

## **From Manifestation to Miracles: How I Found a Path That Actually Works**

If you're deep into manifestation but feel like it's crumbling around you—and you're wondering what's next—this story might resonate. I've been there. I started with manifestation, tried to control my life with positive thinking, and eventually hit a wall. What came after was unexpected: learning to work with God's will.

Let me share how this unfolded.

I used to run a small business. It was tough. Everything felt like it had to be perfectly controlled, and the pressure was relentless. I wanted more tools to help my employees, grow the business, and ultimately live a good life. Like many business owners, I wanted financial stability, the freedom to travel, and the ability to provide opportunities for others. But beneath those goals, I was chasing happiness—a happiness I couldn't seem to find.

I was anxious, depressed, and overwhelmed. Being a business owner gave me a place to channel that anxiety, but it didn't solve anything in the long run. Instead, it amplified my struggles. When you become a leader, everyone's fears seem to land on you—employees, clients, everyone. It was a den of fear, and I didn't have the tools to navigate it. I internalized everything, thinking it was my fault, which only added to the guilt and shame I already carried.

At one point, I hired an expensive mentor—\$2,500 a day—to guide me in business. But even then, I couldn't discern whether someone was truly helpful or not. I didn't have the life experience to know what a good mentor looked like. It was a mess. I felt like a failure, and that failure became the driving force behind my search for something, anything, to help me get my mind right.

I read books, tried therapy, and consumed endless content—but nothing stuck. I hit a wall. The pressure of debt, bank loans, and being responsible for people's paychecks weighed heavily on me. Physically, it showed up too—constant tension in my neck and pain in my thigh. I thought that was just what it meant to be a leader.

Have you ever felt like you're doing everything right, but nothing seems to click? Like no matter how hard you try, you're always one step away from feeling the way you want to feel? That's exactly where I was.

Everything changed one day when I was bedridden after getting my COVID shot. Scrolling through YouTube, I stumbled upon Abraham Hicks. The message was like a lifeline: control your mind, and you can control your life. It felt refreshing. I was hooked. My business partner got into it too, and together we dove deep into manifestation—positive thinking, vision boards, affirmations. We thought if we could just control our thoughts perfectly, success would follow.

But here's the truth: it didn't work.

Manifestation, as we practiced it, lacked a solid foundation. I learned the hard way that trying to control everything—your thoughts, your life—leads to frustration, guilt, and anger when things don't go as planned. I became controlling, expecting life to unfold according to the plans I wrote down. When it didn't, I got angry and projected that frustration onto others. The whole approach was flawed, but it took crashing and burning for me to see it.

At my lowest, someone approached me with an offer to buy my business. I accepted, grateful to step away. My employees kept their jobs, and everything worked out, but the experience left me disillusioned. I realized that being a “devout student” of manifestation hadn't brought me peace or happiness. In fact, it had done the opposite.

I stopped listening to manifestation teachings and started asking for something real. I prayed, “Bring me the truth.” Over and over, I asked for truth, not knowing what form it would take. Eventually, I was led to *A Course in Miracles*. I found it on YouTube, and it completely shifted my perspective.

Unlike manifestation, where everything revolved around *my* desires, *A Course in Miracles* taught me to align with God's will. And here's the surprising part—I still get everything I want, but it happens in a completely different way. It's no longer about forcing things to happen; it's about flowing with what's already meant for me. I don't get angry or triggered. I don't obsess over my reputation or material things. The peace I have now is something I never thought possible.

Here's what I learned:

1. **You don't have to control everything to be happy.** In fact, trying to control everything is what blocks happiness.
2. **Peace comes from surrendering, not forcing.** When you align with love and trust in something greater than yourself, life becomes easier.
3. **Happiness is a byproduct of aligning with truth.** It's not something you create by sheer will—it's something you receive when you stop resisting.

If you've been trying to control your way to success and happiness, and it's not working, it's okay to let go. You don't have to keep pushing so hard. Sometimes, the first step is simply asking for a new way.

I didn't expect to end up here. A few years ago, I would've rejected anything involving God—I wanted no part of it. But when life becomes dark enough, you find yourself ready for something different. And for me, that something was learning to follow God's will.

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**Want to learn how to listen to the Voice of God and discover how He can get you everything you ever wanted?**

Follow me on Instagram [@leahleeds.acim](#), and follow Britney at [@britneyshawley](#). Together, we share insights on applying *A Course in Miracles* in everyday life, helping you find peace, joy, and true success.

