Think Better, Live Better

By: Marc & Angel Chernoff marcandangel.com

The biggest
and most complex obstacle
you will ever have
to overcome is your own mind.
Overcome that,
and you can
overcome anything!
- marcandangel

Look around the room right now...



What you focus on grows.

Stop managing your time.

Start managing your focus.

But...
What if you are struggling?

You may not be responsible for everything that happened to you in the past, or everything happening to you right now...

But you need to be responsible for undoing the thinking patterns these circumstances create.



Happiness and peace of mind is **letting go** of what you assume your life is supposed to be like right now, and sincerely appreciating it for everything that it is.

Date: 9-16-1977:

"Today I'm sitting in my hospital bed waiting to have both my breasts removed. But in a strange way, I feel like the lucky one. Until now I have had no health problems. I'm a sixty-nine-year-old woman in the last room at the end of the hall before the pediatric division of the hospital begins. Over the past few hours I have watched dozens of cancer patients being wheeled by in wheelchairs and rolling beds. None of these patients could be a day older than seventeen."

It's your choice...

It's your choice...

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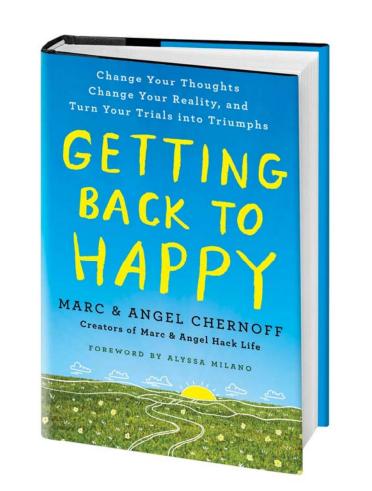


The goal isn't
to get rid of all your
negative thoughts,
feelings, and life situations.
That's impossible.
The goal is to change
your response to them.
- marcandangel

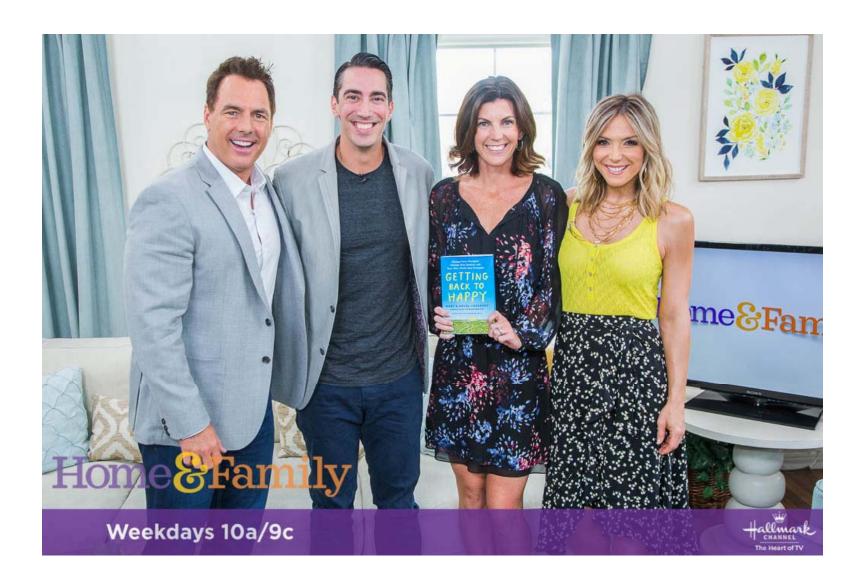
We waste our time waiting for
the ideal path to appear.
But it never does.
Because we forget that paths are
made by walking, not waiting.
And no,
you should not feel more confident
before you take the next step.
Taking the next step is what
gradually builds your confidence.
- marcandangel











#### THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW

## Advice, How-To Best Sellers

THIS WEEK	Advice, How-to and Miscellaneous	WEEKS ON LIST
1	PLIA TABLE, by Joanna Gaines with Marah S	5
2	TLE ART OF NOT GIVING A, by e/HarperCollins) (†)	nson. 76
3	BADASS, by Jen Sincero. (Running	124
4	GIRI YOUR FACE, by Rachel Hollis.	7 (†)
5	THE R E LANGUAGES, by Gary Char	<b>d)</b> 244
6	MAKE 1 D, by William H. McRaven Central)	47
7	Viking) i, by Maria Sh	/ 13
8	EVERYBOD YS, by Bob Goff. (T	6
9	PRINCIPLES, by Ney Dalio, (Simon & Schuster)	26
10	GETTING BACK TO HAPPY, by Marc Chernoff and Angel Chernoff. (TarcherPerigee)	1



### At its core, mindfulness is...

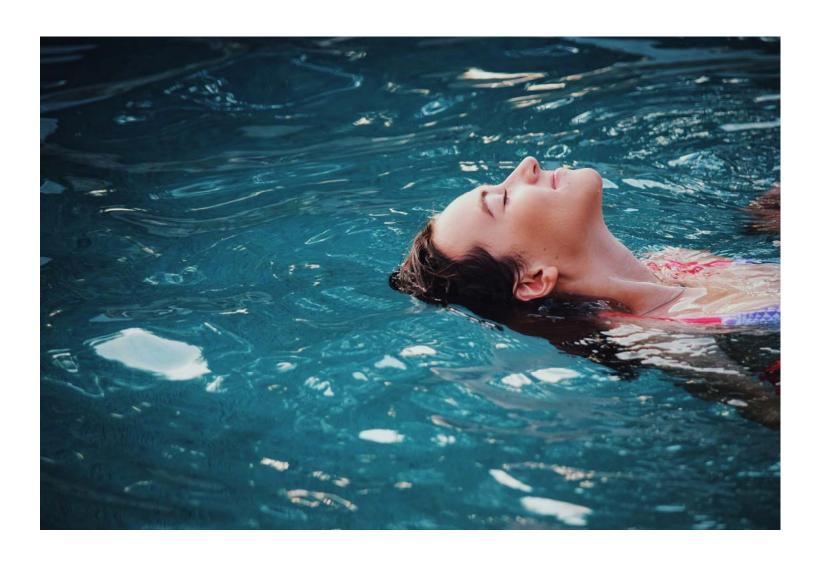
- Being aware of what's happening in the present moment without wishing it were different
- Enjoying each pleasant experience without holding on when it changes (which it will)
- Being with each unpleasant experience without fearing it will always be this way (which it won't)

# Being "mindful" is being...

- Present
- Detached
- Accepting

(It's about letting GO...)





### **But how?**

(Especially on hard days ... how?)

Two methods we've personally turned to the most.

# Method #1: Bring conscious awareness to silver linings.

If the grass
looks greener
on the other side...
Stop staring.
Stop comparing.
Stop complaining.
And START watering
the grass
you're standing on.
- marcandangel

Every evening before you go to bed, write down three things that went well during the day and their causes. Simply provide a short, causal explanation for each good thing.

That's it. We spend tens of thousands of dollars on expensive electronics, big homes, fancy cars and lavish vacations hoping for a boost of happiness. This is a free alternative, and it works.

# Method #2: Bring conscious awareness to negative emotions.





## **Self-Inquiry:**

The Hard Questions
You Need to Ask Yourself

## **Self-Inquiry Process**

Step 1: Record in the heat of the moment in real time.

Step 2: When you're feeling calm and collected, once a week, review your thoughts using the self-inquiry questions.

## **Self-Inquiry Questions**

- 1. Is it true? Is it *all* that's true?
- 2. When I think this thought how does it make me feel and behave? Who am I with this thought in my head?
- 3. Who would I be, and what else would I see, without this thought as my primary point of focus?

## What is the opposite of the thought?

Is the opposite equally as true sometimes?

What are some examples?

Let's practice self-inquiry.



If you don't allow yourself to move past what happened, what was said. what was felt. you will look at your present and future through that same dirty lens, and nothing will be able to focus your foggy judgment. Realize this. What you do now matters more than what happened yesterday. - marcandangel

It's time to find your why...

What's going to motivate you to practice?

What are the chances of YOU being born?

The odds of you being born at the moment in time you were born, to the parents you were born to, with the DNA structure that you have:

1 in 400,000,000,000.

## Let's visualize the probability of YOU...





# Or to put it another way...



Chances of becoming a millionaire – 1% Chances of becoming a billionaire - .00002% Chances of winning the lottery - .000001% Chances of being born - .000000001%

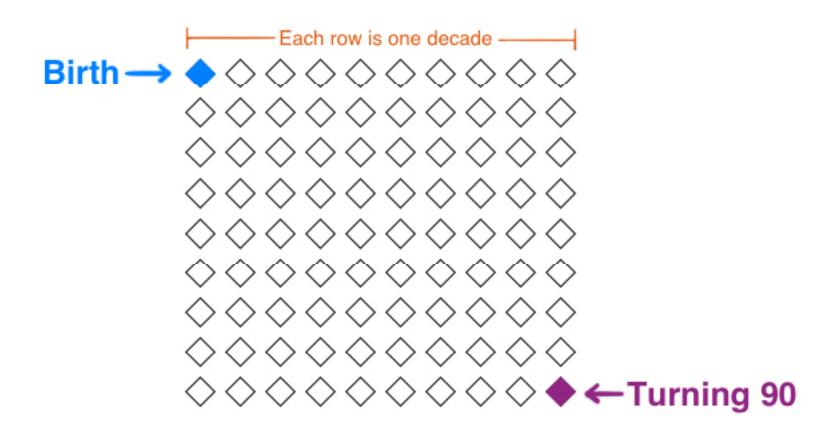
You had a 1 in 400 TRILLION chance to be born...

You won the day you took your first breath.

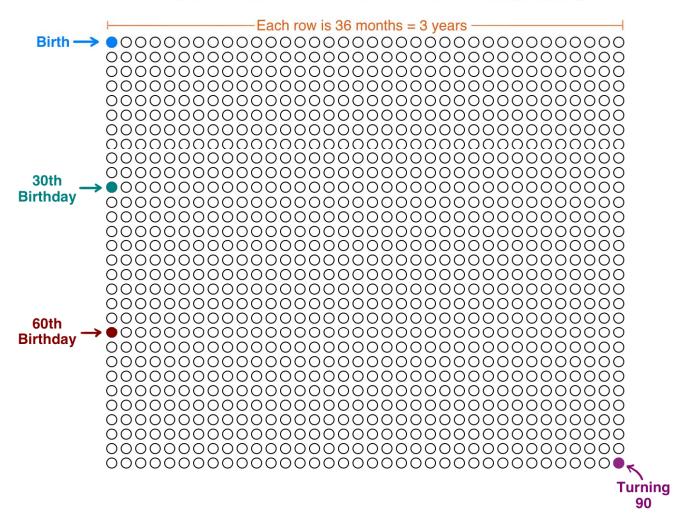
# YOU are a living, breathing miracle!

How much time do you have left for what matters most to you?

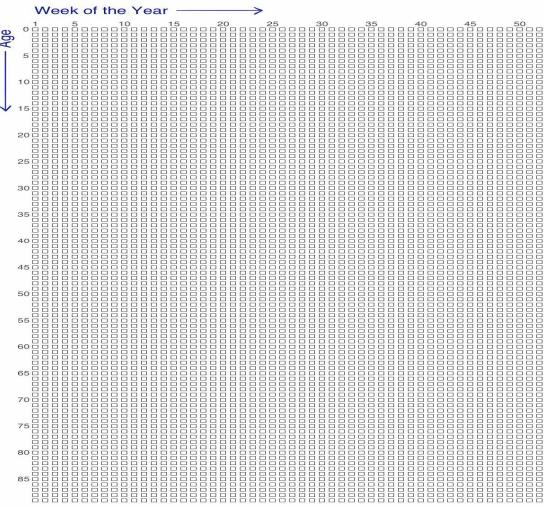
### A 90-Year Human Life in Years



#### A 90-Year Human Life in Months

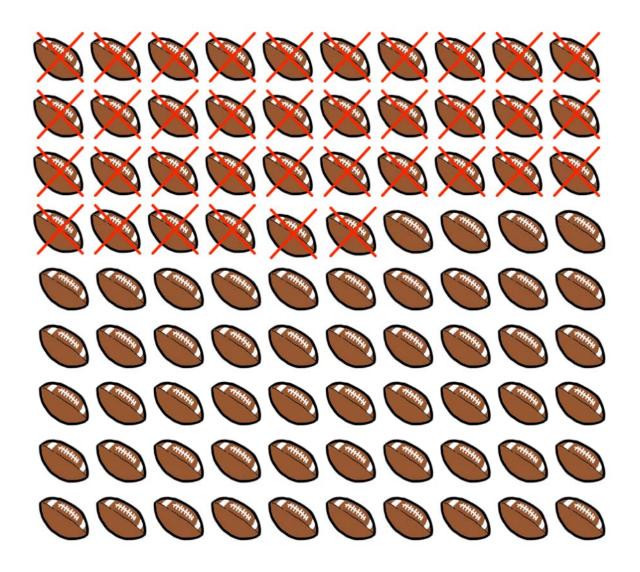


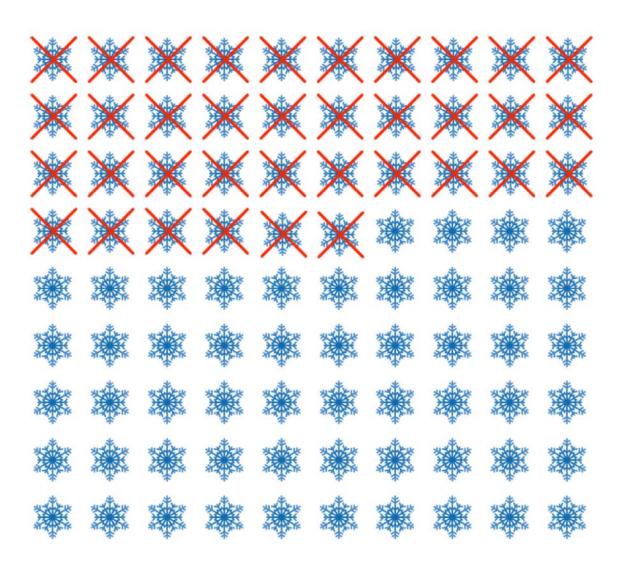
#### A 90-Year Human Life in Weeks

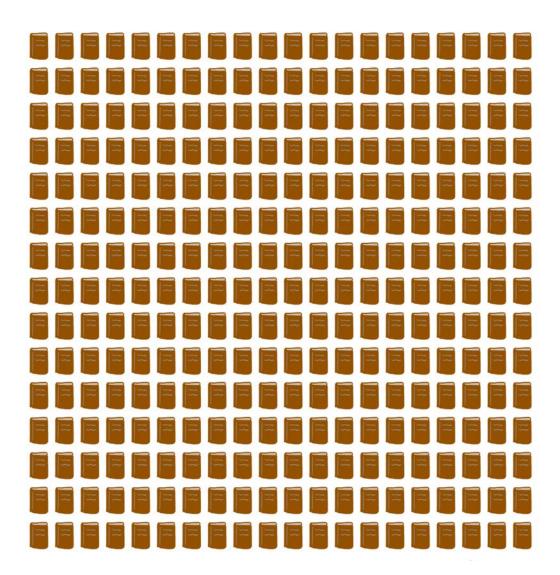


#### All the Days in a 90-Year Human Life

(2 rows = 1 year, each section = 1 decade)







Evidence that life is short can be an interesting source of self-reflection.

Not everything in life happens sequentially.

Oftentimes what matters most does NOT happen sequentially.



Time is running out  $\rightarrow$ 

## So remember...

- Your top priorities matter.
- Quality time and presence matters.
- Being close to the people you love matters.
- And the bottom line... The route you traveled to this point no longer matters, for nothing can be done to change it. What truly matters is what you do from here—starting NOW.

Look around,
and be thankful right now.
For your health,
your family,
your friends,
and your home.
Nothing lasts forever.
- marcandangel



Marc & Angel Chernoff

marcandangel.com

Instagram: marcandangel

Twitter: marcandangel

FB: Marc and Angel Hack Life