

# Thoughtlets

by Jim Adams

We are often confronted with facts, including the claimed fact that we have not succeeded. These thoughtlets are about raising our attitude so that we are in a frame of mind where we can succeed. This may mean bypassing the formal system. But we need to know that facts are there, and our will is not always supreme.

Here is our first thoughtlet.

*Getting it wrong is the first stage in getting it right.*

We are often graded, and the objective may seem to be to select and exclude.

*Whatever happens, you are not a number.*

After much investigation, I have come to general conclusions about research.

*Almost everyone is following everyone else, and very few people are creating new ideas.*

*Once an error is promoted in a system, it is very difficult to dislodge.*

*The best results in research are found by persistent curiosity. Intelligence only helps.*

*If an idea is irritating and you are too exhausted to deal with it, consider it may have insight.*

On being a composer.

*You don't have to be a great composer, all you have to be is yourself.*

*Half the people in a bus could create music as good as Beethoven, but they either do not want to do it, or believe what they are told that they can't do it.*

On the human condition.

*If you do not believe in yourself, how can you expect others to believe in you?*

*Planning is better than drift, even if what turns out is usually not what you expect.*

*Ignorance and delusion are universal characteristics, both in individuals and societies.*

*A good question to ask myself is: do I know what I am doing?*

There are two sorts of miracles: possible miracles and impossible miracles.

*By persistent effort, you may be able to achieve a possible miracle.*