

Choose Miracles**January 2009****Tap into the Miracle of YOU -
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I have found in life that if you want a miracle you first need to do whatever it is you can do - if that's to plant, then plant; if it is to read, then read; if it is to change, then change; if it is to study, then study; if it is to work, then work; whatever you have to do. And then you will be well on your way of doing the labor that works miracles.

Jim Rohn

Tap Into the Miracle of YOU - What Every Business Needs

Laura Novakowski

In **The Essence of Success**, Earl Nightingale wrote "We see the world we look for." He went on say, "There are many things that exist in our world that we don't see because we are not looking for them or perhaps (not) even capable of looking for them. So in the largest sense, the world we see is only the world we look for."

So much exists inside of us, qualities, capacities, capabilities that we never sought until confronted with a challenge. That's the gift of life - challenges. One of my most valued mentors recently shared his thoughts regarding business and success. He said, "It's really easy to be successful when times are good, profits are high, talent is available and services are in demand. The rub occurs when adversity arises, then, companies and individuals fold like a deck of cards. So called leaders, whine, moan and worry rather than knuckle down and get to the business at hand." In effect, all we see is fear and failure because that's "the world we look for."

Realizing that I, too, could move into the mode of fear and worry, I intentionally started to look for the miracles in business and this is what I discovered. One woman, single and sole support, lost her job recently. In the midst of the layoff process, she worked on her resume and highlighted her talents. She realized that others were not so fortunate as to change their mindset. So, she started helping fellow employees to see their strengths. She left the firm saying, "I'll stay in touch with my family (company)." No condemnation of the company or her co-workers because she considered family. Now, that's truly tapping into one's miraculous self. She demonstrated the ability to see a different world resulting in new job offers.

Another consultant's largest client terminated a contract without any notice, effective immediately. He called to invite me to an event that the company was sponsoring. "I want to support then in this tough economic time, they just can't pay me." He's already been called back - they couldn't afford to let a miracle slip by.

What's the miracle in you? Can you see it? Can you feel it? If we start tapping into our strengths and talents, we'll soon become what every business needs. That's the miracle of YOU!



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Miracles Are Wonderful Leanne Hoagland Smith

"We must not allow the clock and the calendar to blind us to the fact that each moment of life is a miracle and mystery."

H.G. Wells

One of life's lessons for me is not learning Latin. Had I known then what I know now, I would have run toward this incredible language instead of running away from it. For within this ancient language, is the miracle of "understanding," the source of the words we use. Please let me explain.

The word miracle came from the Latin word "mirus" which meant wonderful. Through the annals of time, the word, miracle, extended into events that transcend scientific knowledge. However, the original definition of the word indicates that wonderful is not just for an ethereal being, but for everyday individuals who are miracles because they are wonderful.

Each day we have the opportunity to experience wonderful opportunities when we cast off the warm blankets and begin anew. What wonderful experiences will we see, hear, touch, think or feel?

Are you wonderful person? Do you view your business as being wonderful? What about your personal life? Is it truly wonderful?

What actions can you take to make your business, your life even more wonderful? How can you experience miracles if you do not take the time to understand the miracle within you?

The other day I was driving through some forests and farmlands. I had the wonderful opportunity to see 8 deer, 3 coyotes and one fox. Seeing these creatures running and existing in their natural habits was wonderful, a miracle.

Much has been written about having a positive attitude, thinking positive thoughts and how positive attracts positive. Have you ever considered that individuals who have such positive natures are creating their own miracles because they appreciate the state of being wonderful?

In the book, *A Whole New Mind* by Daniel H. Pink, he explores the miracle of the brain and why he believes that right-brain people will rule the future. One of the facts that Pink shared was the brain testing results of Professor Paul Ekman's Facial Action Coding System. In 35 years of research with subjects that ranged from college students to remote tribes in New Guinea, "There has never been an instance in which the majority in two cultures ascribes a different emotion to the same expression."

How wonderful that in spite of language barriers to societal development, universally individuals can recognize and interpret the same facial expressions such as happiness, sadness or fear. This is indeed a miracle.

Once I read a story about a young boy who was so absolutely positive that the parents believed his positive attitude was not a good thing. A psychologist placed the young boy in a room full of horse manure. The adults believed that the young lad would embrace a negative attitude. But, the young boy began to wildly dig through all the manure. When questioned why he responded "With all this manure, there has to be a pony buried somewhere!" Truly this young man saw miracles and actively pursued them.

Miracles are all around us. The only obstacle is our selves. Take the time to appreciate your miracles.



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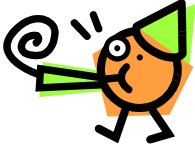
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2010 and You, Creating Miracles in 2009

Steve Sisselman

Cultures all of the world, and all over time have used the term **Miracle** to describe occurrences that have no logical or scientific explanation in their world view. **Miracles** have become the basis for folklore and religion because of the emotions they inspire. The spiritual connection that is shared during a religious service or the excitement of Santa Claus for a young child (or young child at heart) are all examples of **Miracles** inspiring people to have an experience of strong emotional value. The wonder, the myths, divine presence of god bring these emotional experiences so deep into our souls that they transform between the emotional and physical aspects of our lives creating true physical manifestations of happiness, healing, and love. As we start the beginning of a new year, I'd like you to look at how to create the experience of a **Miracle**, the long lasting physical manifestations of happiness and success for yourself.

The first step in the journey of discovering our own **Miracles** begins with looking at where we would like to be at the beginning of 2010. Take a moment and draw or write a description of who you are, what you are doing, what you are thinking, and how you feel as a person in the beginning of 2010. Next, write a few sentences describing how where you are in 2010 differs from where you are now. Comparing the differences between now and 2010, write a list of things that you need to accomplish to get you from now until 2010. Transform your list into a working list of goals, and write each goal out on a goal worksheet or the task management system that you use. Review what is standing in your way of each one of these goals and develop a plan of action with a target date of January 1, 2010. Are you excited about where you are in 2010? If you aren't re-evaluate your picture and see what you need to do to make your picture of you in 2010 exciting. Use the changes you see that you need to make your 2010 self exploding with excitement and joy.

As you work along this coming year to transform yourself into your 2010, realize the **Miracle** that has occurred. See the change in yourself, the presence of emotions new and old will propel you forward throughout the year. It is the greatest **Miracle** of all, to be able to be present with yourself in the future, to create a roadmap of success that will transform you from **the you of now** into **the you of 2010**. Re-connect with the you of 2010 on a daily basis and make sure that the two of you are in sync. If you desire a life filled with inspiration, create your own success by using your own powers of **Miracle** creation. With devotion to yourself in 2010, your 2009 will be a year filled with many, many, many, **Miracles!**

*Question for the month:
Are you Ready for 2010?*



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The Miracle in You Judy Rienzi

*"There are two ways to live;
you can live as if nothing is a miracle;
you can live as if everything is a miracle".*
Albert Einstein



During this past year, I had a few experiences that showed me the power of the **miracle** within myself. You may call it intuition. We all have it. But how many times do we listen to it?

In January of 2008, I became a publisher and editor. I created a free health promotion magazine for the community, supported by local advertising. I had seen this type of magazine in other communities and was inspired to do the same for my community. When the first issue arrived, I was proud and excited. As I set out to distribute the magazine, those feelings quickly vanished. I brushed it off as I realized there was a lot more to learn than just publishing. By the third issue, my enthusiasm was fading. Again, I was denying those feelings. After all, this was my creation. I was getting positive feedback and making new relationships. So what could be wrong?

It's now January, 2009, the 1st anniversary issue. My **miracle**, my intuition, has brought my body to a complete stop. It has forced me to step back and re-evaluate my goals for the magazine, my business and myself. I will continue the magazine in some other fashion, but my **miracle** has helped me to change and grow.

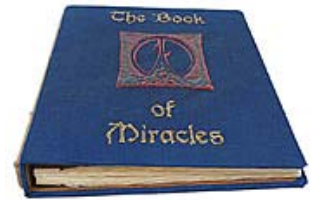
After doing some research, I found a few interesting facts pertaining to intuition that would serve us well in all aspects of life. By following your intuition, you are sharpening your listening skills because you are "learning to listen to your inner dialog". "Listening to your intuition is the essence of art and creativity and soulful living. Intuition is what you use to find the purpose of your life and your place in the world". (www.angelfire.com)

I've made a few business decisions based on my intuition. Some may say this is not a good business plan. But it has kept me true to myself, aligned with my values and beliefs. Even Albert Einstein once said that "most of his innovation was actually just good guessing".

When you can hear your inner guide, trust, and follow it, then it becomes the **miracle** in you.

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Be Open to Miracles! Connie Pheiff



When we think of miracles, we are generally looking for a fast dramatic change or visualization. With today's economic debacle people are praying for miracles all around us. In a recent article from the *New York Times* I found a story about a church that has set themselves up to help job-seekers. One of the parishioners was kneeling in prayer, he started "Dear Lord, help us make all the right calls, talk to all the right people and network like crazy." Sound familiar?

This church once sparsely attended, is now packed, serving notice that the financial crisis has hit home and presenting new challenges. The food pantries are in greater need of donations providing for those less fortunate. Dwindling savings and a slump in the housing market are also creating a spiritual challenge for the clergy.

I have heard many references to the Great Depression and see people rediscovering the ways in which our forebears in the 1930s dealt with such a National calamity. "When everyone is trembling with anxiety, maybe we can turn back to our ancestors and discover the simplicity of life and the simplicity of taking care of our neighbor," said the Rev. Dianna Smith of First Reformed Church in New York City.

For some people, finding their purpose or path comes in a flash of a thought, for others it takes more time and exploration. Taking risks will open up opportunities for success or it might lead to a failure that will teach you an important lesson to get you where you want to be.

Why! Who makes much of a miracle? As to me, I know of nothing else but miracles, whether I walk the streets of Manhattan, or dart my sight over the roofs of houses toward the sky.

~ Author Unknown

Miracles do not come in small and large packages, they just are. I find the current economic conditions have given us a gift of miracles. The divorce rate is down; people are turning to a higher-being for help, welcoming and supporting neighbors, and connecting with long-lost family members. Even with the economic downturn, *The Nonprofit Times* has reported that philanthropic giving for year end 2008 was up nearly 33 percent. This is a miracle; humanity recognizing there are people less fortunate. So perhaps this past holiday the gift giving was a bit less, but we had the miracle of each other.

It has been nearly 2 years now that my organization left me and I have experienced miracles. I have been able to re-invent myself and discover an amazing ability to bring out great 'leadership' qualities in people, no matter their job, function, or title. I have been able to inspire people to take action necessary to achieve success they deserve, the desired results and the personal and professional growth they seek through clarity and personal capacity.

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and Desired Results for personal and professional growth.*

Entrepreneurs Can't Rely On Miracles!

David Sorin



I am not going to beat around the bush or try to make things sound pretty. Entrepreneurs cannot rely on miracles to save them or get them through a rough patch. If miracles do happen in this world, and maybe they do and maybe they don't, they happen at random in a totally unpredictable manner. In business, we strive for predictability, and therefore must base our decisions and judgments on factors that we can either shape or predict.

It has often been said that hope is not a strategy. That adage applies here. Entrepreneurs cannot sit back and wait for something positive to happen. Those that do are not true entrepreneurs.

The very nature of true entrepreneurs is such that they believe that through their vision, creativity, innovation and foresight they can identify commercial opportunities around them.

Entrepreneurs see things that other people miss. They can see resources or potential resources that can be used or utilized in a more beneficial way than they are being used now. They see the slight changes that turn a product or service from "okay" to "terrific." They see future needs before they are actually needs. Look at the Sony Walkman, the Apple ipod, the cell phone, the internet. There is no brief "window of opportunity" for entrepreneurs. Opportunities abound. Many exist outside of time.

Being an entrepreneur is no more than a decision to be one. That decision involves the desire to control the world around them and not let it control them. In that sense, entrepreneurship is more about guts than brains. Thus, the key competencies of an entrepreneur are independence and a strong character. Of course, creativity, innovativeness, a willingness to take some level of risk and a degree of clarity are helpful traits.

An entrepreneur is a person who has decided to take control of their future and become self-employed, usually, but not necessarily by creating their own unique business, product or service. Entrepreneurs thus add value to society by bringing something new and useful into the marketplace.

Entrepreneurs make their own luck. As Gary Player, the great South African golfer said, "The harder I work, the luckier I get." How does that happen? The good ones observe, analyze and constantly ask themselves questions. They believe that in everything that happens there is opportunity somewhere. If things crash around them, they don't look for a miracle. They somehow find the opportunity in the ashes. They think ahead. There is no time for "woe is me."

Miracles happen, but entrepreneurs make things happen. Entrepreneurs make things happen through their belief, conviction, determination, enthusiasm, commitment and practical ability. If a wildly successful result is achieved, entrepreneurs don't look to the heavens. They look to their strategic plan, their projections, their blueprints or their notes and other predictors of the success.

This is not a question of science vs. religion. It is a question of doing what needs to be done to get the result you want. It is about self-reliance and about getting results from your efforts.

Life itself could be called a miracle. Entrepreneurial success is not. Waiting for anything is not in the DNA of a typical entrepreneur. So, all of you pseudo-entrepreneurs who are waiting for the miracle of success to drop on you... Go back to your jobs. If you aren't willing to make your own success happen or if you are waiting for a miracle, you are not a true entrepreneur.



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