

Reaching your Full Potential

# 4 Areas to Help You Reach Your Potential

- **Stretchability**
  - The willingness of an item to be stretched
  - Rubberbands
  - Who is doing the stretching?

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# Who Is Doing the Stretching?

- **Nobody?**
  - No desire to be stretched
  - Un-willing
- **Wrong Person?**
  - Don't know what they are doing, cause damage
- **God?**
  - He knows just how far He can Stretch you to achieve the desired result.

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# Will It Hurt?

- Ever had growing pains?
  - You will not get any taller or get bigger without them.
- Anybody ever workout?
  - Muscles will not grow without being stretched.

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# Oswald Chambers

- “A saint’s life is in the hands of God as a bow and arrow in the hands of an archer. God is aiming at something the saint cannot see; He stretches and strains, and every now and again the saint says, I cannot stand anymore. But God does not heed; He goes on stretching until His purpose is in sight, then he lets fly.”

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# Stretchability

- Will you be one of Gods arrows when He needs you for His purpose?

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# 4 Areas to Help You Reach Your Potential

- **Stretchability**
- **Faith & Trust**

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# Faith & Trust

- Definitions
  - Faith = Belief and Trust In and Loyalty to God; Complete Trust
  - Trust = Assured reliance on the character, ability, strength, or truth of someone or something; One in which confidence is placed

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# Faith & Trust

- Hebrews 11:1- (MSG)- The fundamental fact of existence is that this Trust in God, this Faith, is the firm foundation under everything that makes this life worth living. It's our handle on what we can't see.
  - Fundamental- foundation, the basis of our beliefs
  - We must first Trust & have Faith.

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# Faith & Trust

- Proverbs 3:5-8- (MSG)- Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; He's the one that will keep you on track. Don't assume that you know it all. Run to God! Run from Evil! Your body will glow with health, your very bones will vibrate with life!
  - We have to Trust Him with our lives.
  - He is our creator. He knows what he is doing; We have to make a choice.

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# Do You Trust Me?

- Volunteer Example- “Cups & Water”

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# Faith & Trust

- Abraham- Trusted God for the child he was promised, despite his and his wife's advanced age. His faith-stretching ended with a little baby in his arms named Isaac.
- Peter- Jesus' disciples feared for their lives when a violent storm threatened to sink their boat. But Peter's faith to step out of the boat at Jesus' invitation resulted in Peter's human feet miraculously walking on water.

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# Faith & Trust

- Crippled Man- Jesus told a crippled man, with muscles weak and atrophied, to get up and walk. The man stretched his faith as he stretched out his legs and walked for the first time.
- Blind Man- He had faith that Jesus could heal him, and he saw Jesus with those same eyes.
- Joshua- He may have felt ridiculous circling the walls of Jericho seven times, but eventually the walls came crumbling down.

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# 4 Areas to Help You Reach Your Potential

- Stretchability
- Faith & Trust
- Listen to Wise Counsel

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# Listen to Wise Counsel

- **What is Wise Counsel?**
  - **Wise-** Having or showing experience, knowledge, and good judgement.
  - **Wise Counsel-** A special gift of advice that can enable the young generation of individuals to avoid some of the poor decisions and mistakes of their elders.

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# Listen to Wise Counsel

- What Wise Counsel is not.
  - Advice From Friends
    - They have the same or less experience as you.
  - The “Know It All” you work with or go to school with.

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# Listen to Wise Counsel

- **Who is your Wise Counsel?**
  - **Parents**
  - **Youth Leader/Youth Pastor**
  - **Pastor**
  - **Church Leader**
  - **Family Members**

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# Listen to Wise Counsel

- Do you trust them and have faith that they will never steer you wrong?
- How many of you young people get frustrated with your parents when they try to give you sound advice?
- Why is it hard for you to take wise counsel?
- We need to Tap into our Wise Counsel.

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# Proverbs 3:1-12

## Don't Assume You Know It All

Good friend, don't forget all I've taught you; take to heart my commands. They'll help you live a long, long time, a long life lived full and well. Don't lose your grip on Love and Loyalty. Tie them around your neck; carve their initials on your heart. Earn a reputation for living well in God's eyes and the eyes of the people. Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; He's the one who will keep you on track.

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# Proverbs 3:1-12 (Cont.)

Don't assume you know it all. Run to God! Run from Evil! Your body will glow with health, your very bones will vibrate with life! Honor God with everything you own; give Him the first and the best. Your barns will burst, your wine vats will brim over. But don't, dear friend, resent God's discipline; don't sulk under his loving correction. It's the child He loves that God corrects; a father's delight is behind all this.

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# Don't Be A Know It All

- Humble or Know it all?
- Teachable or Headstrong?
- If we go at it with an “I Got It” attitude.....You won't have it.
  - Proverbs 12:15- Fools are head strong and do what they like; wise people take advice.
  - Proverbs 11:14- Without good direction, people lose their way; the more wise counsel you follow, the better your chances.

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# Seeking Wise Counsel

- So much to gain from the older generation in your life.
- Challenge yourself to seek wise counsel and be humble.
- It is ok to say I don't know and ask questions.
- Once we can freely admit we don't know everything, we can move forward onto greater things.
- God has placed people in your path purposefully.

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# 4 Areas to Help You Reach Your Potential

- Stretchability
- Faith & Trust
- Listening to Wise Counsel
- Get out of your Comfort Zone

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# Get Out of Your Comfort Zone

- What is a Comfort Zone?
  - the level at which one functions with ease and familiarity
    - He pushes the players to perform beyond their comfort zone.
    - I need to expand my comfort zone and try new things.
    - We cannot operate in what God has planned for us from inside our comfort zone.

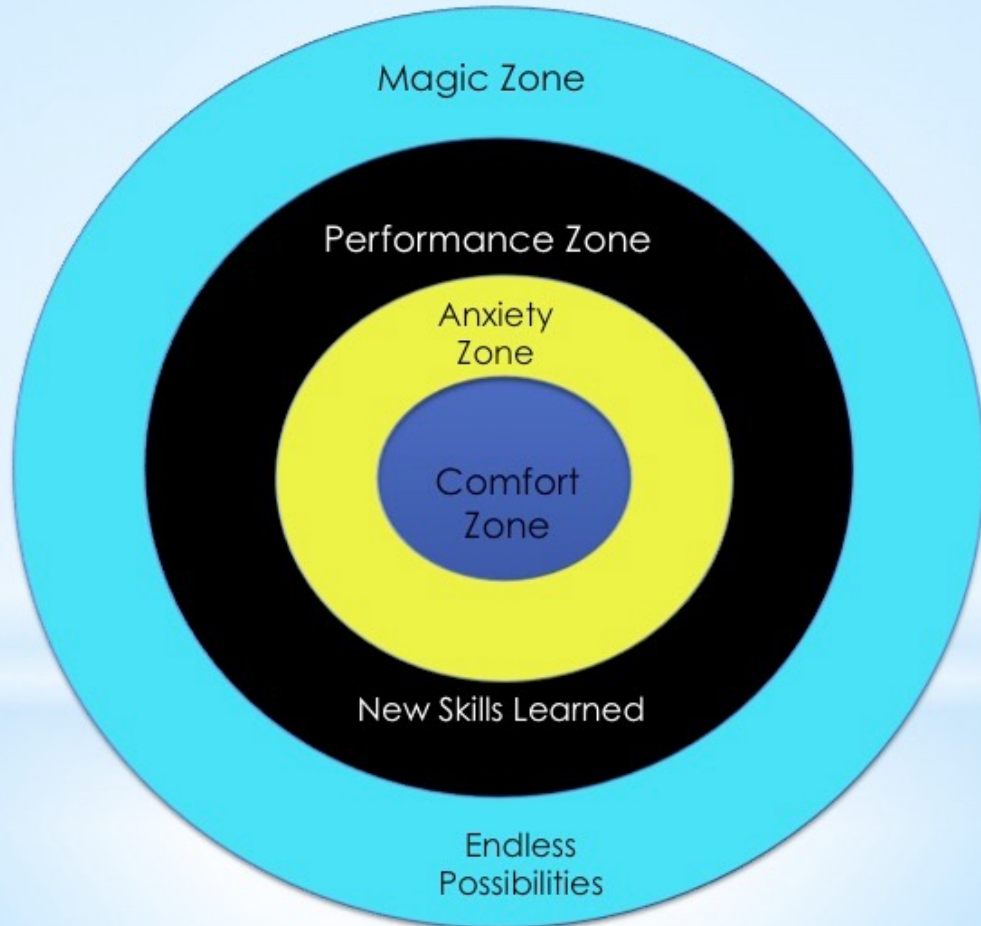
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# Get Out of Your Comfort Zone

- Psalms 138:3- The moment I called out, You stepped in; You made my life large with strength.

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# Get Out of Your Comfort Zone

- Jesse Itzler

- Founder of “Marquis Jet”
- Owner of the Atlanta Hawks
- Partner at ZICO (coconut water company)

- David Goggins

- Former Army Ranger, Retired Navy Seal, Air Force Tactical Air Controller Training.

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# Get Out of Your Comfort Zone

- This video just took the “I can’t” attitude out of the picture for me. How about you?
- Great example of what we are capable of if we don’t set limits on ourselves.
- Philippians 4:13- I can do ALL things through Christ who strengthens me.

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One can choose to go back toward safety or forward toward growth. Growth must be chosen again and again; fear must be overcome again and again.

— *Abraham Maslow* —

AZ QUOTES

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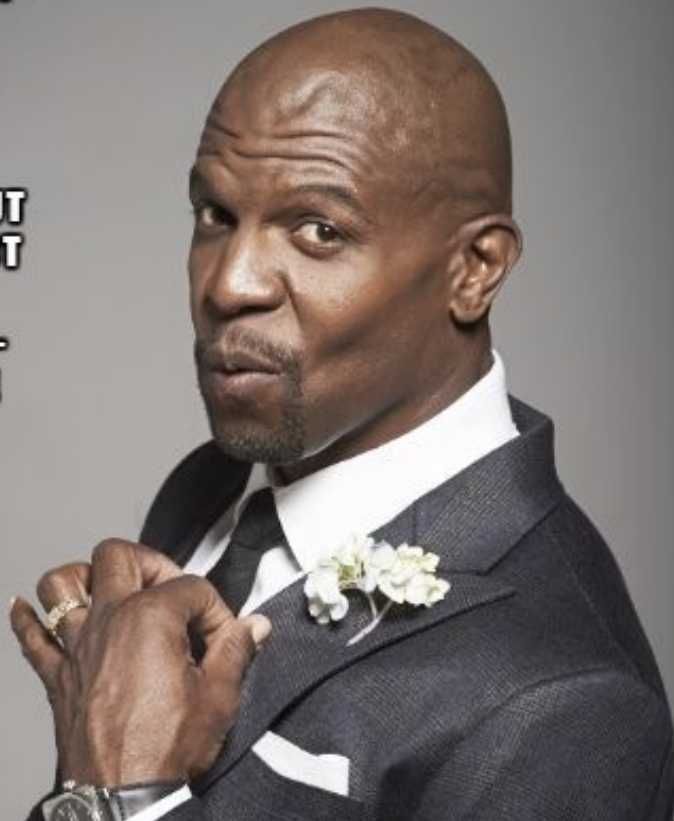
If you deliberately plan on being less than you are capable of being, then I warn you that you'll be unhappy for the rest of your life.

(Abraham Maslow)

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**I CONSTANTLY GET OUT OF MY COMFORT ZONE. LOOKING COOL IS THE EASIEST WAY TO MEDIOCRITY. THE COOLEST GUY IN MY HIGH SCHOOL ENDED UP WORKING AT A CAR WASH. ONCE YOU PUSH YOURSELF INTO SOMETHING NEW, AND WHOLE NEW WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES OPENS UP. BUT YOU MIGHT GET HURT. IN FACT YOU WILL GET HURT. BUT AMAZINGLY WHEN YOU HEAL-- YOU ARE SOMEWHERE YOUVE NEVER BEEN.**

**-TERRY CREWS-**



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**YOU DON'T  
GET OVER  
THE FEAR  
OF DOING  
SOMETHING  
BY NOT  
DOING IT.**

Zero Dean

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Karen Lamb

A YEAR  
FROM NOW  
YOU WILL WISH  
YOU HAD STARTED  
TODAY

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# 8 Ways God may want to Stretch You

- God may want you to DO Something
- God may want you to STOP DOING something
- God may want you to GIVE something
- God may want you to SAY something
- God may want you to STOP SAYING something
- God may want you to START something
- God may want you to END something
- God may want you to LOVE someone

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# Reaching Your Full Potential

- God calls us all to do some faith stretching now and then. Whether we are called to leave our comfort zones to obey and act, or to rest and trust God during a difficult season of life, He always rewards great faith with wonderful blessings.

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# Reaching Your Full Potential

- Maybe stepping outside your comfort zone to obey God seems like too much of a stretch right now. Keep in mind that although it may seem impossible, God will never stretch us beyond what we are capable of in His strength- not ours. And when we are willing to be stretched, blessings begin to flow.

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