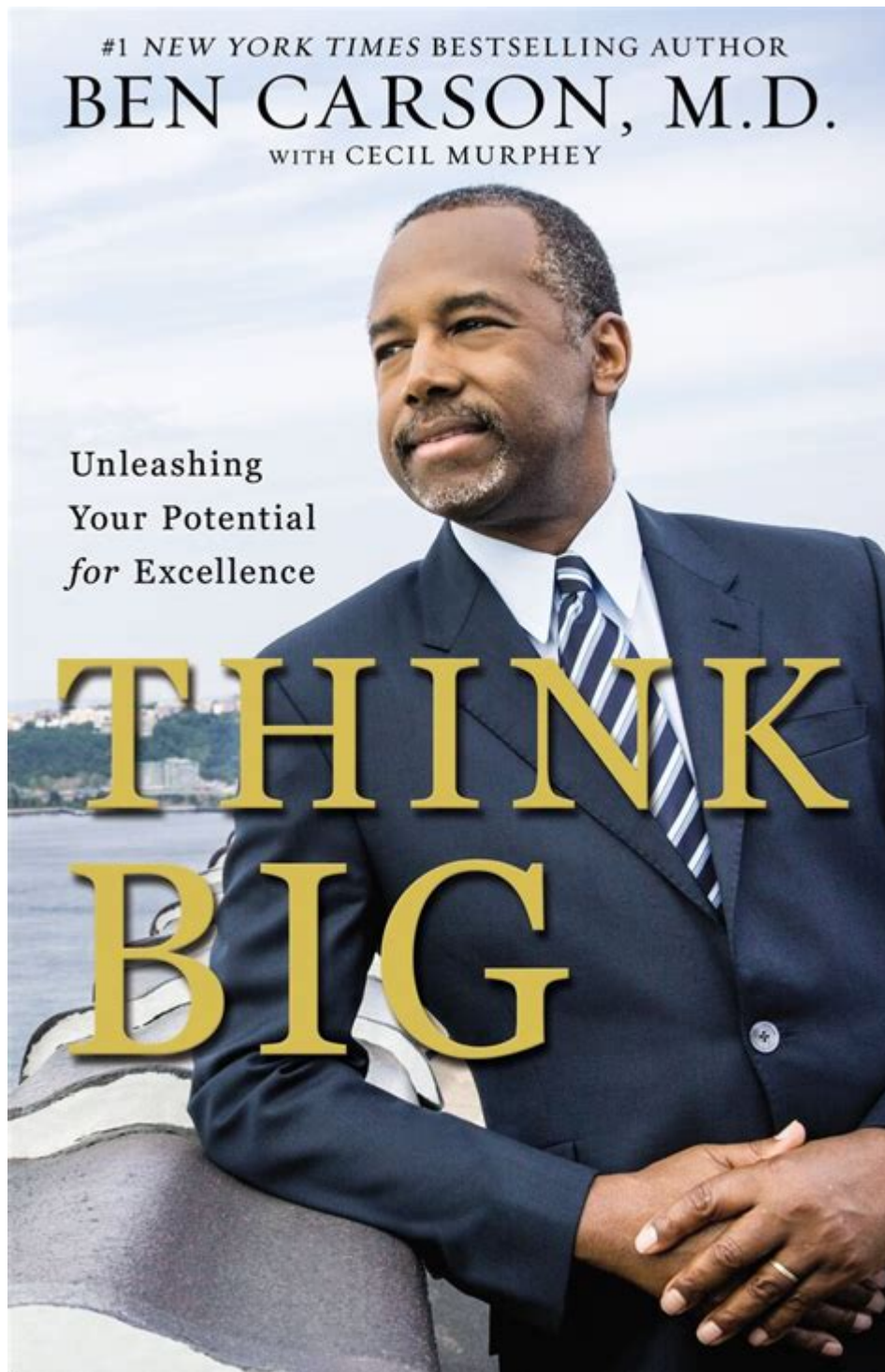


# Dr Ben Carson Think Big



**Dr. Ben Carson: Think Big** is not just a phrase; it encapsulates the philosophy and life journey of one of the most renowned neurosurgeons and inspirational speakers of our time. Ben Carson's life is a testament to the power of dreaming big, overcoming adversity, and achieving excellence in the face of challenges. This article delves into Dr. Carson's early life, his groundbreaking medical career, his philosophy of thinking big, and his impact on society.

# Early Life and Challenges

Dr. Ben Carson was born on September 18, 1951, in Detroit, Michigan. Raised by a single mother, Sonya Carson, he faced significant challenges during his formative years. His mother struggled to provide for him and his brother, often working multiple jobs. Despite their financial hardships, Sonya was determined to instill a sense of education and ambition in her sons.

## Overcoming Adversity

Ben Carson's early academic performance was less than stellar; he struggled with reading and was often ridiculed by his peers. However, his mother encouraged him to read two library books a week and submit written reports on them. This simple yet profound change in routine ignited a passion for learning within him.

Key lessons from his early life include:

- Resilience: Carson learned to persevere despite his struggles, a trait that would serve him well throughout his career.
- Value of Education: His mother's insistence on education laid the foundation for his future success.
- Self-belief: Overcoming the negative perceptions of his intelligence helped him build a strong sense of self-worth.

## Medical Career: A Journey of Innovation

Dr. Ben Carson pursued his medical degree at the University of Michigan, where he graduated in 1977. He specialized in neurosurgery, eventually becoming the Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital at the young age of 33. His medical career is marked by several groundbreaking achievements that exemplify the "Think Big" philosophy.

## Landmark Surgeries

One of Carson's most notable accomplishments was the successful separation of conjoined twins, Patrick and Benjamin Binder, in 1987. The twins were joined at the back of the head and were only 7 months old at the time of the surgery. This complex operation was a testament to Carson's expertise and innovative thinking, as it involved meticulous planning and collaboration with a talented surgical team.

Other significant surgeries and contributions include:

- Hemispherectomy: Carson performed hemispherectomies on patients suffering from severe epilepsy, removing one hemisphere of the brain to alleviate their symptoms.
- Innovative Techniques: He developed several surgical techniques that have been widely adopted in the field of neurosurgery.

## **Philosophy of Thinking Big**

Dr. Carson's mantra, "Think Big," is not merely about ambition; it embodies a holistic approach to life that encompasses various aspects of personal and professional growth. He encourages individuals to cultivate a mindset that fosters creativity, resilience, and a commitment to excellence.

## **Core Principles of Thinking Big**

1. **Set High Goals:** Carson believes in the power of setting ambitious goals. He often emphasizes the importance of aiming high and not being afraid of failure.
2. **Continuous Learning:** A commitment to lifelong learning is essential. Dr. Carson advocates for constantly seeking knowledge and being open to new ideas and experiences.
3. **Embrace Challenges:** Rather than shying away from difficulties, Carson encourages individuals to face challenges head-on. He suggests that overcoming obstacles leads to personal growth and strength.
4. **Serve Others:** A significant aspect of thinking big is the desire to make a positive impact on the lives of others. Carson's philanthropic efforts, including the Carson Scholars Fund, exemplify his commitment to helping young people achieve their dreams.
5. **Faith and Spirituality:** Carson often speaks about the role of faith in his life. He believes that a strong spiritual foundation can provide guidance and strength during difficult times.

## **Impact on Society**

Dr. Ben Carson's influence extends beyond the operating room. He has become a prominent public figure and motivational speaker, sharing his message of hope and inspiration with millions around the globe.

## Public Speaking and Advocacy

Carson's speeches often focus on themes such as perseverance, the importance of education, and the value of hard work. He encourages young people to believe in themselves and strive for excellence, regardless of their circumstances. His approach resonates with audiences of all ages, inspiring many to pursue their dreams.

In addition to his speaking engagements, Carson has authored several books, including:

- "Gifted Hands": His autobiography that chronicles his journey from a struggling student to a world-renowned neurosurgeon.
- "Think Big": A book that expands on his philosophy of thinking big and achieving greatness.

## Political Involvement

In 2015, Dr. Carson entered the political arena as a candidate for the Republican nomination for President of the United States. Although he did not secure the nomination, his campaign was noteworthy for its emphasis on conservative values, education reform, and healthcare policy.

After the election, President Donald Trump appointed Carson as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), where he focused on policies aimed at improving housing opportunities for low-income families.

## Conclusion

Dr. Ben Carson's life is a remarkable story of triumph over adversity, driven by a steadfast belief in the power of thinking big. From his humble beginnings to his groundbreaking medical career and public service, Carson exemplifies the ideals of resilience, ambition, and service to others.

His philosophy encourages individuals to dream without limits, embrace challenges, and seek knowledge relentlessly. As he often states, "You don't have to be a genius; you just have to be willing to work hard."

In a world where challenges abound, Dr. Carson's message is more relevant than ever. By adopting the "Think Big" mindset, individuals can unlock their potential and contribute positively to society, making a difference in their own lives and the lives of others.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is the main message of Dr. Ben Carson's book 'Think Big'?

The main message of 'Think Big' is to inspire readers to pursue their dreams and reach their full potential through hard work, determination, and a positive mindset.

## How does Dr. Carson suggest overcoming obstacles in 'Think Big'?

Dr. Carson emphasizes the importance of maintaining a positive attitude, seeking knowledge, and surrounding oneself with supportive people to overcome obstacles.

## What role does education play in 'Think Big' according to Dr. Carson?

Education is portrayed as a crucial tool for success in 'Think Big', as Dr. Carson believes that continuous learning and self-improvement are essential for achieving one's goals.

## Can you summarize Dr. Carson's acronym 'THINK BIG'?

The acronym 'THINK BIG' stands for: T - Talent, H - Hope, I - Insight, N - Nice, K - Knowledge; B - Books, I - In-depth learning, G - God, which collectively reflects his philosophy on achieving success.

## What personal experiences does Dr. Carson share in 'Think Big'?

Dr. Carson shares his journey from a struggling student to a renowned neurosurgeon, illustrating how perseverance and a strong belief in oneself can lead to remarkable achievements.

## How does Dr. Carson's background influence the themes in 'Think Big'?

Dr. Carson's background as a child from a low-income family, who faced numerous challenges, deeply influences the themes of resilience, determination, and the transformative power of education in 'Think Big'.

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