

SETTING PERSONAL GOALS BY GRACE

Transforming Grace Part 2

WHY ARE GOALS IMPORTANT TO CHANGING MY LIFE?

1. GOAL SETTING IS A SPIRITUAL RESPONSIBILITY.

Paul: "I know that I am not yet what God wants me to be. I haven't reached that goal, but I keep moving toward it to make it mine because Christ made me and saved me for this. I know that I haven't yet reached my goal, but there's one thing I always do. Forgetting the past and straining toward what is ahead, I keep my eyes focused on the goal so that I may one day win the prize that God has called me to receive through Christ in the life above. All of you who are spiritually mature should think this same way, too." Philippians 3:12-15

2. GOALS ARE STATEMENTS OF FAITH.

"According to your faith will it be done to you." Matt. 9:29

3. GOALS FOCUS MY ENERGY.

"I do not run without a goal. I fight like a boxer who is hitting something—not just the air." 1 Corinthians 9:26 (NCV)

4. GOALS KEEP ME GOING.

Job: "I do not have the strength to endure. I do not have a goal that encourages me to carry on." Job 6:11 (NLT)

5. GOALS BUILD MY CHARACTER.

Paul: "...I keep striving toward the goal..." Phil. 3:12 (TEV)

6. GOOD GOALS WILL BE REWARDED.

"If your goals are good, you will be respected."

Proverbs 11:27 (TEV)

"All athletes practice strict self-control. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. So I run straight to the goal with purpose in every step."

1 Corinthians 9:25-26a (NLT)

WHAT KIND OF GOAL DOES GOD BLESS?

3 questions to ask:

1. WILL THIS GOAL HONOR GOD?

"God paid a great price for you. So use your body to honor God." 1 Corinthians 6:20 (CEV)

"When you eat or drink or do anything, always do it to honor God." 1 Corinthians 10:31 (CEV)

"We make it our goal to please Him..." 2 Corinthians 5:9 (NIV)

2. IS THIS GOAL MOTIVATED BY LOVE?

"Everything you do must be done with love." 1 Corinthians 16:14 (NLT)

"Let love be your highest goal." 1 Corinthians 14:1 (NLT)

3. WILL THIS GOAL REQUIRE DEPENDING ON GOD?

"We plan the way we want to live, but only God makes us able to live it." Proverbs 16:9 (Mes)

I NEED GOD'S SPIRIT TO EMPOWER ME.

"You will not succeed by your own strength or power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord." Zechariah 4:6 (NCV)

I NEED GOD'S WORD TO GUIDE ME.

"Keep this Book of the Law on your lips. Recite it by day and by night, that you may carefully follow all that is written in it; then you will successfully attain your goal." Joshua 1:8 (NAB)

I NEED GOD'S PEOPLE TO SUPPORT ME.

"By yourself you're unprotected. But with a friend you can face the worst. And a group of three is even better because a rope braided with three strands is not easily snapped!" Ecclesiastes 4:12 (Mes)