

Foreword to 'Unlocking Your Legacy'  
By John C. Maxwell

Let me take this opportunity to express my highest regard for Paul J. Meyer and for what he stands for. He has made an enormous impact on my life and I will always be grateful for that.

I first heard of Paul in 1970. I was a young man, just out of seminary and recently married, still finding my feet as a new pastor. I was invited to a presentation on how to set and achieve goals, hosted by a company I had never heard of before, Success Motivation Institute, Inc.

Looking back, it was as if that night I traded in my chuck wagon for a bullet train. My eyes were opened to the reality of living in the world of the “impossible,” setting goals, and taking giant steps toward my destiny. I was so impressed that I knew I need to immerse myself in the principles outlined in Paul’s course, but the cost was more than I could afford at the time. I immediately went home and asked my wife Margaret what we could cut out of our budget so that I could buy the course.

We bought the course and it profoundly affected my ministry and my career for Christ. I often think of that crucial night and am grateful for the effort that Paul went through to write out those principles and to make them available for everyone.

A few years ago I had the opportunity to have dinner with Paul and his wife Jane at a restaurant in southern California. One of the first things I said was, “You never let your hero pay for dinner.” He asked what I meant and I explained the impact he had made on my life. He was touched, and so was I.

For decades I have used his materials, either for myself or for leaders across the nations, and I am always amazed at the changes that take place in people’s lives. But I should know better – everything Paul puts his hands to is life-changing!

I see *Unlocking Your Legacy* as the condensed version of everything that Paul has believed, practiced, and taught for more than fifty years. In addition, he is one of those rare individuals who actually does what he says he will do! In fact, he keeps track of his promises and puts them in a vault and then at the end of the year incorporates them into his will! His word is as good as gold – *even better!*

He has taken seriously the fact that “a good man leaves an inheritance for his children’s children.” (Proverbs 13:22) and understands that this means much more than just a financial inheritance. He is the first to point out that every area of life is vitally important and has its respective legacy.

As you read Paul’s wisdom, advice, and personal stories, keep in mind that he has already done what he is talking about. *He isn’t talking theory – he’s talking reality!*

The fact is, everyone will leave a legacy, but few take any action to positively affect their legacy. Some may go so far as to map out a course for leaving a legacy, but only a handful of those will actually walk the road themselves. Even a smaller number will return and give the map to those who come after.

*Paul J. Meyer is one such man!*

Regardless of any limitation we might place on ourselves, we have an incredible opportunity to learn from someone who has chartered a course before us. Take it and run!

Paul, it is a joy and an honor to write these words of appreciation and recommendation. You are more than qualified to write this book and I have no doubt that *Unlocking Your Legacy* will motivate thousands of readers to leave a legacy that others could only dream about.

Thank you again for playing a part in unlocking my legacy those many years ago.

Admiringly,

John C. Maxwell