

Awakened Imagination

The Power of Conscious Creation

Neville Goddard's "Awakened Imagination" presents a profound spiritual framework that equates human imagination with Christ consciousness and positions it as the ultimate creative force in our lives. This transformative text guides readers through practical techniques for harnessing imagination to manifest desires, revise past experiences, and achieve spiritual awakening. By understanding that "imagination is the very gateway of reality," Goddard invites us to recognize our divine creative potential and consciously shape our world from within.

Goddard's assertion that "the world is a manifestation of the mental activity which goes on within [the individual]" places profound responsibility on each person. If our reality stems from our consciousness, then changing our lives requires changing our minds first. This principle forms the foundation for all the practical techniques Goddard presents throughout the book, from revision to inner speech to thinking from the end.

Goddard emphasizes that "thinking from the end is creative living." It transforms manifestation from a passive hope for future fulfillment into an active present-moment creation. By constructing "all ends according to the pattern of fulfilled desire," we participate consciously in shaping our reality rather than merely reacting to circumstances.

The practical application of his teachings involves identifying our current state, choosing a desired state, and then using techniques like "thinking from the end," revision, and controlled inner speech to shift our consciousness. As we successfully occupy new states, our external reality transforms to reflect our inner change. This process requires faith in the creative power of imagination and persistence in maintaining the new state despite contrary external evidence.



by OL booksummary

The Divine Nature of Imagination

At the core of Goddard's philosophy lies the revolutionary concept that human imagination is synonymous with Christ. "I identify the central figure of the Gospels with human imagination," Goddard declares, "the power which makes the forgiveness of sins, the achievement of our goals, inevitable." This identification elevates imagination from mere fantasy to the divine creative principle operating within each person.

Goddard challenges conventional religious interpretations by suggesting that Christ is not an external savior but the imaginative faculty within us. This perspective transforms spiritual practice from external worship to internal conscious creation. When we awaken to this truth, we recognize that "all things were made by him" – meaning all manifestations in our lives stem from our imaginative power.

The book emphasizes a fundamental duality within human consciousness: the "natural man" focused on sensory experience and the "spiritual man" guided by imagination. Spiritual awakening begins "the moment he feels the presence of another being in himself." This inner awakening marks the transition from passive acceptance of circumstances to active participation in creating reality through conscious imagination.

Imagination as Christ

Goddard equates human imagination with the figure of Christ Jesus, positioning it as the divine creative power within each person.

Inner Duality

The text explores the duality between the "natural man" of sensory experience and the "spiritual man" guided by imagination.

Creative Power

Imagination is presented as the primary force through which we manifest our desires and shape our reality.

By recognizing imagination as "the very gateway of reality," we access the transformative power that allows us to transcend limitations and manifest our deepest desires. This recognition fundamentally shifts our relationship with reality, empowering us to become conscious creators rather than passive observers of life.

The Primacy of Inner Reality

Goddard establishes a revolutionary perspective on reality: our inner world precedes and shapes our outer experiences. "The world is a revelation of the states with which imagination is fused," he writes, suggesting that external circumstances merely reflect our internal states of consciousness. This principle inverts conventional thinking that assumes external events determine our inner experience.

States of consciousness represent the totality of our beliefs, assumptions, and what we accept as true. Different states produce different perceptions and experiences of the same external world. When we shift our state by changing our beliefs and mental focus, our reality transforms accordingly. As Goddard explains, "No idea presented to the mind can realize itself unless the mind accepts it." This acceptance is the catalyst for manifestation.

The concept of "Los's Sculptures" serves as a metaphor for these pre-existing states or possibilities within consciousness. These "sculptures" represent potential realities that become activated when our imagination enters and fuses with them. By consciously choosing which "sculpture" to inhabit, we determine which reality we experience. This explains why two people can encounter the same circumstances yet have entirely different experiences based on their internal state.

By prioritizing inner reality, Goddard offers a path to freedom from external circumstances. Rather than being victims of events beyond our control, we become empowered creators who can reshape our experience by first reshaping our consciousness. This perspective transforms spiritual practice from seeking external salvation to cultivating internal states aligned with our desires.

Thinking From the End

One of Goddard's most powerful techniques for manifestation is "thinking from the end" – mentally inhabiting the state of having already achieved your desire. This approach differs dramatically from conventional goal-setting, which focuses on the process of achievement. Instead, Goddard advocates for complete psychological immersion in the feeling of the wish fulfilled.

"Thinking from the end is an intense perception of the world of fulfilled desire," Goddard explains. Rather than merely visualizing a desired outcome as a future possibility, this practice involves experiencing it as a present reality in imagination. The distinction between "thinking of" and "thinking from" is crucial – the former maintains separation from the desire, while the latter creates psychological unity with it.

Goddard illustrates this principle through his personal experience manifesting a trip to Barbados. When faced with seemingly insurmountable obstacles, he chose to mentally live "as though I were already in Barbados." He immersed himself in the sensory details of his desired reality – feeling the tropical air, hearing familiar voices, seeing beloved landscapes – until "I felt the naturalness of being there." This inner experience preceded and facilitated the external manifestation of his journey.



The effectiveness of this technique relies on a fundamental principle: "Experience has convinced me that an assumption, though false, if persisted in will harden into fact." By consistently assuming the feeling of our desire fulfilled, we align our consciousness with that reality, initiating the bridge of events that leads to its physical manifestation. This process requires faith in the creative power of imagination and persistence in maintaining the feeling despite contrary external evidence.

The Pruning Shears of Revision

Revision represents one of Goddard's most transformative practices – the conscious reimagining of past events to align with our ideal. Rather than accepting the past as fixed and unchangeable, Goddard proposes that we can mentally revisit and rewrite experiences, thereby altering their impact on our present and future. This practice connects directly to the biblical concept of forgiveness, which Goddard interprets as "experiencing in imagination the revised version of the day, experiencing in imagination what you wish you had experienced in the flesh."

The technique involves mentally replaying events from the day before sleep, but revising any unpleasant or unwanted experiences to unfold as we would have preferred. For instance, if we experienced conflict with someone, we might reimagine the interaction with harmony and mutual understanding. This isn't mere wishful thinking or denial – Goddard presents it as a genuine spiritual practice that can transform both our consciousness and our subsequent reality.

Goddard shares a compelling example of a friend who used revision to overcome physical pain and interpersonal conflict. By consistently revising painful experiences before sleep, this individual not only experienced psychological relief but also witnessed tangible changes in their physical condition and relationships. This illustrates how revision can affect not just our perception of reality but reality itself.

The power of revision stems from Goddard's understanding that time is psychological rather than linear. From this perspective, the past exists as a state of consciousness that can be accessed and modified through imagination. By revising the past, we change our relationship to it, releasing negative emotional charges and creating new patterns that influence our present and future experiences.

Revision also serves as a practical application of forgiveness – not as moral absolution but as a correction of perception. When we revise an unpleasant interaction, we "forgive" both ourselves and others by creating a new version of events aligned with our ideal. This practice embodies Goddard's interpretation of the biblical instruction to "put off the former conversation, the old man, who is corrupt... and be renewed in the spirit of your mind... put on the new man, who is created in righteousness."

The Coin of Heaven: Inner Speech

Goddard identifies inner speech – our internal dialogue and mental conversations – as a critical element in manifesting our desires. He describes thought as "the coin of heaven" that we can either spend wastefully on negative patterns or invest wisely in constructive imagination. This inner dialogue reveals our current state of consciousness and shapes our future experiences through its persistent influence on our beliefs and expectations.

"Inner talking is the beginning, the sowing of the seeds of future action," Goddard explains. Our habitual internal conversations establish patterns of thought that eventually manifest as external circumstances. Most people engage in this process unconsciously, allowing random or reactive thoughts to determine their experience. Goddard urges readers to take conscious control of this powerful creative mechanism by deliberately choosing inner speech that aligns with desired outcomes.

The practice involves monitoring our mental dialogue and redirecting negative or limiting conversations toward affirmations of our ideal state. Rather than rehearsing problems, failures, or fears, we cultivate inner speech that assumes the fulfillment of our desires. This isn't superficial positive thinking but a profound shift in consciousness that alters our relationship with reality.

Unconscious Inner Speech

- Random and reactive
- Often negative or limiting
- Based on past experiences
- Reinforces current reality
- Creates by default

Conscious Inner Speech

- Deliberately chosen
- Positive and expansive
- Based on desired state
- Creates new reality
- Creates by design

Goddard emphasizes that "inner talking matures in the dark. From the dark it issues into the light." This suggests that our internal conversations work beneath conscious awareness to shape our reality, eventually emerging as manifest conditions. By taking control of this process, we harness a fundamental creative power that might otherwise work against our desires.

The practice of conscious inner speech connects directly to biblical teachings about the power of the word. When we understand that our internal words create our reality, we recognize the profound truth in statements like "In the beginning was the Word" and "By thy words thou shalt be justified." Our inner speech becomes a sacred activity through which we participate in the divine creative process.

States of Consciousness and Creation

Goddard presents a revolutionary concept in "Creation Is Finished," suggesting that all possible states of consciousness already exist as completed realities. Rather than creating new circumstances, we simply shift our awareness into pre-existing states through the power of imagination. He uses the metaphor of "rooms in God's House" to illustrate how different states represent distinct realities we can choose to occupy.

This perspective transforms manifestation from a process of creating something new to one of aligning with an already-existing reality. "The whole vast world is yourself pushed out," Goddard explains, suggesting that what appears as external reality is actually a projection of our consciousness. By changing our state – the totality of our beliefs, assumptions, and focus – we change which aspect of the completed creation we experience.

The concept of "mystical death" plays a crucial role in this process. Goddard describes this as the conscious detachment from our current state and identification with a new, desired state. This is what he means by "I die daily" – the continuous process of releasing limiting states and embracing expansive ones. This death is not physical but psychological – a willing surrender of old patterns of thought and feeling.



Goddard illustrates this principle through the metaphor of "Los's Sculptures" – pre-existing forms that come to life when imagination enters them. These sculptures represent potential states of consciousness waiting to be activated. By consciously choosing which "sculpture" to inhabit, we determine which reality we experience. This explains why two people can encounter the same circumstances yet have entirely different experiences based on their internal state.

The Apple of God's Eye

Embracing Divine Imagination

In the culminating chapter, Goddard reveals the profound spiritual significance of awakened imagination through the metaphor of "the apple of God's eye." This biblical phrase takes on new meaning in his interpretation: "He that toucheth you toucheth the apple of God's eye." The individual consciousness, when awakened to its true nature as imagination, becomes the most precious and protected aspect of divine expression – the very center of God's attention and care.

This perspective elevates human imagination from a mere psychological faculty to the divine creative principle itself. When we recognize our imagination as the "apple of God's eye," we understand our sacred role in the creative process. Our conscious use of imagination becomes not just a manifestation technique but a spiritual practice through which we express our divine nature.

Goddard's ultimate message is one of liberation and empowerment: "The creature shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the Sons of God." This liberation comes through awakening to the truth that "The Kingdom of Heaven is within you" – specifically, within your imagination. By consciously directing this divine faculty, we free ourselves from limitation and experience the abundance that is our birthright.

The practical application of this teaching involves embracing full responsibility for our creative power. If imagination is truly divine, then we must approach it with reverence and intention. This means carefully choosing the states we occupy, the inner conversations we engage in, and the mental images we entertain. Every act of imagination becomes a sacred opportunity to align with our highest potential.

Imagination is the very gateway of reality.

Goddard's final encouragement is to recognize the "unsearchable riches of Christ" – the infinite creative potential of our imagination. By awakening to this truth and consciously applying the principles and practices outlined in the book, we can transform not only our individual lives but our collective reality. The awakened imagination becomes the vehicle through which we experience the divine promise: "All things are possible to him that believeth."