

CHALLENGE I

GETTING THE GUTS

I sure think a lot about starting a business. I wonder if this is something I'd really like to do. I think I would—but would I? Could I? There's something in me that craves more than a job.

How do you get the guts to go off on your own and leave what you know—be it the security of a job, a career or a paycheck? Most people get the guts when they become brave and courageous and are willing to step out in the unknown.

Bravery and courage are learned behaviors. We learn how to become brave by taking action. It is in becoming brave in small ways that we become brave in big ways.

Brave and courageous acts are available to us every moment. We need to look for ways to be brave. We must be committed to getting the guts—to becoming brave and courageous. This challenge focuses on choosing to be brave consciously—choosing to do things differently and experience our lives in new ways.

Welcome bravery and courage into your life, into your being. Take action and get the guts to become the entrepreneur you want to be. Be brave—you are experiencing the transition of a lifetime!

**Courageous risks are life giving,
they help you grow, make you brave and better than you think you are.**

Joan L. Curio

Make a Conscious Choice

I am ready to make some changes—to experience some change in my personal and professional life.

Make a conscious choice to start this journey. Simply begin exactly where you are. It is like going to college in the sense that you may not know exactly what you want to do when you finish, but you know that you will find out along the way. Entrepreneurship is similar; you learn as you go. You don't need to have all the answers now, today or tomorrow. They will come to you as you need them. Make a conscious choice simply to begin. This is the first step to becoming brave and getting the guts to achieve what you desire. It lets you and your energy know that you are making a commitment to be brave and courageous, even if you don't know what it is that you want to do yet.

This does not mean you need to quit your job or change anything at the moment. All it means is that you are making a commitment to be brave and courageous as you begin your entrepreneurial journey.

Write your commitment to be brave and courageous:

Today, I am making a conscious choice to be brave.

Let The Journey Begin!

God willing, I am going to start a business.

If you want to start a business—start it. If you want to expand your business, expand it. Start in some small way doing what you want to be doing. Begin allowing that part of you—that part that wants to experience life in the way you desire—to express itself. Too often, we think we need to wait for exactly the right time to start, launch or even begin exploring what it is we want to do,

while in reality there really is no such thing as the “exact right time.”

One day I wondered what I would do if I won the lottery. I wrote it all down: I would buy a Ford Explorer, I would start my own business and I would spend more time with my children. What I learned was that I didn’t have to wait until I won the lottery. I began to do the things on my lottery list without winning. Waiting for the lottery was not the answer. Being courageous to live the life I desired was.

What would you be doing if you won the lottery, if money were not a concern?

In what ways will you begin now? Will you attend the seminar you’ve been wanting to attend? Make a decision about something? Start a business plan? Meet with a business counselor? List ways you can begin taking action right now.

I am beginning now—right where I am.