
“My reasoning faculty had almost been paralyzed.”

Hill was paralyzed first by fear of physical harm and then by the shame of having been paralyzed by that fear. Have you ever been paralyzed by similar emotions? When you are faced with your own “emergency,” fear can either motivate you or paralyze you. By recognizing that you have a choice and reacting positively to your fears, you can permanently change your life for the better. Many people today may be experiencing the same feelings of anger followed by irritability and the debilitating feeling of indifference. They feel discouraged and lack self-confidence due to uncertainty in their financial situation or personal lives. They may be angry and allow that anger to paralyze them. I had a conversation with just such a young man. “I am 30 years old,” he said, “and have no marketable skills or prospects.” He had a million excuses for not taking action to change his situation. I pointed out that unless he took action nothing would change. “Unless you make an effort to change things,” I said, “in a year’s time the only difference will be that you are 31 years old with no marketable skills or prospects.” Does this pattern sound familiar to you, either for yourself or someone you care for? How do you break that paralysis? Napoleon Hill now shares how he overcame his fear and indifference and found the hope, inspiration, and motivation to recover and create success in his life.
