Successful individuals NEVER think this way. NEVER!

Let’s look at the first example: “She gets me so mad.” How absurd! Yet, how many think this way?

“She” isn’t “making” anyone mad. **It’s impossible!** “She” is just doing whatever she is doing – the speaker is the one who is getting mad, in a destructive reaction to whatever it is that “she” is doing. The fact is, the speaker can choose any number of emotions or responses to whatever it is that the other individual is or is not doing.

Does the rest of the world care what “she” is doing? Is the rest of the world getting mad? Did “she” hold a gun to the speaker’s head and force him or her to “get mad” or she would use deadly violence?

NO!

In the book, *Man’s Search for Meaning*, holocaust victim and concentration camp survivor Viktor Frankl details his accounts of life in

the camps run by the Nazis. I don't need to tell you what that may have been like, other than to say it really is beyond my imagination.

Yet, Frankl is living proof that nobody can make anybody think or feel anything if they don't want to. As Frankl states in *Man's Search for Meaning*:

“We who lived in concentration camps can remember the men who walked through the huts comforting others, giving away their last piece of bread. They may have been few in number, but they offer sufficient proof that everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms – to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's own way.”

Now I may seem to be contradicting myself here. I stated earlier that with victim consciousness, one tends to generally view the world from the perspective that “things happen to us.” I can hear some of you already: “Are we supposed to believe that concentration camp victims brought the holocaust upon themselves? Didn't the Nazis do this *to* the Jews, *i.e.*, it happened *to* them?”

You have a point. But, let me explain.

Yes, “sh*t happens” and a concentration camp is about the worst of humanity turning upon itself. People do commit awful acts and atrocities against their fellow brethren. I cannot explain why and will not attempt to do so.

But, I can offer this: in every life event, we still have the ability to choose how we experience it, how we think about it, and how we think and feel in general. As Viktor Frankl stated, NO Nazi could make him think something he didn’t want to. No matter what they did to him, he REFUSED to become a victim in his mind and he maintained control over his mind and dignity.

When I first started studying under Bob Proctor in 2008, I recall the very first conference call lesson. Bob was incredibly animate: “From this point forward, let no person, no event, nor circumstance in life dictate how you think and feel.”

Bob’s words hit me like a nuclear explosion. I vowed that I would heed his advice.

And, I did. Yet, what I discovered was that with almost 50 years of conditioning to the contrary, my paradigm would not change overnight. But, I was determined, and change it would (one must continue

maintenance, however, to avoid shifting back to the paradigm of victim consciousness).

About three or so months after that first call, I noticed one day something truly amazing. While still an emotional person, I was not getting angry as much as or to the extent as previously. Doubt and worry, while always trying to surface, were no longer controlling me. I was gaining control.

My paradigm of life had shifted out of victim consciousness. Wow. I could literally feel the freedom. Unlock the shackles!

Don't get me wrong – things were not all happy and gravy. There were (and remain) many areas of my life of which I am not satisfied and have discontent. But, I now realize that those areas are not happening to me. They happened or are happening *because* of me – because of my past thoughts, feelings, emotions, behavior and actions. And, that is something that I can change. Moreover, I have the control over how I think and feel about what I don't like.

And, I have the POWER to make DECISIONS and implement CHANGE. Very powerful!

We create the richness – or lack thereof – in our lives. We are in control of our personal life experiences. Tomorrow’s weather will be whatever it will be; and whatever it is, one thing is for certain: tomorrow’s weather has absolutely NO control over you. Only YOU decide how you will respond – or react – to tomorrow’s weather.

It is your choice. You can be a victim and have a miserable day because it rained on your golf game. Or, you can look at the weather with prosperity consciousness and choose how you will experience the day.

It’s your movie – you can make it anyway you want. It’s up to you.

I am going to ask you to vow – right now – that you will NEVER again let the events, circumstances and people of and in your life dictate your thoughts, feelings and emotions. Your thoughts, feelings and emotions are YOURS. If you let the external world control the way you think and feel, you have submitted and surrendered yourself to the whims of forces that are beyond your immediate control. Don’t be a victim!

From firsthand personal experience, I cannot tell you how empowering it is to make this paradigm shift. Once we realize that WE have the control, our view of life changes immediately to prosperity

consciousness and we have taken the best first step towards honest, sincere and lasting Success.

I challenge you to take the 30 Day Challenge. Make the commitment – **right now** – that for the next 30 days, you will make every effort to shift your paradigm from victim consciousness to prosperity consciousness. It is not easy, but you can do it! It is often said that it takes 22 days of continuous, consistent action to create a habit. Well, this is one habit that you want. If you make a bona fide effort in the 30 Day Challenge to shift from victim consciousness to prosperity consciousness, I assure you that your life will never be the same.

In fact, I GUARANTEE it!

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Richard is married and is a devoted husband and father to three beautiful children.