

>>>> Possibilitarian

Me...

How do you view the World? Society? Your life? The Future these days?

Over at the invaluable American Council on Science and Health, ASCH senior biomedical fellow Alex Berezow reports the depressing news that only 6 percent of Americans are optimistic about life.

Americans were the most pessimistic polled worldwide, giving gloomy answers 57 percent of the time. And younger respondents tend to be more pessimistic about the future than older ones. They see the World as not an easy place to be, its more of negative than positive, more of no than yes, more of falling than rising.

Where is your head at? What kind of a thinker are you? When Dreams/ Hopes/ Ideas come into your mind do you say that's a great idea; let's make it happen. Our is it the other way around. That's a fantastic idea but it's impossible. Nothing more than a fantasy.

facing a big "**can't do**" in your life today? Anything is possible.

In Fact, I believe that Grace is a church that **Arthur Rubinstein** would have been happy in. He was a famous concert pianist, not a Christian by faith, but he was in New York when someone invited him to come along with them to church on Sunday. His answer: "**Take me to a church that will challenge me to attempt the impossible.**" Great believers and great achievers are attracted to great challenges.

Philippians 4:12-13

12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Big Dreams will either paralyze you or possibilitize you.

Yup, possibilitarian *is* a word. It hasn't yet made it to dictionary.com, but it can be found on UrbanDictionary.com, and google returned about 77,400 results to my search.

Possibilitarian: [noun] A person who instinctively and intuitively searches for the positive in every big idea and when they find it, they want to turn the possibilities into opportunities and the opportunities into achievements.

It's your choice.

1. Choose to Believe in a BIG God.

Believe in a big God! Book: JB Phillips- *Your God is Too Small.* exposes "the inadequate conceptions of God which still linger unconsciously in many minds, and which prevent our catching a glimpse of who God is and wants to be in us."

Open your eyes. Open your Heart. Im asking you today: *is your God too small?* Is He big enough

Gen. 18:14

Abraham vs. Sarah

Is anything too hard for God? It's the question God asks Sarah when she overheard God's promise to Abraham.

"Your descendants.." she heard God say to Abraham, her husband, "..will be as the sand in the desert." After hearing this, Sarah asked, "How can this be? I'm too old to bear a child. I'm past the child bearing stage" and she laughed to herself. There were no children in their marriage. She was too old. "Sarah," she heard the voice of God say, "Sarah, is anything too hard for God?" The question is found in Genesis chapter 18:14, "Is anything too hard for God?"

No. Just look at the ocean, the sunrise and the sunset. Day after day, year after year, I've lived to experience a little about life. I've seen limbs grow back, blind eyes opened, addictions broken. I myself was brought out of a coma. The longer we live, the more we see miracles. Yes, I believe in a big God.

- David- shepherd boy overlooked and ignored by his father, giant/king
- Joshua- no way. stood up and firm... saw the walls
- Moses- tongue tied, insecure former murderer ... saw Egypt knees, a sea part and food fall from Heaven feeding over million people daily.
- Ester- a woman in a male dominated world in which she was not even to speak risked everything and spoke out saving her nation from annihilation.
- Elijah- a man who struggled with depression and anxiety... called fire down and witnessed the power of God
- Peter- who had just rejected Jesus stood up...
- Paul- murderer of Christians... wrote most of the NT and Missionary Journey
- Mother Teresa- a nun without resource and the support of her church traveled to a forgotten region and brought hope to children of India
- **Dreamers in our Church**

- What about you? What God idea is waiting to be unleashed? God knows you aren't perfect. We know you aren't perfect. At best we are all just ordinary. But we serve an extraordinary God

Extraordinary: Let God be the extra in our ordinary.

T.S. Choose to believe in a BIG God.

2. Choose the Possibilarian lifestyle.

Thunder Clap...

A few weeks ago we had some big storms, I was sitting in my house when I heard the rumbling of thunder. Suddenly, I heard a thunder crack louder than anything I'd ever heard in our life and I was born and raised in Texas so I've been through a few. Everything is bigger in Texas...right. The thunderclap filled the whole room, shook the walls and I grabbed at the chair thinking the house was coming down. It was like God saying to me, 'I'm still alive. I'm big, I'm big, I'm big.'

So you don't feel a thunderclap filling this room today but there is a bigger idea and it's filling this place.

Matthew 19:26

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Nothing is too big for God. (say it)

Get around possibilarians... be here at Grace. My mentor always said, "Show me your friends and I'll show you your future." You need your church family and your church family needs you. There's a reason why in the Old Testament the Lord said, "One in seven shall be My day."

So God is bigger than your problem. God is bigger than your fear. God is bigger than your challenges. No problem is too big for God's power. No person is too small for God's love.

Where are you today? What are your challenges? What are your problems? Think big. In fact think bigger. Your problems are small for the Almighty. He has plans for every person in this church and that starts right now with you.

Ask:

- What else?
- What if?
- What's next?

disrupt the status quo. Take the first step because moving creates momentum.

- What habits are getting in the way?
- What needs to shift or change?
- What is one step I am willing to take now?

God is looking for availability; not ability.

Are you available?

Two calls: Salvation/ extraordinary- possibilarianism mindset

EXTRA

Norman Vincent Peale in his book The Power of Positive Thinking. The concept however was introduced much earlier in my life. In fact, I don't remember a time when it hasn't been a part of how my world view was influenced and developed.

My heritage is filled with stories of people that were each a possibilitarian in their own lives, inspiring each generation to follow to the same. I believe that outside of my spiritual heritage, that has been the greatest gift I have received.

What I have observed though is that we tend to mistakenly fuse positive and possible together, as if they represent the same point of view. We see it as being a half-full or half-empty perspective. And that is where I believe we begin to go astray about the true power of what it represents. Because it isn't at all whether the glass is half-full or half-empty, it is about the possibilities you see from what is there and the opportunity for more.

The root meaning of the word possible is "capable of making happen". Can you think of anything more invigorating and inspiring than facing each day with the mindset that we are capable of making happen whatever we choose? It raises the bar for what we see as choices to a very different level, doesn't it?

Would you like this to be you? Here are some signs that you may not be experiencing the full power of possibility thinking:

- **Limited or guarded perspective** – Do you find yourself overly cautious about what your choices might be? Do you think in terms of "this or that"?

- **Focused on Perfection over Progress** – So often we fall reign to the technician in us and fail to let our creative self join in the fun! Have you embraced the fact that perfection is a myth?
- **Confusion between Talent & Skill** – Skill is learned and 90% of what we need comes from that. We confuse these terms. We see something as requiring talent when it really only needs desire. Talent is less specific, it can travel many places.
- **Over planning & under-preparing** – This is a very telling sign. Something not going to plan? How do you respond? Are you able to pivot? Do you see loss or new opportunities?

How you have responded to these statements and questions will help you begin to see where you could bring your own possibilitarian self more fully to the forefront.

So what exactly is it?

- Possibility thinking is a mindset that **does not accept limits** unless they are constructive.
- Possibility thinking is a mindset that **knows there are always 1000+ other ways** to get the result you need and/or want.
- Possibility thinking is a mindset that doesn't merely change what you do; it **changes how you do it**.
- Possibility thinking can and does **change who you become**.
- Possibility thinking is **based on the fact that the only way to change your choices is to change your perspective**.

What does it take?

Here are six steps to letting possibility thinking reign in any part of your life:

1. Believe it's possible (Yes – obvious but true!)
2. Believe it's possible for you (First stumble happens here – get rid of the excuses!)
3. Be willing to do the work (Oh yes – it's not magic. It still takes work.)

4. Be willing to pay the price (Promise to price equation – Your Why Power in play.)
5. Partner with the right people (Others can often see the possibilities before we can. Use their brain!)
6. Play to keep playing (infinite vs. finite) and not simply to win. (The real key to it all.)

“Dwell in possibility.”

World is not an easy place to be, its more of negative than positive, more of no than yes, more of falling than rising. All because there is something that we all don't possess, a positive approach towards life.

Every failure is a new step towards Success

Never say Never

Substitute minus with plus

“Life is, as we make it”

Positive thoughts become positive words, positive words become positive behavior, positive behavior becomes positive habits, positive habits become positive values and values positive become your destiny.

As a person of faith, scripture tells me “all things are possible.” It doesn't say fast, or easy, or painless. It says possible. Hmm . . . seems instructive as you run up against obstacles that squash any chance of a fast, easy or painless solution. Just because something is hard doesn't mean it's not worthwhile. Sometimes when our work is the toughest is also when it is the most important.

Quotations
by Norman Vincent Peale

- *1. When life hands you a lemon, make lemonade.
- *2. Drop the idea that you are Atlas carrying the world on your shoulders. The world would go on even without you. Don't take yourself so seriously.
- *3. Those who are fired with an enthusiastic idea and who allow it to take hold and dominate their thoughts find that new worlds open for them. As long as enthusiasm holds out, so will new opportunities.
- *4. It is of practical value to learn to like yourself. Since you must spend so much time with yourself you might as well get some satisfaction out of the relationship.
- *5. Joy increases as you give it, and diminishes as you try to keep it for yourself. In giving it, you will accumulate a deposit of joy greater than you ever believed possible.
- *6. Believe it is possible to solve your problem. Tremendous things happen to the believer. So believe the answer will come. It will.
- *7. Never talk defeat. Use words like hope, belief, faith, victory.

*8. Watch your manner of speech if you wish to develop a peaceful state of mind. Start each day by affirming peaceful, contented and happy attitudes and your days will tend to be pleasant and successful.

*9. The trouble with most of us is that we would rather be ruined by praise than saved by criticism.

*10. A positive mental attitude is a belief that things are going to turn out well, and that you can overcome any kind of trouble or difficulty.

*11. The tests of life are not meant to break you, but to make you.

*12. Live your life and forget your age.

*13. If there is no fun in it, something is wrong with all you are doing.

*14. Empty pockets never held anyone back, only empty heads and empty hearts can do that.

Lewis Carroll knew that. In *Through the Looking Glass*, he wrote:

*“‘There’s no use trying,’ [Alice] said. ‘One can’t believe impossible things.’
‘I daresay you haven’t had much practice,’ said the Queen. ‘When I was your age, I always did it for half an hour a day. Why, sometimes I’ve believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast.’”*

Exceptional people adopt an attitude that focuses on the possibilities around them. Some researchers label these types of people as “Possibilitarians.” Research has found that looking for

possibilities is an attitude before it becomes a skill and forces you to be selective about the information you accept and reject.



In the 1950s, the research was clear, and there was enough evidence to support, that a human could not run a mile in under four minutes. Doctors and scientists said the human body could not possibly achieve such a feat, and some suggested the body would break down before such a speed could be reached.

Rodger Bannister (left), who was a medical student at the time, was a possibilitarian who possessed an unwavering belief in himself and strong work ethic. In 1954, he set a new record and broke the impossible four-minute mile barrier. Soon, other runners followed suit and ran the mile in under four minutes as well. Today, even high school students are running the mile in under four minutes.

Screen NOTES: Possibilitarian

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