

# YOUR GREATEST POWER

Our greatest power, according to author J. Martin Kohe in his book *Your Greatest Power*, is the power to choose. This book was written in 1953 and, in my opinion, is one of the all time personal development classics. *Your Greatest Power* sold 250,000 copies and Mr. Kohe conducted hundreds of seminars on the powers of choice during the 1950's. I believe his ideas are even more valuable today than they were in the fifties.

In this first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we face hundreds, nay thousands, more choices than previous generations did. Nevertheless, most of the main choices – the choices that determine our success – are the same. For example, we can choose to:

1. Be positive or negative;
2. Be happy or sad;
3. Be caring or mean;
4. Be enthusiastic or dull;
5. Be ambitious or lazy;
6. Be goal-directed or adrift;
7. Be green and growing or ripe and rotting;
8. Focus on what we can do or what we can't do;
9. Help or hurt;
10. Build up or tear down;
11. Keep the main thing the main thing or do the wrong things;
12. Act our way to a new set of feelings or be frozen with procrastination or fear;
13. Take responsibility for our actions or make excuses;
14. Look for ways to learn and improve or be satisfied with the status quo;
15. Have fun or be glum;
16. Unleash someone's potential or squash it;
17. Do our best or settle for good enough;
18. Encourage or discourage;
19. Help people be right or point out how and why they are wrong;
20. Expect, encourage & embrace change or resist change.

J. Martin Kohe quotes:

“The greatest power a person possesses is the power to choose.”

“Let us choose to believe something good can happen.”

“You possess a potent force that you either use, or misuse, hundreds of times every day.”

“Yes, we are all different: different customs, different foods, different mannerisms, different languages, but not so different that we cannot get along with one another; if we disagree without being disagreeable.”