



## CHAPTER 1

# INTRODUCTION

THIS BOOK WILL provide some details of my life before Dr. Dyer passed to the other side and how my life changed after that fact. In this book, I will explain how Dr. Dyer changed my life after he left his earthly body. I am an ordinary person who was touched by an extraordinary human being. I was born in the 1970's, into a generation known as Generation X.

There are a lot of stereotypes about Generation X, including that this generation is apathetic and disaffected, but for all the negative stereotypes, Generation X grew up with both parents working. Most children in that generation are extremely hardworking and industrious; and have a keen desire for a successful career. I am no exception to the desire for an education, a career, and success.

From an early age, I planned my education, my career, my marital status, and the number of children I was going to have. I had a solid plan for my life. Everything was going just as I planned it. I married my college sweetheart and; although, I did not have the four children that I planned for, I was blessed with two beautiful children.

Yes, my life was going according to my own script. Everything

was happening on time until June 2011. That month, both of my children were diagnosed with developmental conditions and unique medical problems. My son was diagnosed with ADHD and autism. My daughter had hearing problems and doctors were questioning her ability to fully hear due to a hearing defect. My husband and I were starting to doubt that she would ever be able to speak. Both diagnoses happened just three days apart.

I was shocked at both diagnoses, and I felt as if my entire world collapsed. When I received this troubling news, I could not understand why God had placed these problems in my life. I felt hopeless, and I started to lose my zest for living. I started to question God in my life. Did God love me? And finally, I started to question whether God existed at all. I started to become a non-believer and I became skeptical that there was a creator. I believed that I had lived a good life. I worked hard at my job, went to church every Sunday, and prayed to God every day. However, I had lost happiness, my reason for living, and my purpose.

Then, unexpectedly, I got the greatest gift from God that restored my faith, gave me a reason to live, and showed me that God loved me more than ever. And this gift came to me from an unexpected source. His name is Dr. Wayne Dyer. You may have heard of him before. If you haven't heard about him, you are going to learn how this man came into my life in a big way and made such a strong impression on me that I had to write this book. You are going to learn that God truly exists and that God does not make mistakes.

But before I talk about my journey, I am going to introduce you to the man who single-handedly changed who I am and changed the route of my life. Dr. Wayne Dyer wrote several text books. In 1976, he wrote his first mainstream book that broke records and appeared on *The New York Times* best seller's list for several weeks. He has appeared internationally on television and on radio specials. Moreover, he has given seminars and interviews across the entire world.

You might also be familiar with Dr. Wayne Dyer because he was a constant presence on Public Broadcasting Service (PBS). As for his background, Dr. Wayne Dyer was born in 1940, which saw the start of

World War II, one of the bleakest times in history. Dr. Wayne Dyer was the last of three children born on the East Side of Detroit, Michigan to his mother, Hazel Irene Dyer. Dr. Dyer came from humble beginnings because his father, Melvin Lyle Dyer, abandoned him, his mother, and his two brothers.

Hazel Dyer was left with three children and no husband. Her economic position was so dire that she could not afford to provide for her three children, and she had to find a way to ensure that her children were not hungry or otherwise neglected. Eventually, she was forced to make the most difficult decision of her life, and she had to place Dr. Dyer and his brother, David, in foster homes.

I cannot imagine how difficult of a decision it was for Hazel Dyer to put her children's welfare ahead of her own needs as a mother to raise all her children in one house. A mother's most basic wish is to raise all her children. But Hazel Dyer was a determined woman. She first worked as a candy girl at a five-and-dime store, and she would eventually work as a secretary for Chrysler Corporation. When she finally had a better financial situation, she was able to bring Dr. Dyer and David to live with her and she was able to bring her older son, Jim, from his grandmother's house to live with her at her home.

Hazel Dyer eventually re-married a man named Bill Drury, but it was not a happy marriage. Unfortunately, Bill became an alcoholic and abusive. Eventually, Hazel had to divorce this man. This made for a difficult childhood for Dr. Dyer. With this childhood, no one could ever expect what Dr. Dyer was going to become. However, against the odds, Dr. Dyer did not become an ordinary person. In fact, he became an extraordinary person. Make no mistake, Dr. Dyer came into this world to make a difference, and what a difference he made.

After moving back home, Dr. Dyer attended Denby High School. Then, he entered the U.S. Navy at eighteen years of age as did his brother Jim. When Dr. Dyer's assignment in the Navy was completed, he started his studies at Wayne State University and he went on to obtain his Ph.D. in psychology. After receiving his doctorate degree in psychology, Dr. Dyer became a university professor. Dr. Dyer had a successful and prestigious career as a professor. At his university,

he had received tenure which meant that he had obtained guaranteed employment at the university. But one day, Dr. Dyer made the courageous decision to leave the security of being a tenured professor and of having permanent employment.

Dr. Dyer was only thirty-six years old and he had already written three textbooks. Dr. Dyer could have continued working as an esteemed university professor; however, there was something more inside of him, and he knew that he was not meant to continue on as a professor. He knew that he had a calling to teach a worldwide audience on how to transcend self-defeating habits and how to find true inner happiness. Dr. Dyer had studied the work of Dr. Abraham Maslow on self-actualization, and in 1976, he had just written his first mainstream book. Dr. Dyer had an intense desire to share this book with the public. This book is titled *Your Erroneous Zones* and it has sold over a hundred million copies. It happens one of the best-selling international books of all time.

Because of his courageous decision to leave his guaranteed job at a well-respected university to sell his book, Dr. Dyer succeeded in helping the world in new ways. Dr. Wayne Dyer went on to become a world recognized author and dynamic speaker in the field of self-development. He went on to write several other *New York Times* best-selling books but he also created many video programs, appeared on several national television and radio specials, and became an ombudsman for PBS. He was fondly called the “Father of Motivation” by his worldwide audience.

When Dr. Dyer was young, he watched a popular television show, by Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, called *Life Is Worth Living*. And, Dr. Dyer has certainly proven to me and millions of other people that life is worth living. By the end of this book, you will see Dr. Dyer as I do because I can't imagine there is a better person to prove that *life is worth living*.

This book is going to explain the problems that manifested in my life and how I regained my love for life because of Dr. Dyer. In this book, I will share an intimate portrait of the incredible manner in which Dr. Dyer touched the essence of my soul. Dr. Dyer taught

me that my self-worth is not about having a certain amount of money, owning a certain kind of house, or being a popular person. Instead, my self-worth is determined solely on believing I am worthy. According to Dr. Dyer, every human being has significance and importance. Dr. Dyer proved to me that earthly life has infinite value and that we should make our best efforts to find our life purpose. I have found my soul's purpose, and I couldn't be happier.