

# Have You Heard “The Secret”?

***The Secret* distorts the message of Jesus and the Bible.**

by Tal Davis

Have you ever played the game “Secret”? Ten or more kids sit in a circle. The first one is given a sentence and then turns to the next kid and whispers it into his ear. He then whispers it to the next one and on around until the end. The last kid then announces what she heard to the group. It’s funny how much the sentence changes in its whispered journey around the circle.

## Did You Hear? ...

Most people love to hear or learn secrets. That may explain the popularity of a book called *The Secret*. The author, Rhonda Byrne, has appeared on television

shows like “The Oprah Winfrey Show” and “Larry King Live.” She claims to have rediscovered an old “secret” that guarantees anyone success in business and life. She calls this idea the “law of attraction” and says everything that comes into a person’s life is a result of her thoughts. In other words, any good thing you get is because you believed that it would happen, and it did. She says this is what Jesus and other religious teachers all taught.

For example, suppose you wanted a new video game, so you imagined in your mind that it is yours, and you are playing it. Well, according to *The Secret*, in a short time it will be there! Or, more importantly, if you want to avoid getting the flu or some

other illness, you must always

think of yourself as well, and you will be!

Sounds great doesn’t it? Think good thoughts and good things happen. The problem is that *The Secret* doesn’t explain why bad things happen to people. If we think good thoughts and good things appear, does that mean if we think bad thoughts, bad things happen? According to *The Secret*, it sure does! In fact, bad events are all the result of negative thoughts. For example, if someone gets sick, it must be because she imagined herself that way. With that thought in mind, what about infants who have been stricken with illnesses? Did they think bad thoughts?

## Don’t Follow Distorted Messages

The truth is *The Secret* is like the game of that name. Just as the message gets distorted as it goes around the room, so *The Secret* distorts the message of Jesus and the Bible. The Bible does not teach that if we just think good thoughts good things always happen, or that bad thoughts cause evil things to occur. The Scriptures teach that we must trust in God and live our lives according to His will. We discover His will through His Word and prayer. That’s no secret, and we don’t need to whisper it! ☒

