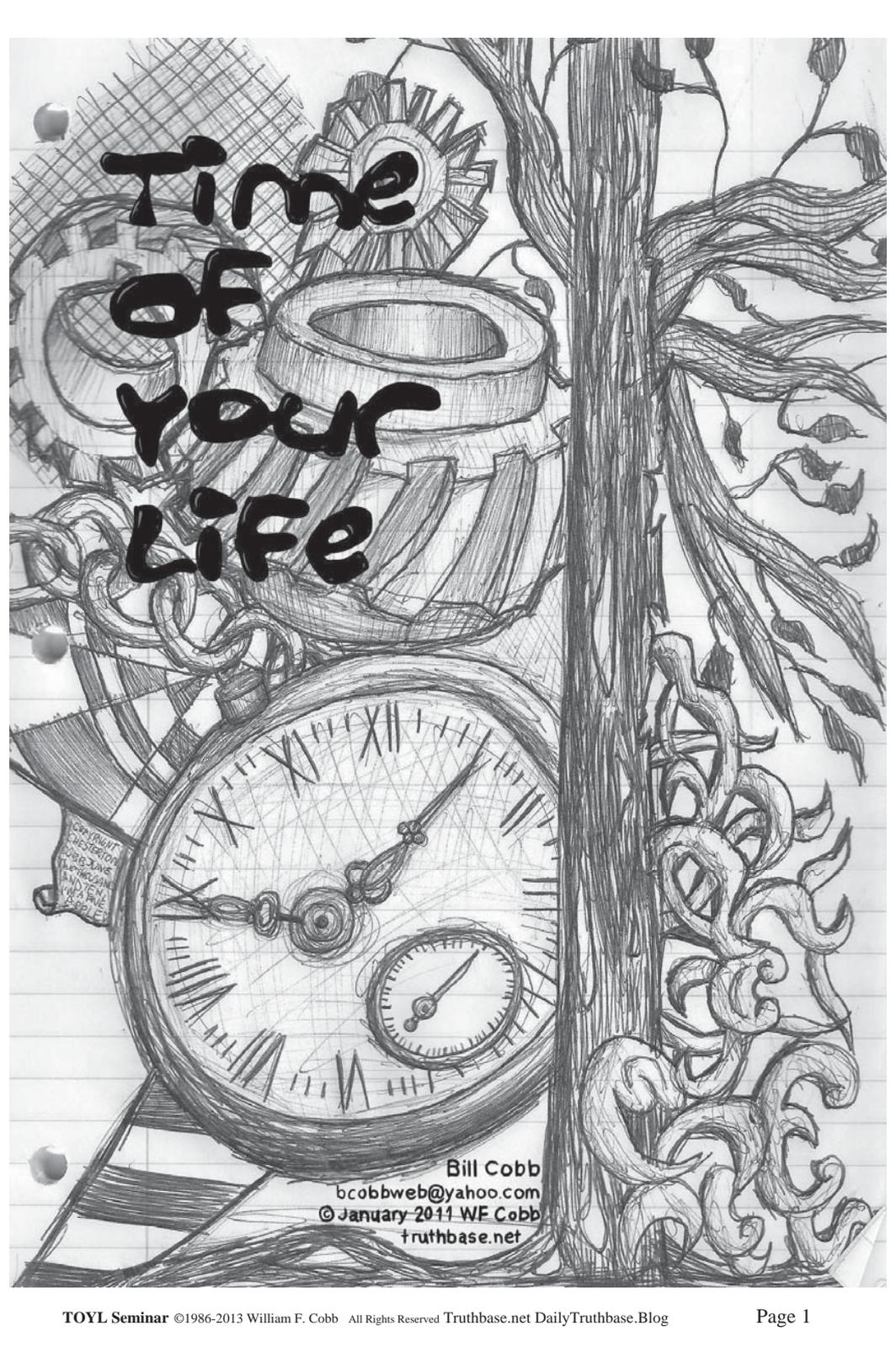
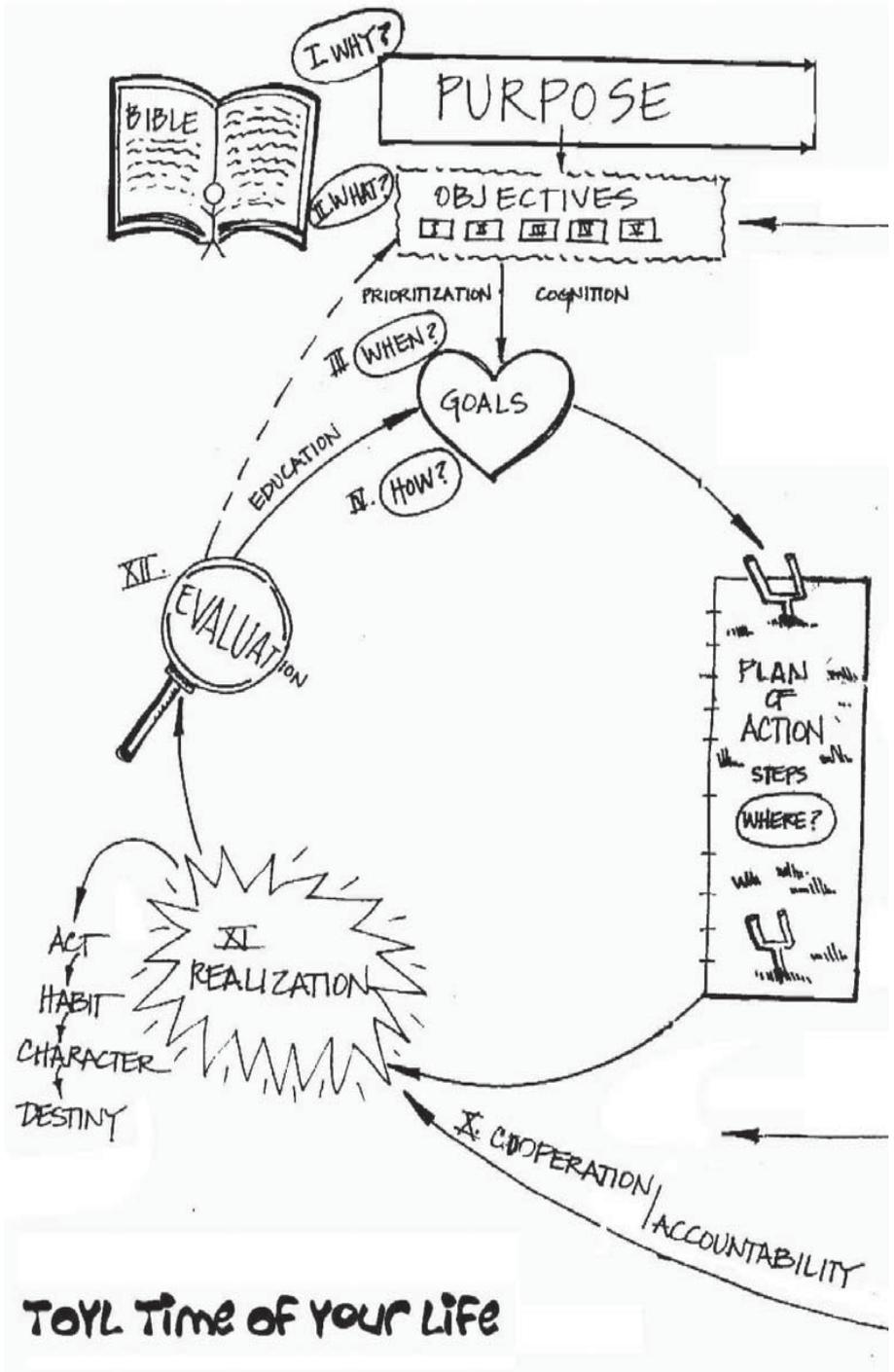


Time of Your Life



Bill Cobb
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truthbase.net



TOYL Time of Your Life

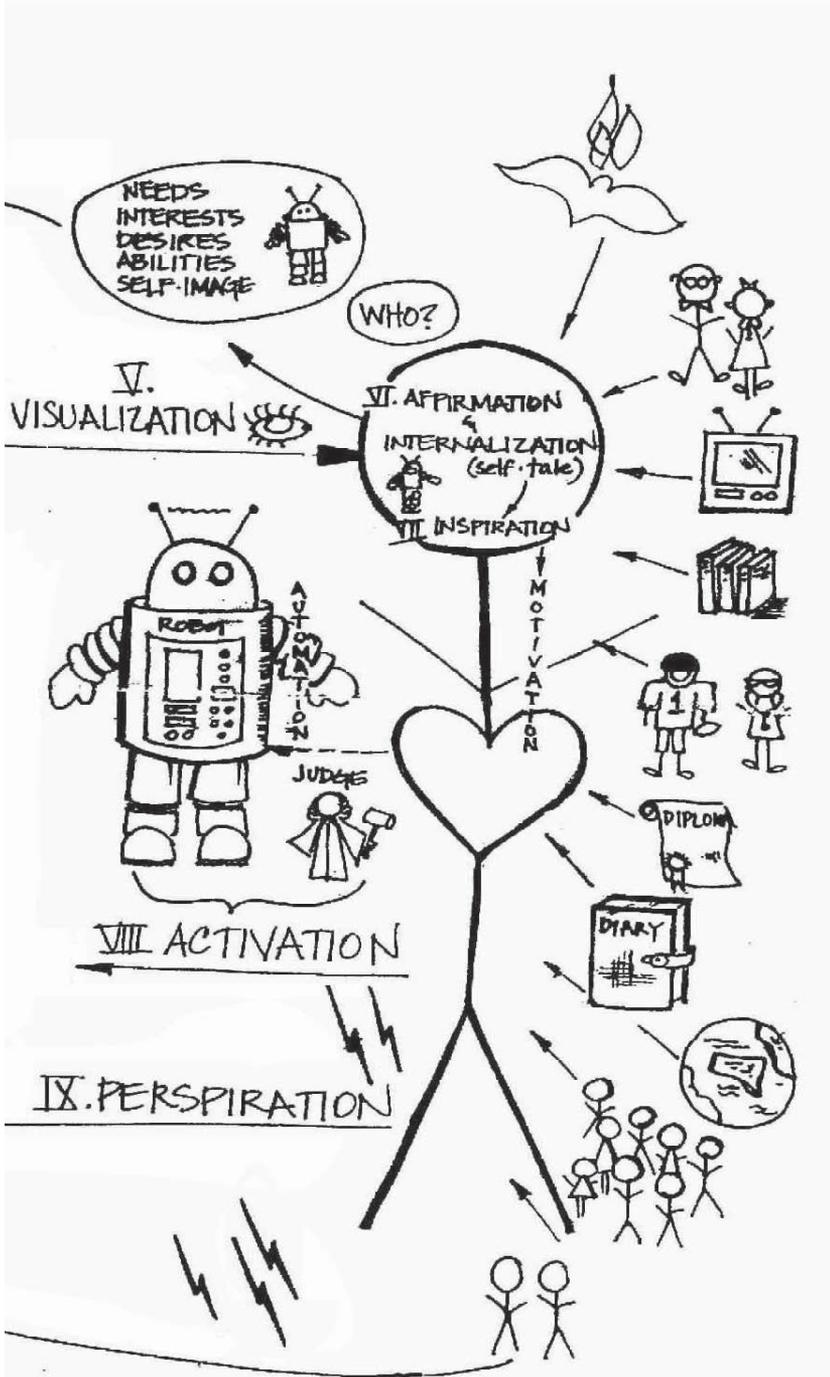


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The Pursuit of Happiness

David G. Myers @ Wm. Morrow Co.

*By scrutinizing the fruit of 100's of painstaking studies we have dispelled some popular but **mistaken** ideas:*

- that few people are genuinely happy
- that wealth buys well-being
- that tragedies, (as disabling accidents), permanently erode happiness
- that happiness springs from the memories of intense, if rare positive experiences (idyllic vacations, ecstatic romances, joy-filled victories)
- that teens and the elderly are the unhappiest people
- that in their early forties, men experience a traumatic mid-life crisis
- that when children leave home, women suffer empty-nest syndrome
- that one sex is happier than the other
- that women's employment erodes the quality of their marriage
- that subliminal tapes provide a happiness quick fix
- that African Americans/women/disabled have poor self-esteem
- that people more feel inferior than superior, low than high self-esteem
- since miserable marriages end in divorce, surviving ones are happier
- that trial marriages reduce the risk of later divorce
- that opposites attract, and continue to find each other fascinating
- that half or more of married people have an affair
- that religious faith suppresses happiness.

*We've also pondered things that **do** enable happiness:*

- fit and healthy bodies
- realistic goals and expectations
- positive self-esteem
- feelings of control
- optimism
- outgoingness
- supportive friendships that enable companionship and confiding
- a socially intimate, sexually warm, equitable marriage
- challenging work and active leisure, punctuated by adequate rest and retreat
- a faith that entails communal support, purpose, acceptance, outward focus, and hope.

The Great American Success Story

George Gallup, Jr. @ Dow Jones-Irwin

Success Lessons

1. Regard material rewards as a by-product not a goal of success
2. Don't plan to rest on your laurels
3. Success Isn't Necessarily a Matter of Genius
4. Place a High Premium on Developing Common Sense
5. Religious Commitment May or May Not Play a Role in Worldly Achievement
6. Don't Expect Success to Fall into Your Lap
7. Develop a Clear Set of Goals
8. Don't Allow Yourself to Get Discouraged by Obstacles to Success in Your Life
9. Look for a Special Person to put You on the Fast Track to the Top
10. Fall in Love with Books
11. Part-Time Work Is an Important Experience for Young People
12. You Can Be a Success in More Than One Field
13. Don't Expect High Achievement to bring Supreme Happiness
14. As you become more successful, begin to share your success with others

Success Personality Traits

1. Being a hard worker
2. Establishing well defined personal goals
3. Ambition - desire to get ahead
4. Common Sense
5. Special knowledge of your field - Broad range of interest
6. Self-reliance (goals & persistence)
7. General intelligence
8. Ability to get things done
9. Leadership
10. Knowing right from wrong
11. Creativity and inventiveness
12. Self-confidence - Not afraid to be different
13. Oral expression
14. Concern for others
15. Tolerance of other view-points
16. Love of reading and lack of TV

Life Management Tasks and Objectives

Why are you at this TOYL seminar?

What do you hope to gain or accomplish by the end of this seminar?

At the end of the first six hours you will:

1. Be able to differentiate: purpose, objectives, and goals
 2. Be able to define Wisdom, Folly, Fear of the Lord
 3. Have written out your purpose for living, and the general direction in which you need to head in order to fulfill that purpose. (*Purpose & Objectives*)
 4. Have written out the steps you need to take ensure that you're obeying the two greatest commands. (*Life Plan*)
 5. Have examined some common but incorrect objectives, and be able to write out your personal objectives (in the areas of work/career, personal relationships, personal growth, spiritual growth, ministry) that mark out the path you need to take to fulfill your purpose. (*Bad/Better/Best*)
 6. Listed some short range and long range goals/activities that will support or help you reach your objectives. (*Purpose & Objectives*)
 7. Have surfaced your top desires and isolated the one on which you wish to take action this year. (*Do This First*)
 8. Have identified your top needs in each Area and taken the 1st step toward meeting each
 9. Have received the tools necessary to do your Work As Worship, heartily as unto the Lord, in faith, and in accord with the way God has created and developed you. (*Work as Worship; Work Worksheet and Evaluation; Discovering your Design; Great Niche Hunt*)
 10. Have seen the Biblical approach to relationships and friendships and been exposed to the skill set and steps necessary to develop relationships which will help you achieve your goals. (*What a Friend We Have in Jesus; Accountability*)
 11. Have been exposed to the Biblical basis of a healthy, positive self esteem and learned how to take the first step to develop it in yourself and others. (*The Magic Jewel of Self-Esteem*)
 12. Have been exposed to the Biblical principles of marriage and set a God-glorifying goal for a marriage made in heaven. (*Marriage is What You Make It*)
 13. Have been exposed to the Biblical purpose of parenting and strategies necessary for achieving it, as well as how to help a child develop the TOYL disciplines. (*Proverbial Parent; What to Stress for Success*)
 14. Have identified the dominant desires that may be the result of the "Spirit of God being at work in you to produce the willing/desiring and doing of His good pleasure." (*Dream Development/Eulogy/Ideal Day*)
 15. Have highlighted your top need in each of the five areas in which you will set goals. (*Evaluation*)
 16. Have learned to determine the Will of God for specific activities in your life. (*Will of God*)
- {Nest page for next six hours}

At the end of the second six hours you will:

17. Have adopted two of the Top Ten Time Savers and rejected five of the Wasters
18. Have learned to set Priorities to achieve His will and say "NO" to activities that don't contribute to your goals and objectives. (*Classification and Prioritization Sheet*)
19. Have developed at least two SMART (Specific, Measurable, Activating, Realistic, Transforming) Goals to solve a problem or take advantage of an opportunity that contributes to fulfilling your objectives. (*Project Planner*)
20. Have learned to identify the real problem or cause behind some of the common causes of inertia or difficulties in the Christian life. (*Solution Starters*)
21. Have learned to motivate yourself to achieve a Goal you've been having difficulty accomplishing. (*Goal Galvanizer; Goal Time Tracker*)
22. Have learned to use the tools to examine where we've failed in achieving a goal that consistently eludes us. (*Goal Autopsy*)
23. Have been exposed to and irritated by the Lies We Believe which keep us from pleasing God and becoming all He wants us to be. (*Lies We Believe*)
24. Have discovered the process you go through to pursue sin and learned to apply the same process to pursuing righteousness and achieving your goals. (*Artwork*)
25. Have learned and practiced a procedure to be transformed by the renewing of your mind (*Organizer, Affirmations, Sanctification Sheet: Dead & Alive*)
26. Have been exposed to the Ultimate Flexible system for keeping track of all your time commitments and tasks (*TOYL Organizer*)
27. Have learned to identify and decide between the bad, good, and best uses of your time. (*Decision Maker, Organizer*)
28. Have identified your most important goals and determined the consistency between your current efforts and what you want to get out of life. (*Ten Minute Life Changer*)
29. Be able to articulate the 80/20 principle and apply it to each goal area of your life.
30. Have learned to leave tasks undone without anxiety nor guilt. (*Organizer*)
31. To develop a maximum of ideas for projects and solutions in a minimum amount of time. (*Idea Banks*)
32. To keep track of your progress so that you are not deceived nor discouraged. (*Goal Time Tracker*)
33. Learned the basics of ministering to another's needs (*People Pages*)
34. Seen the Career path of the Christian life and been motivated to pursue it. (*Survey of Discipleship; Biblical Church*)
35. Marked out a plan for gaining the basic competencies of the Christian life (*Training Objectives*)
36. Developed a fool-proof methodology for an vibrant and enriching devotional life (*Quiet Time Brainstorm, QT Journal*)
37. Been exposed to a guaranteed method of memorizing and reviewing Scripture (*Scripture Memory Sheet*)
38. Set monthly, weekly, and daily goals. (*Organizer*)
39. Learn how to use an Organizer that prompts you to take steps toward your goals and maintain the disciplines necessary for personal and spiritual growth.

Personality TENDENCIES from Meyers-Briggs Tieger Keirsey

Extrovert (75%) *How you're Energized*
energized by people - initiate
talk a lot - opinions obvious
think out loud-act then reflect
multi-task; easily distracted
animated body language
socially adept; flamboyant
always including others
multiple rlshps "best friends"

Introvert (25%)
like being by self; lonely in a crowd
talk little - opinion pulled out
think reflect edit then act
focus on one task/person at a time
conserve energy good eye contact
socially awkward; subdued
prefer solitude, being alone
limited relationships; depth

Sensing (75%) *How you take in Information*
facts & details; trees
linear sequential thought
focus on past/present experience
clear tangible practical proof
like to make ideas work get done
clear straightforward speech
listen until others finish thought
literal facts and real examples

Intuitive (25%)
connections & implications; forest
creative imaginative "leaps"
gut instinct imagines future
theories concepts possibilities
like to think up ideas, theoretical
complex compound speech pattern
finish others' sentences
figurative, analogies, metaphors

Thinking (60/40%M) *How you make Decisions*
objective; pro/con; impersonal
logical; analytical; thick-skinned
truthful even if it hurts
persuaded by logic; analysis
tough on principle; standards
like debate; assertive
use names & praise sparingly
get right to the point
detached ; clarity; policy

Feeling (60/40%F)
subjective; how feel affected; values
sensitive; empathetic; easily hurt
tactful even if white lie necessary
persuaded by emotional appeal
tender in understanding others
avoid arguments conflict confronting
generous w/ praise and name use
engage in small talk first
involved; harmony; social values

Judging (50%) *How you Organize your world*
like things settled and decided
formal and conventional; plan
tension until quick decision
important to be in control
conscious of time; punctual
very organized; scheduled; definite
neat appearance, car, desk
if in doubt, throw it out; fixed
work before play; enjoy product
driven to finish projects; deadline
serious, planned and structured
resolved, decided, fixed, control
like rules, systems, structure

Perceiving (50%)
like to keep options open
casual and unconventional; adapt/flex
tension in deciding early; adaptable
comfortable with others calling shots
frequently run late; always more time
trouble finding things; tentative
unfinished appearance, messy car, desk
might need it in the future; pending
procrastinate; enjoy process important
energized to start projects; what deadline?
playful, spontaneous and adaptable
pending, wait & see, flexible, adapt
find rules, structure confining and limiting

Myers Briggs Tendencies - Sixteen Personality Types

SP ARTISAN (38%) - Dionysus - *joy*; impulsive; freedom; tools; compulsive **action***; exciting; optimistic; cheerful; aesthetic; negotiator; fire-fighter; Grasshopper; Epicurian ethic "after..read directions"
ESTP: *Promoter*. Action! When present, things begin to happen. Fiercely competitive. Entrepreneur. 13%
God, help me to take responsibility for my own actions, even though they're usually NOT my fault.
ESFP: *Entertainer*. Radiates warmth Smooth, charming, clever. Fun to be with. Very generous. 13%
God, help me to take things more seriously, especially parties and dancing.
ISTP: *Artisan*. Impulsive action. Life should be of impulse rather than of purpose.
Action is an end to itself. Fearless, craves excitement, master of tools. Just do it. 5%
God, help me to consider people's feelings, even if most of them ARE hypersensitive.
ISFP: *Artist*. Expression primarily through action/art form. senses are keener than other types. 5%
Lord, help me to stand up for my rights (if you don't mind my asking).

SJ GUARDIAN (38%) - Epimetheus - *duty*; belong (eamed); caretaker; bound & **obligated***; structure prepared; tradition; conversation; responsibility; Ant; stabilizer; order maintainer; ethic: "ain't broke..."
ESTJ: *Administrator*. Much in touch with the external environment. Very responsible. Pillar of strength. 13%
God, help me to not try to RUN everything. But, if You need some help, just ask.
ISTJ: *Trustee*. Decisiveness in practical affairs. Guardian of time-honored institutions. Dependable. 6%
Lord, help me to relax about insignificant details beginning tomorrow at 11:41.23 A.M. E.S.T.
ESFJ: *Seller*. Most sociable of all. Nurturer of harmony. Outstanding host. Everyone's trusted friend. 13%
God, give me patience, and I mean right NOW
ISFJ: *Conservator*. Desires to serve, minister to individual needs - very loyal. Committed to get the job done. 6%
Lord, help me to be more laid back and help me to do it EXACTLY right.

NT RATIONAL (12%) - Prometheus - *power*; able; **competence***; addicted to intelligence; logical; self-critical; demanding; science (understand, control, predict, explain); visionary; builder; "Change is educational"
ENTJ: *Field Marshall*. Basic driving force & need is to lead. Seeks responsibility enjoys being an executive. 5%
Lord, help me slow down and not rush through what I do Amen
INTJ: *Scientist*. Most self-confident-pragmatic. Decides easily. Applies theoretical models. Independent thinker. 1%
Lord, keep me open to others' ideas, WRONG though they may be
ENTP: *Inventor*. Enthusiastic interest in everything; sensitive to possibilities. Non-conformist/innovative. 5%
Lord, help me follow established procedures today. On 2nd thought, I'll settle for a few minutes
INTP: *Architect*. Greatest precision in thought and language. Readily discerns contradictions/inconsistencies. 1%
Lord, help me be less independent, but let me do it my way.

NF IDEALIST (12%) - Apollo - *spirit*; **self-actualization***; becoming; meaning; identity; meaning; integrity; harmony; relationships; catalyst; spokesperson; energizer "I'm here to help."
ENFJ: *Pedagogue*. Outstanding leader of groups. Can be aggressive at helping others to be the best they can. 5%
God, help me to do only what I can and trust you for the rest. Do you mind putting that in writing?
INFJ: *Author*. Strong drive & enjoyment to help others; complex 1%
Lord, help me not be a perfectionist. (did I spell that correctly?)
ENFP: *Journalist*. Uncanny sense of the motivations of others. Life is drama. People are the product. 5%
God, help me to keep my mind on one thing-Look a bird-ing at a time.
INFP: *Questor*. High capacity for caring. Calm & pleasant High sense of honor derived from internal values 1%
God, help me to finish everything I start

See *Art of Speedreading People* Tieger & Tieger, personalitytype.com for more

Dream Development Time Of Your Life Seminar

DO THIS FIRST!!!

On an index card list your top **need** (=something that you and/or God would really like to change about your life) and your top **desire** (=if you could only do/get/have one thing this year, what would it be?).

There's a good chance you'll be able to take significant steps toward solving your need and fulfilling your desire during this seminar. Since chance favors the prepared mind, you'll increase your benefit from the seminar to the degree that you **invest** quality time preparing.

If you spend one solid hour and then two half hours preparing for the seminar you'll reap the benefits for the rest of your life! (Do not consult anyone else until after you've completed all three sessions. Of course if you pray while doing this preparation it would not be considered cheating and might even be a good idea.)

If you don't have a journal or diary to do this preparation you might want to consider using eight and a half by five and a half sized paper...many of the seminar handouts will be that size (like this form).

For ONE SOLID HOUR: Start: _____ Finish: _____

1) *15 minutes* In all probability Santa didn't give you all or exactly what you wanted, so here's another chance. Pretend you're sending your wish list to the North Pole and since you've been nice and not naughty (we **are** pretending) you will be granted everything on your list. What do you want?

List all the things you've ever dreamed of **doing, being, having** or **owning**. Let your imagination run wild. Don't worry about how any of the things will occur. (That's my job...I'll worry for you.)

2) *30 minutes* Rapidly evaluate the five areas of your life (I. Job, II. Relationships, etc.) using the **Evaluation Form** and scale. [Don't do the "Ideal Day" or "Eulogy" (last sheets)]

3) *10 minutes* Write out what you want to do with the remaining years of your life.

4) *5 minutes* Rest from writers cramp.

For ONE HALF HOUR: Start:_____ Finish:_____

1) *15 minutes* Without looking at your previous wish list and desires, create another list of everything you want God to do **with, for, to, or through** your life. Be both carnal and spiritual.

2) *15 minutes* Brainstorm and write down your "**Ideal Day**" (see second to the last sheet of Evaluation Form).

For ONE HALF HOUR: Start:_____ Finish:_____

1) *10 minutes* Repeat either step one above.

2) *5 minutes* Compare your lists and note which items come up on all three.

3) *15 minutes* Write your "**Eulogy**" or how you'd like an article about you to appear in an encyclopedia printed 125 years after you were born (see last sheet of Evaluation Form).

I look forward to helping you have the Time of Your Life,

Bill Cobb

Yearly Evaluation: Agony to Ecstasy

Pr 14:8 The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way, But the folly of fools is deception.

I. Why We Enjoy Self-Deception rather than Evaluation

(Plan/Organize/Supervise/Evaluate -Sell on Change)

*Lam 3:40 Let us search out and examine our ways, And turn back to the Lord
Our worth is tied to the wrong things (product vs process); 2Cor 10:12
We'd rather think we've accomplished something than actually do it 1Cor 10:12
If the guilt fits we alter it. 2Cor 7:10 *godly sorrow produces repentance to salvation,**

II. Why We should Evaluate Ourselves *Gal 6:4 let each one examine his own work and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone*

Map: Knowing where we are is the key to getting where you want to go.
Recognizing and correcting mistakes is the only sure way to avoid repetition 1Cor 11:31 *if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.*

We're commanded to 2Pt 1:10 *brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never fall 11...abundant entrance into the kingdom 2Cor 13:5 Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith...Test yourselves....disqualified*

III. What We should Evaluate: Are we knowing and doing the will of God every day/hour?

Ps 143:8b Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, For I lift up my soul to You.

KEY QUESTIONS TO ASK RE: (See TOYL Goal Autopsy for a more)

A. The Process of Growth and Change – What have I done to make intentional rather than haphazard progress? How have I disciplined myself?

B. Our Purpose - What progress have I made toward fulfilling my purpose to glorify God and my plan to love others?

Eph 5:17 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

C. Work – What value have I added to my employer? For what service am I actually being paid? How have I grown in ability?

Col 3:22-23... in sincerity of heart, fearing God. 23 And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men,

D. Relationships – How have those around me become more like Christ or more pleasing to God as a result of me?

1 Cor 11:28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

Friendships – How am I benefiting and serving my friends? Where would I be tempted to “use” them?

Marriage – How am I meeting each of my spouse’s needs? What does my spouse think/feel? How am I helping my spouse grow?

Parenting – How am I meeting my kid(s)’ needs (Compete/Compensate/Celebrate)? Are they mastering the ABC’s of success?

Co-Workers – What needs have I identified, and how is my plan going to meet them? How am I involving others in the Body?

E. Personal Growth – How have I increased my usefulness to the Master? What would make me sharper/more effective?

Ps 26:2 Examine me, O LORD, and prove/test me; Try/refine my mind and my heart.

IV. Spiritual Growth – Have I become more like Christ this year? Why did I change? What did I specifically do and what happened? Why? How can I better view my life and world from God's perspective?

Fruit *Col 1:9 do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;*

V. Ministry – In whose life am I investing? How am I helping them reach God’s objectives for their life? How am I as an example?

Training Objectives – How have I grown as a disciple and in my ability to disciple others? Lk 6:40

VI. Set New Goals based upon:

A. What you’ve learned from your evaluation, keying in on correcting greatest dangers {Temptations} and maximizing greatest benefit.

B. Input from spouse, children, accountability partner, elders (who watch for your souls). >>> **Shepherding/TOYL Goal**

C. Where the gusts of wind are blowing (*Phil 2:13*) *God is at work in you to will and to do His good pleasure*

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. What makes us look forward to or dread evaluation? How can you change your perspective on the subject?

2. What are some of the dangers of ignoring the symptoms and living in unreality? What brings folks down to earth?

3. What motivates you to evaluate and grow? What makes you reluctant to participate in the process?

4. How do you help someone who doesn’t want to evaluate their lives and change for the better?

5. If your goals were perfectly good for last year, should you change them for this year?

GOAL SETTING & EVALUATION

All success starts with an awareness of need or desire. Use this scale:

5= *Overjoyed, deliriously happy, excellence evident, a model for others.*

4= *Generally pleased, better than average achievement, improvable.*

3= *Minimally complacent, not a model for others, improvement desirable*

2= *Uncomfortable, improvement necessary, poor model for others.*

1= *Urgent need of improvement, dangerously dissatisfied, bad example.*

to evaluate your level of satisfaction with YOUR current:

I. JOB AND CAREER 1 2 3 4 5

A. SPECIFIC FACTORS 1 2 3 4 5

Line of work	1 2 3 4 5	Career path	1 2 3 4 5
Employer	1 2 3 4 5	Progress/Accomplishment	1 2 3 4 5
Potential/Future	1 2 3 4 5	Salary/Benefits	1 2 3 4 5
Educational level	1 2 3 4 5	Experience range/level	1 2 3 4 5
Time/Effort required	1 2 3 4 5	Work environment	1 2 3 4 5
Time/Effort expended	1 2 3 4 5	Knowledge of field	1 2 3 4 5
Can leave job at office	1 2 3 4 5	Periodic evaluation	1 2 3 4 5
Level of productivity	1 2 3 4 5	Degree of effectiveness	1 2 3 4 5
	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5

NEED #1 _____

NEED #2 _____

B. GENERAL SKILLS 1 2 3 4 5

Work heartily as to Lord	1 2 3 4 5	Work as worship	1 2 3 4 5
Long term planning	1 2 3 4 5	System of priorities	1 2 3 4 5
Short term planning	1 2 3 4 5	Organizational skills	1 2 3 4 5
Problem solving skills	1 2 3 4 5	Decision making skills	1 2 3 4 5
Use of creativity	1 2 3 4 5	Interpersonal relations	1 2 3 4 5
Communicational ability	1 2 3 4 5	Reception of direction	1 2 3 4 5
Administration ability	1 2 3 4 5	Reception of criticism	1 2 3 4 5
Able to motivate others	1 2 3 4 5	Follow Up/Through	1 2 3 4 5
Motivational level	1 2 3 4 5	Ability to say "No"	1 2 3 4 5
Supervision of others	1 2 3 4 5	Avoidance of time traps	1 2 3 4 5
Teamwork	1 2 3 4 5	Delegation	1 2 3 4 5
Integrity	1 2 3 4 5	Perseverance	1 2 3 4 5
	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5

NEED #1 _____

NEED #2 _____

II. RELATIONSHIPS 1 2 3 4 5

A. QUANTITY/QUALITY 1 2 3 4 5

With non-believers	1 2 3 4 5	With young believers	1 2 3 4 5
With mature believers	1 2 3 4 5	With family & relatives	1 2 3 4 5
With older people	1 2 3 4 5	With younger people	1 2 3 4 5
With those not like you	1 2 3 4 5	Correspondence/contact	1 2 3 4 5
Depth of involvement	1 2 3 4 5	Level of communication	1 2 3 4 5
Support group	1 2 3 4 5	Dating/Courtship	1 2 3 4 5
_____	1 2 3 4 5	_____	1 2 3 4 5

NEED #1 _____

B. RELATIONAL SKILLS 1 2 3 4 5

Ability to make friends	1 2 3 4 5	Capacity to be a friend	1 2 3 4 5
Communicational ability	1 2 3 4 5	Ability to listen	1 2 3 4 5
Time spent with others	1 2 3 4 5	Accountability	1 2 3 4 5
Sharing of feelings	1 2 3 4 5	Sharing of values	1 2 3 4 5
Acceptance of others	1 2 3 4 5	Affirmation of others	1 2 3 4 5
Interest in others	1 2 3 4 5	Commonality of interest	1 2 3 4 5
Sense of humor	1 2 3 4 5	Restraint/sensitivity	1 2 3 4 5
Trustworthiness	1 2 3 4 5	Confidentiality	1 2 3 4 5
Humility	1 2 3 4 5	Servanthood	1 2 3 4 5
Flexibility/Spontaneity	1 2 3 4 5	Respect of others	1 2 3 4 5
Transparency	1 2 3 4 5	Honesty	1 2 3 4 5
_____	1 2 3 4 5	_____	1 2 3 4 5

NEED #1 _____

NEED #2 _____

C. MARRIAGE 1 2 3 4 5

Role responsibilities	1 2 3 4 5	Goals for marriage	1 2 3 4 5
Commitment level	1 2 3 4 5	Expectations clarified	1 2 3 4 5
Creating romance	1 2 3 4 5	Communication level	1 2 3 4 5
Sex life	1 2 3 4 5	Conflict resolution	1 2 3 4 5
Acceptance experienced	1 2 3 4 5	No public criticism	1 2 3 4 5
Affirmation expressed	1 2 3 4 5	Absence of sarcasm	1 2 3 4 5
Appreciation shown	1 2 3 4 5	Mutual respect	1 2 3 4 5
Sacrificial serving	1 2 3 4 5	Christlike love seen	1 2 3 4 5
Praying together daily	1 2 3 4 5	Time together alone	1 2 3 4 5
Mutual friends	1 2 3 4 5	Activities as a couple	1 2 3 4 5

Mutual edification	1 2 3 4 5	Creative leisure time	1 2 3 4 5
_____	1 2 3 4 5	Top need meeting	1 2 3 4 5
NEED #1	_____		
NEED #2	_____		

D. PARENTING	1 2 3 4 5
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Spouse before children	1 2 3 4 5	Stewardship perspective	1 2 3 4 5
Goals for each child	1 2 3 4 5	Education in the Lord	1 2 3 4 5
Quantity of quality time	1 2 3 4 5	Education in life	1 2 3 4 5
Parent as role model	1 2 3 4 5	Education in academics	1 2 3 4 5
Biblical discipline	1 2 3 4 5	Biblical nurture	1 2 3 4 5
Respect for uniqueness	1 2 3 4 5	Listening to child	1 2 3 4 5
Consistent discipline	1 2 3 4 5	Conveying acceptance	1 2 3 4 5
Affirmation	1 2 3 4 5	Develop self worth	1 2 3 4 5
Peaceful home life	1 2 3 4 5	Develop creativity	1 2 3 4 5
Give freedom to fail	1 2 3 4 5	Encourage friendships	1 2 3 4 5
Use of resources	1 2 3 4 5	Develop responsibility	1 2 3 4 5
Communication skill	1 2 3 4 5	Sense of security	1 2 3 4 5
Exposure to experiences	1 2 3 4 5	Lack of favoritism	1 2 3 4 5
Competent to Compete	1 2 3 4 5	Celebrate Achievements	1 2 3 4 5
Compensate Imperfection	1 2 3 4 5	_____	1 2 3 4 5
NEED #1	_____		
NEED #2	_____		

E. HOMEMAKING	1 2 3 4 5
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Motivational level	1 2 3 4 5	Ministry perspective	1 2 3 4 5
Planning	1 2 3 4 5	System of priorities	1 2 3 4 5
Problem solving	1 2 3 4 5	Decision making	1 2 3 4 5
Organizational ability	1 2 3 4 5	Follow Up/Through	1 2 3 4 5
Ability to say "No"	1 2 3 4 5	Avoidance of time traps	1 2 3 4 5
_____	1 2 3 4 5	_____	1 2 3 4 5
NEED #1	_____		
NEED #2	_____		

F. HOME SKILLS	1 2 3 4 5
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Haven of rest	1 2 3 4 5	Open heart - Open home	1 2 3 4 5
Standards of cleanliness	1 2 3 4 5	Hospitality	1 2 3 4 5
Scheduled pace	1 2 3 4 5	Scheduled cleaning	1 2 3 4 5
Creativity expressed	1 2 3 4 5	Menu planning	1 2 3 4 5
Spatial organization	1 2 3 4 5	Organized shopping	1 2 3 4 5
Decorating/furnishings	1 2 3 4 5	Good neighbor	1 2 3 4 5

Budget	1 2 3 4 5	Record keeping/filing	1 2 3 4 5
Prompt correspondence	1 2 3 4 5	Entertaining	1 2 3 4 5
Community involvement	1 2 3 4 5	Economy/frugality	1 2 3 4 5
Repair and maintenance	1 2 3 4 5	Bills paid promptly	1 2 3 4 5
Variety in meals	1 2 3 4 5	Helper to husband	1 2 3 4 5
_____	1 2 3 4 5	_____	1 2 3 4 5

NEED #1 _____

NEED #2 _____

III. PERSONAL GROWTH	1 2 3 4 5
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A. PHYSICAL	1 2 3 4 5
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Amount of sleep	1 2 3 4 5	Energy level	1 2 3 4 5
Diet/nutrition	1 2 3 4 5	Exercise	1 2 3 4 5
Weight	1 2 3 4 5	Appearance/Grooming	1 2 3 4 5
Clothes/Dress	1 2 3 4 5	Shape/Muscle tone	1 2 3 4 5
Medical Check-ups	1 2 3 4 5	Dental/Vision exams	1 2 3 4 5
_____	1 2 3 4 5	_____	1 2 3 4 5

NEED #1 _____

NEED #2 _____

B. SELF MANAGEMENT	1 2 3 4 5
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Responsible for self	1 2 3 4 5	Time management	1 2 3 4 5
Sense of direction	1 2 3 4 5	Purpose in life	1 2 3 4 5
Long range goals	1 2 3 4 5	Schedule time	1 2 3 4 5
Short range goals	1 2 3 4 5	Record of progress	1 2 3 4 5
Regular evaluation	1 2 3 4 5	Non-hectic pace	1 2 3 4 5
Personal organization	1 2 3 4 5	Able to find things	1 2 3 4 5
On time for appointments	1 2 3 4 5	Spirit of excellence	1 2 3 4 5
Control of habits	1 2 3 4 5	File and keep records	1 2 3 4 5
Adequate savings plan	1 2 3 4 5	Retirement plan	1 2 3 4 5
Balanced budget	1 2 3 4 5	Use of possessions	1 2 3 4 5
Standard of living	1 2 3 4 5	Personal discipline	1 2 3 4 5
_____	1 2 3 4 5	_____	1 2 3 4 5

NEED #1 _____

NEED #2 _____

C. SELF DEVELOPMENT 1 2 3 4 5

Cultural awareness	1 2 3 4 5	Reading program	1 2 3 4 5
Cultural appreciation	1 2 3 4 5	Reading of biographies	1 2 3 4 5
Aware of current events	1 2 3 4 5	Reading of classics	1 2 3 4 5
Social interaction	1 2 3 4 5	Creative use of leisure	1 2 3 4 5
Travel experience	1 2 3 4 5	Ability to recreate	1 2 3 4 5
Self development program	1 2 3 4 5	Hobby/relaxation time	1 2 3 4 5
Control of TV viewing	1 2 3 4 5	Listen to cassettes	1 2 3 4 5
Educational level	1 2 3 4 5	Keeping of a diary	1 2 3 4 5
Positive outlook	1 2 3 4 5	Personal integrity	1 2 3 4 5
Enthusiasm for life	1 2 3 4 5	Trustworthiness	1 2 3 4 5
Flexibility	1 2 3 4 5	Balance	1 2 3 4 5
_____	1 2 3 4 5	_____	1 2 3 4 5
_____	1 2 3 4 5	_____	1 2 3 4 5
NEED #1 _____			NEED #2 _____

IV. SPIRITUAL LIFE 1 2 3 4 5

A. KNOWLEDGE 1 2 3 4 5

Goals for spiritual life	1 2 3 4 5	Daily devotional time	1 2 3 4 5
Prayer list/journal	1 2 3 4 5	Knowledge of God	1 2 3 4 5
Quiet time journal	1 2 3 4 5	Knowledge of His word	1 2 3 4 5
Love for God	1 2 3 4 5	Breadth of knowledge	1 2 3 4 5
Enjoyment of God	1 2 3 4 5	Depth of knowledge	1 2 3 4 5
Eternal perspective	1 2 3 4 5	Statement of purpose	1 2 3 4 5
Bible reading program	1 2 3 4 5	Major Bible themes	1 2 3 4 5
Bible study program	1 2 3 4 5	Bible study skills	1 2 3 4 5
Scripture memory program	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Small group
Bible study	1 2 3 4 5	Exposure to teaching	1 2 3 4 5
Meditation on Scripture	1 2 3 4 5	Derive applications	1 2 3 4 5
Feed self from Scripture	1 2 3 4 5	Love God w/ all mind	1 2 3 4 5
Topical/Character studies	1 2 3 4 5	_____	1 2 3 4 5
_____	1 2 3 4 5	_____	1 2 3 4 5
NEED #1 _____			
NEED #2 _____			

B. UNDERSTANDING 1 2 3 4 5

See fruit of the Spirit	1 2 3 4 5	Sanctified life	1 2 3 4 5
Christ-like character	1 2 3 4 5	Control of temper/moods	1 2 3 4 5
Control of attitudes	1 2 3 4 5	Control of tongue	1 2 3 4 5
Under Biblical authority	1 2 3 4 5	Biblical self concept	1 2 3 4 5
Freedom from anxiety	1 2 3 4 5	Freedom from the flesh	1 2 3 4 5
Contentment	1 2 3 4 5	Freedom from things	1 2 3 4 5
Can break a habit	1 2 3 4 5	Can build a habit	1 2 3 4 5
Sacrificial lifestyle	1 2 3 4 5	Spirit controlled life	1 2 3 4 5
Sacrificial giving	1 2 3 4 5	Regular applications	1 2 3 4 5
Accountable for growth	1 2 3 4 5	Biblical disciple	1 2 3 4 5
Specific spiritual growth	1 2 3 4 5	Specific change in life	1 2 3 4 5
Acceptance of self	1 2 3 4 5	Acceptance of others	1 2 3 4 5
Living for future	1 2 3 4 5	Denial of self	1 2 3 4 5
Abiding obedience	1 2 3 4 5	Learning from others	1 2 3 4 5
Dependent trust	1 2 3 4 5	Work of faith	1 2 3 4 5
Labor of love	1 2 3 4 5	Under authority	1 2 3 4 5
_____	1 2 3 4 5	_____	1 2 3 4 5
NEED #1 _____			
NEED #2 _____			

V. MINISTRY 1 2 3 4 5

Motivation to serve	1 2 3 4 5	Awareness of needs	1 2 3 4 5
Exposure to needs	1 2 3 4 5	Skill to meet needs	1 2 3 4 5
Skill in evangelism	1 2 3 4 5	Take interest in others	1 2 3 4 5
Plan for evangelism	1 2 3 4 5	Prayer for evangelism	1 2 3 4 5
Apologetics skill	1 2 3 4 5	Can follow-up a convert	1 2 3 4 5
Discipleship skill	1 2 3 4 5	Can teach truth	1 2 3 4 5
Making disciples	1 2 3 4 5	Practicing hospitality	1 2 3 4 5
Counseling	1 2 3 4 5	Serving others	1 2 3 4 5
Confronting	1 2 3 4 5	Church service	1 2 3 4 5
Comforting	1 2 3 4 5	Personal ministry	1 2 3 4 5
Teamwork/unity	1 2 3 4 5	Imparting vision	1 2 3 4 5
Leadership skill	1 2 3 4 5	Social action	1 2 3 4 5
Local missions awareness		1 2 3 4 5	Local
missions support	1 2 3 4 5		
Foreign missions	1 2 3 4 5	Foreign mission support	1 2 3 4 5
Political involvement	1 2 3 4 5	Responsible citizenship	1 2 3 4 5
Ministry to community	1 2 3 4 5	Ministry to world	1 2 3 4 5
NEED #1 _____			

NEED #2 _____

Goal Setting: IDEAL DAY

Take five minutes to close your eyes, relax and imagine what an ideal, day, week, or month would **look** like for you twenty years from now...then fill this page with what you **saw** in your imagination:

Goal Setting: EULOGY

Assume you live a full three-score and ten years. What do you wish to have accomplished in exchange for your **remaining** years? Do your minister a favor and write a brief **future** biographical sketch you'd like him to read at your funeral. (Start with what you were doing just before you died and work your way back to the present):

Seminar Overview

- I. Purpose
- II. Objectives
- III. Priorities
- IV. Goals
- V. Visualization
- VI. Affirmation/Internalization

- VII. Inspiration
Motivation
Automation
- VIII. Decision
Activation
- IX. Perspiration
Self-Discipline
- X. Cooperation
Friendship
Accountability
- XI. Realization
Achievement
- XII. Evaluation

Overview/Flowchart

Stage 1. Research and Development

TOYL Tools	-Evaluation & Goal Setting (Needs/Desires) -Purpose & Objectives -Idea Bank -Project Planner -Goal Sheet
------------	--

TOYL Tasks ***Brainstorm; Review; I/B Deposits; Read; Plan**

Stage 2. Marketing/Sales

TOYL Tools	-Decision Maker -Goal Galvanizer/Goal Achievement Steps -Affirmation
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TOYL Tasks *Review; Affirm; Visualize; Pray; Read

Stage 3. Manufacturing

TOYL Tools	-Weekly/Daily Organizer -Instructions -People-Project F/U Page
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TOYL Tasks *Plan; Prioritize; Schedule; TOYL-Time Log

Stage 4. Accounting

TOYL Tools	-Time Tracker -Scorekeeper -Journal -Scripture Memory Sheet -Prayer Page -Quiet Time Highlight -Reading List -Budget
------------	---

TOYL Tasks *Record; Score; Accountability

Purpose and Objectives

The purpose for which God created me is....

My plan to bring God glory is....

My plan to love others (sacrificially do what's in their best interest - serve to help them achieve God's objectives for their lives) is...

I. My Work & Career objective is...

This objective contributes to my life purpose and life plans by...

This objective may/will be achieved by the following goals:

Long Range

Short Range

II. My Relationships objective is...

This objective contributes to my life purpose and life plans by...

This objective may/will be achieved by the following goals:

Long Range

Short Range

III. My Personal Growth objective is...

This objective contributes to my life purpose and life plans by...

This objective may/will be achieved by the following goals:

Long Range

Short Range

IV. My Spiritual Life objective is...

This objective contributes to my life purpose and life plans by...

This objective may/will be achieved by the following goals:

Long Range

Short Range

V. My Ministry objective is...

This objective contributes to my life purpose and life plans by...

This objective may/will be achieved by the following goals:

Long Range

Short Range

VI. My _____ objective is...

This objective contributes to my life purpose and life plans by...

This objective may/will be achieved by the following goals:

Long Range

Short Range

TEEN TOYL OBJECTIVES/COMPETENCIES

This is a supplement to the TOYL Evaluation, tailored for Teens contemplating college. Understand and set Life Purpose, Life Plan, and Objectives in the Five Areas, in writing. Order life soundmindedly to reach objectives. (*Major emphasis for believers in Titus*)

I. Work Objective – to help you fulfill you Life Purpose and Plan

1. Start Discovering your Design and exploring areas where you can be a good steward of how God's made you. (attached)
2. Articulate the reasons for and against going to college. (influence and ministry, see reasons for working)
3. Compete: Master the SAT vocab, math, and writing (Up Your Score, is a great fun punny approach)
4. Compensate: develop interests and skills where God has uniquely gifted you, as a good steward.
5. Learn what it takes to get in (The Truth about Getting In, by Amy Cohen gives specific skill set, transcript, timetable, and motivation)
6. Learn to read on all levels (Evelyn Wood Speedreading book; Mortimer Adler, How to Read a Book, BC Textbook Study)
7. Learn to speak and write (see attached) Get language proficiency early. Master note-taking, test-taking and studying skills.
8. Understand the foundations for philosophy, economics, politics, history, religion, etc., with Biblical integration.
(Read a Western Civilization textbook and develop your own timeline.)

II. Relationships– to help you fulfill you Life Purpose and Plan

1. Commit to Purity and Obedience (Not defraud, Not waken love, Abstain from every appearance of evil)
2. Articulate a Biblical Philosophy of Relationships and Dating. Understand the Relationships timeline (attached)
3. Develop a sense of worth and approval from God so you're not using others to boost your ego or self-worth
4. Deepen your relationship with God as you obey His objective will so you'll be better able to discern His subjective will.
5. Learn and practice the skills of other-centered friendship and influence, as you wisely choose friends.
(Myers-Briggs: Art of Speedreading People, Tieger PersonalityType.com, is the best, objective, verifiable way of understanding tendencies)
6. Develop accountability relationships which will endure.
7. Practice your skills of other-centered serving with your family. (Eph 4:29)
8. Be Blessable as you trust God for bringing about His perfect will regarding a mate

III. Personal Growth– to help you fulfill you Life Purpose/Plan

1. Proactively plan and manage your time so you can hit an objective without prodding. (Seven Habits for Teens – Covey)
2. Learn how to use a watch and calendar to be where you're supposed to be when you're supposed to be.
3. Develop lifelong habits of exercise, sleep, nutritiously fueling your body (learn to cook and eat healthily), Biblical budgeting, laundry.
4. Learn and practice the etiquette and manners of polite, civilized society. (meet, greet, give/receive complements, thank-you notes, etc.)

IV. Spiritual Growth– to help you fulfill you Life Purpose and Plan

1. Master the core disciplines of the Spiritual Life necessary for a relationship with God. (7 “Discipleship Passages”)
2. Develop competencies in the Training Objectives, so that you can pass them on to others.
3. Learn how to do inductive Bible study using the OnlineBible.org (free)
4. Learn to accept yourself, and build you self-worth and value via your relationship with your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
5. Learn to respond to authority, suffer for doing what's right, and be immune to peer pressure.
6. Learn how to cope with failure and disappointment, avoiding laziness and perfectionism. If it's worth doing, it's worth doing poorly sometimes.
7. Be Blessable as you practice sacrificial serving

V. Ministry– to help you fulfill you Life Purpose and Plan

1. Articulate a Biblical Philosophy of Ministry
2. Know how to share the bridge illustration from memory (as well as using a Bible).
3. Guide someone through the 7 Discussions answering the basic questions non-Christians ask (I'm Glad You Asked, Boa/Moody)
4. Be able to lead a study through the 7 “Discipleship Passages” necessary for developing reproductive disciples
5. Learn how to identify and refute various world views (Particularly Islam, Judiasm, “liberal” Catholicism and Protestantism, cults)
6. Start ingraining the Laws of Leadership (POSE Plan, Organize, Supervise, Evaluate) as you build leadership character
7. Practice subordinating preferences to a higher objective in becoming all things to all men/women.

Purpose and Objectives Worksheet (bad/better/best)

WHY? - MY LIFE PURPOSE

Bad: To exist for the next 24 hours in a relatively healthy/comfortable state

To die with the most toys

To find security and significance outside of God

To be happy (by gratifying my desires in any way I can)

Better: To get to heaven and glorify God

To invest my life in the things that will outlast it

To know, love, and serve God

To increase God's reputation in the eyes of others as they experience Christ at work in and through my life

To reap maximum blessing through maximum obedience

Best:

How? MY LIFE PLAN...To Bring Glory To God & Love Others

Bad: To maximize my potential; To turn every situation to my advantage

To experience everything under the sun (Go for the gusto)

To leave the world a better place than I found it

To be a nice person so others will like me

To be the best (or at least better than someone else)

To fully live every moment as if it were my last

Better: To love God with all my heart, mind, soul and strength & my neighbor as myself

To influence the world around me for Jesus Christ by being His disciple

To grow in Christlikeness and help others do the same (disciplemaking)

Best:

I. MY WORK OBJECTIVE

Bad: To meet my needs and satisfy my desires for power, pleasure, & possessions

To make as much money as I can without going to jail

To help the economy by obtaining the means to be a good consumer

To find security, significance, self-worth, and pleasure outside of my relationship with God

Better: To do my work heartily as unto the Lord knowing He'll reward me

To find a job I can love which gives me time and money to pursue my life plan

To fund my life purpose and plan by profitably serving the needs of others

To utilize the unique abilities God's given me to expand my sphere of influence (improve my value to God and others) and capacity for service

Best:

II. MY RELATIONSHIPS OBJECTIVE

Bad: To get my needs for _____ met through others (stimulation, fun, security, fulfillment, companionship, etc.)

To never be hurt or vulnerable and to be accepted and supported unconditionally
To please others so they'll like me

Better: To develop intimate, transparent, and accountable relationships which stimulate Christlikeness

Best:

III. MY PERSONAL GROWTH OBJECTIVE

Bad: To prove how good I am or can be

To be interesting or admired by others

To be the best I can be, so I'll like myself or be secure

Better: To maximize my time by increasing my skill level in living

To progressively increase my usefulness to my Master

To insure that my time and life aren't squandered on the mundane

To grow in wisdom and stature and favor with God and man like Jesus did

To broaden my ability to relate and minister to others by systematizing, sharpening, and stretching myself

Best:

IV. MY SPIRITUAL GROWTH OBJECTIVE

Bad: To be ever learning and never applying the Truth

To get some of the benefits of Christianity without forsaking any of the world's

To clean up the externals without changing the internals of my life (be comfortable)

Better: To master the Word and be mastered by it

To be transformed into the likeness of Christ

To know Christ and make Him known

Best:

V. MY MINISTRY OBJECTIVE

Bad: To pay back God for my salvation

To increase my feelings of self-worth based on what I do

To please and be accepted by my peer group

To win the world for Christ and bring in the Kingdom without the King

Better: To work out my faithfulness in obeying the commands of Christ

To love others as God has loved me, desiring their best

To enable others to live their lives so they'll be maximally blessed

To hear the words "Well done, my good and faithful servant!"

Best:

How to Glorify God -- Biblical Life Purpose & Plan

Why do you go to work? Why should you go on living?

- Isa 43:7 everyone called by my name, whom **I created for my glory**, whom I formed and made 21 people **I formed for myself** that they may proclaim my praise.
- Rom 8:29...predestined to be **conformed to the likeness** of his Son...
- Jn 4:34 My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his **work**.
- ⇨ Jn 17:4 I have brought you **glory** on earth by completing the **work** you gave me to do.
- Ac 20:24 I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and **complete the task** the Lord Jesus has given me--the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace.
- ⇨ 1Cor 10:31 So...**whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God**.
- 2Cor 5:9 So we make it our **goal to please** him... 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.
- Eph 2:10 For we are God's workmanship, **created** in Christ Jesus **to do good works**, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Glory → liver...important...paying the cost to turn on the lights to make God look good.

God is inherently glorious. He is glorified whenever He is seen or shows up.

We can bring Him glory by:

- 1) Living our lives in such risky dependence upon God that He regularly intervenes in answering our prayers;
- 2) Proclaiming to others how God has revealed Himself both in answering our prayers and in His Word;
- 3) Demonstrating the character of God in our own lives so He is revealed through us to others (now and then);
- 4) Acknowledging the supreme worth of God through our unreserved heart-mind-soul-strength obedience;
- 5) Developing Christlike character in others (disciple-making) so the above means can be multiplied.

TWO Greatest Commands = Love God...Love Neighbor Mt 22:37-39

Questions for Discussion/Reflection/Response?

Why is it crucial to clearly state and examine our purpose and objectives? If someone says: "I don't have any objectives or life plan," what are they really saying? What's "wrong" with each of the "bad" objectives (see Bad/Better/Best Sheet)? What components should go into each of the "best" objectives? **How are you planning to obey the two greatest commands? Is it a written plan?** What activities do you have the hardest time fitting into your Life purpose and plan?

TOYL VALUES to Support your Purpose & Objectives

Discuss one a week; which is a higher value and why?

How does embracing this value guide you and help achieve your purpose and goals?

Who you are vs who you know, what you know, what you do, your hair-do

PURPOSE

Eternal/Temporal (*Security/Significance*), *Pleasure, Possessions*

Proactive/Reactive

Process/Product

Purposeful sacrifice/Self-preservation

Commitment/Consideration

WORK

Service/Status

Godliness/Gold

Quality/Quantity

Results/Activity

Team-building/Task-mastering

RELATIONSHIPS

Fearing & Pleasing God/People

Love/Like

Interdependence/Independence

Edification/Entertainment

Listening/Talking

PERSONAL GROWTH

Smarter/Harder

Purposeful Planning/Passion

Self-discipline/Self-indulgence

Evaluation/Escapism

Stewardship/Squandering

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Roots/Leaves

Christlike Character/Couchlike Comfort

Change/Security

Wisdom/Wealth

Holiness/Happiness

MINISTRY

Depth/Breadth

Discipleship/Evangelism

Identity/Performance

Accountability/Acceptance

Compassion/Correction

Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Phil 2:12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. 14 Do all things without complaining and disputing, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 flesh out the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

Biblical Basis of TOYL

I. PURPOSE

Isa 43:7 Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him. 21 This people have I formed for myself; they shall show forth my praise.

Jn 4:34 "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his **work**. 17:4 I have brought you glory on earth by completing the **work** you gave me to do.

Acts 20:24 However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and **complete the task** the Lord Jesus has given me--the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace.

1Cor 10:31 So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

2Cor 5:9 So we make it our **goal to please** him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Eph 2:10 For we are God's workmanship, **created** in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

II. OBJECTIVES

Ps 90:3 You turn men back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, O sons of men." 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night. 5 You sweep men away in the sleep of death; they are like the new grass of the morning--9 All our days pass away under your wrath; we finish our years with a moan.

Ps 90:10 The length of our days is seventy years--or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but TOYL and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away. 11 Who knows the power of your anger? For your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you.

Ps 90:12 Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. 17 May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us--yes, establish the work of our hands.

Eph 5:15 Be very careful, then, how you live--not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

Pr 9:9 Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man and he will add to his learning. 10 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

III. PRIORITIES

ECC 3:1 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: 2 a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, 3 a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, 4 a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, 5 a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, :6 a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, 7 a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, 8 a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace. 9 What does the worker gain from his TOYL?

Mt 6:33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Mk 1:35 Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. 36 Simon and his companions went to look for him, 37 and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" 38 Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else--to the nearby villages--so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." 39 So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

Mk 12:29 "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.*' There is no commandment greater than these."

1Cor 3:10 By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an WISE builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. 11 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, 13 his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. 14 If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. 15 If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.

IV. GOALS & PLANNING

ECC 11:6 Sow your seed in the morning, and at evening let not your hands be idle, for you do not know which will succeed, whether this or that, or whether both will do equally well.

Phil 3:10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, to

attain to the resurrection from the dead. 12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. 13 Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, **14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize** for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. 15 All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. 16 Only let us live up to what we have already attained. 17 Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you.

V. VISUALIZATION

Pr 23:7* Or for as he thinks within himself, / so he is;

Phil 4:8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things. 9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me--put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

Col 3:1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. :3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

1Pt 1:13 Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed.

VI. AFFIRMATION

Rom 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual/reasonable act of worship. **2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.** 3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.

VII. INSPIRATION/MOTIVATION

Pr 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. (Or will direct your paths)

Pr 16:26 The laborer's appetite works for him; his hunger drives him on.

Phil 2:12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed--not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence--continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,

Phil 2:13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

VIII. DECISION/ACTIVATION

Job 4:8 observed, those who plow evil and those who sow trouble reap it.

ECC 11:6 Sow your seed in the morning, and at evening let not your hands be idle, for you do not know which will succeed, whether this or that, or whether both will do equally well.

Hos 10:12 Sow for yourselves righteousness, reap the fruit of unfailing love, and break up your unplowed ground; for it is time to seek the Lord, until he comes and showers righteousness on you.

2Cor 8:11 Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means.

Gal 6:7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8 The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

IX. PERSPIRATION/SELF-DISCIPLINE

Pr 5:21 a man's ways are in full view of the Lord, and he examines all his paths

Pr 6:6 Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! 7 It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, 8 yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest. 9 How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep? 10 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest-- Pr 6:11 and poverty will come on you like a bandit and scarcity like an armed man

Pr 13:4 The sluggard craves and gets nothing, but the desires of the diligent are fully satisfied.

Pr 15:19 The way of the sluggard is blocked with thorns, but the path of the upright is a highway.

Pr 19:24 The sluggard buries his hand in the dish; he will not even bring it back to his mouth!

Pr 20:4 A sluggard does not plow in season; so at harvest time he looks but finds nothing.

Pr 22:13 The sluggard says, "There is a lion outside!" or, "I will be murdered in the streets!"

Pr 24:30 I went past the field of the sluggard, past the vineyard of the man who lacks judgment; 31 thorns had come up everywhere, the ground was covered with weeds, and the stone wall was in ruins. 32 I applied my heart to what I observed and learned a lesson from what I saw: 33 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest-- 34 and poverty will come on you like a bandit and scarcity like an armed man

Pr 26:13 The sluggard says, "There is a lion in the road, a fierce lion roaming the streets!"

Pr 26:14 As a door turns on its hinges, so a sluggard turns on his bed.

Pr 26:15 The sluggard buries his hand in the dish; he is too lazy to bring it back to his mouth.

Pr 26:16 The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who answer discreetly.

Lk 12:48 But the one who does not know and does things deserving punishment will be beaten with few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.

Gal 5:22 the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal 6:9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

X. COOPERATION/ACCOUNTABILITY

Pr 27:6 Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.

Pr 27:17 As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

ECC 4:9 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: 10 If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!

PHI 2:4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

2TI 2:22 Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

XI. REALIZATION/ACHIEVEMENT

Pr 13:19 A longing fulfilled is sweet to the soul, but fools detest turning from evil.

2Tim 4:7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. :8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day--and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

XII. EVALUATION

Pr 16:2 All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the Lord.

Mt 12:36 But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken.

Rom 14:12 So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.

1Cor 10:12 So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

Pr 14:8 The wisdom of the prudent is to give thought to their ways, but the folly of fools is deception.

2Cor 5:9 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

OTHER VERSES ON PLANNING & WISDOM

GEN 11:6 "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them.

2KI 19:25 "Have you not heard? Long ago I ordained it. In days of old I planned it; now I have brought it to pass, that you have turned fortified cities into piles of stone.

1CH 28:12 He gave him the plans of all that the Spirit had put in his mind for the courts of the temple of the Lord and all the surrounding rooms, for the treasures of the temple of God and for the treasures for the dedicated things. 19 "All this, I have in writing from the hand of the Lord upon me, and he gave me understanding in all the details of the plan."

JOB 17:11 My days have passed, my plans are shattered, and so are the desires of my heart.

JOB 42:2 I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted

PS 20:4 May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed.

PS 33:11 Plans of the Lord stand firm forever, purposes of his heart through all generations.

PS 40:5 Many, O God, are the wonders you have done. The things you planned for us no one can recount to you; were I to speak and tell of them, they would be too many to declare.

Pr 14:22 those who plot evil go astray; those who plan what is good find love and faithfulness.

Pr 15:22 Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.

Pr 16:1 To man belong the plans of the heart, but from the Lord comes the reply of the tongue

Pr 16:3 Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.

Pr 16:9 In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps.

Pr 19:21 Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

Pr 20:18 Make plans by seeking advice; if you wage war, obtain guidance.

Pr 21:5 The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

Pr 21:30 There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the Lord.

ISA 5:19 to those who say, "Let God hurry, let him hasten his work so we may see it. Let it approach, let the plan of the Holy One of Israel come, so we may know it."

ISA 14:24 The Lord Almighty has sworn, "Surely, as I have planned, so it will be, and as I have purposed, so it will stand.

ISA 14:26 This is the plan determined for the whole world; this is the hand stretched out

ISA 22:11 You built a reservoir between the two walls for the water of the Old Pool, but you did not look to the One who made it, or have regard for the One who planned it long ago.

ISA 23:9 The Lord Almighty planned it, to bring low the pride of all glory and to humble all who are renowned on the earth.

ISA 25:1 Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things, things planned long ago.

ISA 29:15 Woe to those who go to great depths to hide their plans from the Lord, who do their work in darkness and think Who sees us? Who will know

ISA 30:1 "Woe to the obstinate children," declares the Lord, "to those who carry out plans that are not mine, forming an alliance, but not by my Spirit, heaping sin upon sin;

ISA 32:8 the noble man makes noble plans, and by noble deeds he stands.

ISA 37:26 "Have you not heard? Long ago I ordained it. In days of old I planned it; now I have brought it to pass, that you have turned fortified cities into piles of stone.

ISA 46:1 From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose. What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do.

JER 18:8 and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and it will not inflict on it the disaster I had planned. 12 But they will reply, 'It's no use. We will continue with our own plans; each of us will follow the stubbornness of his evil heart.'"

JER 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

LAM 2:17 Lord has done what he planned; he has fulfilled his word, which he decreed long ago

AMO 3:7 Lord does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets.

MIC 4:12 But they do not know the thoughts of the Lord; they do not understand his plan, he who gathers them like sheaves to the threshing floor.

ROM 1:13 I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles.

ROM 15:24 I plan to do so when I go to Spain. I hope to visit you while passing through and to have you assist me on my journey there, after I have enjoyed your company for a while.

2CO 1:15 I planned to visit you first so that you might benefit twice. 16 I planned to visit you on my way to Macedonia and to come back to you from Macedonia... 17 When I planned this, did I do it lightly? Or do I make my plans in a worldly manner so that in the same breath I say, "Yes, yes" and "No, no"?

EPH 1:11 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will,

HEB 11:40 God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

LUK 13:32 He replied, "Go tell that fox, 'I will drive out demons and heal people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.'"

GAL 3:3 After beginning with Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort

1PE 1:9 for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Pr 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

Pr 2:6 For the Lord gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

Pr 3:19 By wisdom the Lord laid the earth's foundations, by understanding he set the heavens in place;

Pr 4:5 Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or swerve from them.

Pr 4:7 Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding.

Pr 4:11 I guide you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths.

Pr 8:11 for wisdom is more precious than rubies, and nothing you desire can compare with her. 12 "I, wisdom, dwell together with prudence; I possess knowledge and discretion.

Pr 9:10 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. 12 If you are wise, your wisdom will reward you; if you are a mocker, you alone will suffer." 13 Wisdom is found on the lips of the discerning, but a rod is for the back of him who lacks judgment.

Pr 10:23 A fool finds pleasure in evil conduct, but a man of understanding delights in wisdom.

Pr 15:33 The fear of the Lord teaches a man wisdom, and humility comes before honor.

Pr 16:16 How much better to get wisdom than gold, to choose understanding rather than silver!

Pr 17:24 A discerning man keeps wisdom in view, but a fool's eyes wander to the ends of the earth.

Pr 19:8 He who gets wisdom loves his own soul; he who cherishes understanding prospers.

Pr 23:4 Do not wear yourself out to get rich; have the wisdom to show restraint.

Pr 24:3 By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established;

Pr 24:14 Know also that wisdom is sweet to your soul; if you find it, there is a future hope

Pr 28:26 He who trusts in himself is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom is kept safe.

Pr 29:15 The rod of correction imparts wisdom, but a child left to himself disgraces his mother.

Pr 30:3 I have not learned wisdom, nor have I knowledge of the Holy One.

Pr 31:26 She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

TOYL Project Planner

PROJECT: _____

Goal # _____ **Start:** _____ **Draft #** _____ **Date:** _____

I. Initial Statement of the **Opportunity, Need** or **Problem**

II. Possible **Causes, Obstacles** or **Contributing Factors:**

III. Other Considerations, Constraints, **Motivation:**

IV. **Resources & Others** who need to be involved or can help:

V. **Definition** statement of Opportunity, Need or Problem

VI. **Brainstorm** Solutions/Approaches, **THEN** go back and list:

VII. **Benefits/Disadvantages** of proposals.

VIII. S.M.A.R.T. statement of Proposed solution/approach:

Specific...Measurable...Activating...Realistic...Transforming

"In order to..... I will..... consisting of..... measured by..... by (date)"

IX. **OUTLINE** of Goals to achieve above objective: (Target)

X. Estimated needed resources, time, cost, and **INCENTIVES**:

XI. **Accountability**; Delegation of Authority & Responsibilities:

XII. **Follow-Up/Review** Dates:

XIII. Actual Time & Cost:

XIV. **Evaluation** (what should I know for next time)

Solution Starters for S.M.A.R.T. Goals

Defining the real problem gets you halfway to the solution. INT => I need to

- A. My goals didn't get accomplished → INT save up and then pay the same price as Christ did to do the Father's will. Phil 4:10-17
- B. No one will give me a job → INT identify how it can be in someone's best interest for me to meet their needs. Col 3:24
- C. I need a better job → INT maximize my service in my current sphere and expand my capabilities in areas where there is need
- D. My co-workers throw grenades at me → INT get in the foxholes with them so God can love them through me. 1Pt 2:12,15;3:14-15
- E. My self-worth is poor → INT strive to do what is of value in the Lord's sight. Lk 14:34-35
- F. I don't have enough resources → INT realize that God can create whatever is in my best interest, then use what I've got. Mt 14:17
- G. I don't have enough time → INT stop squandering time on the wrong objectives and start doing **God's will** exclusively. Eph 5:17
- H. My Quiet Time is too quiet → INT value God's perspective and power for my day more than Satan's perspective and my power.
- I. I'm too busy → INT realize I have all the time in the world to do **God's will**, then clean out the clutter and tie each activity into a God pleasing objective. Lk 10:42
- J. I get overwhelmed → INT focus on tasks within my ability & trust God for the difference Ph 4:13
- K. I don't know God's goals for my life → INT embrace **God's will** as my highest good. Jn 7:17 Rm 12
- L. I lack motivation → INT embrace God's purpose for my life rather than Satan's (or mine) Ph 2:13
- M. I get burned out → INT be in step with the Spirit to live with a power assist. Gal 5:25
- N. I don't have dependable friends → INT look to God to meet my needs so I'm free to invest in others (developing the skills and interests of friendship Gal 5:13)
- O. My spiritual life isn't going anywhere → INT develop accountable relationships with people who walk with God 2Tim 2:2; 2:22

- P. I'm in debt → INT trust God for my desires as I discipline myself to live within a budget Ph 4:19
- Q. God hasn't given me a perfect spouse → INT focus on being the kind of spouse to whom God would entrust His handiwork. Gen 2:22
- R. My wife needs remodeling → INT take the initiative to be an exemplary leader in all aspects of our relationship, sacrificing myself (time and comfort) for what's in her best interest. Eph 5:25
- S. My husband needs an overhaul → INT submit to Christ's Lordship & by my example win my husband without a word 1Pt 3
- T. The honeymoon is over → INT maintain an environment conducive to romance & keep a healthy balance at the love bank 1Cor 7
- U. My kids need obedience school → INT consistently model God's parenting of me as I follow His commands. Eph 6:4
- V. I can't resist temptation → INT die to my independence from God and others and flee at the first exit Heb 10:24; 12:4
- W. I was born with a quick temper → INT yield my rights to be angry and develop a tolerance to irritation Eph 4:26; 31-32
- X. I'm a creative type (disorganized) → INT pay the price to develop a system and the disciplined habits to use it 1Cor 14:40
- Y. I'm always tired → INT say no to energy robbers and yes to energy builders
- Z. I need more sleep → I need to go to bed early enough so I can wake without an alarm clock
- AA. I'm undertall for my weight → INT maintain a net caloric decrease by exercising my mouth less and my body more (forbearance on intake, self-control on output) 1Tim 4:7-8
- BB. I need more faith → INT please God by knowing and responding to Him as He's revealed Himself in Scripture and life Heb 11:6
- CC. I need more grace → INT deepen my capacity and draw upon the power God makes available to me 2Pt 3:18; Heb 4:16
- DD. I can't help being a pessimist → INT view each item God's allowed into my life as a special gift to refine me and draw me closer to Him. Rm 8:28 Ps 11
- EE. It's not my fault I have to blame someone for my problems → INT take responsibility for responding correctly to the difficulties God's allowed into my life, drawing on God's grace to play the hand well. Rom 5:3-5 Js 1:

Goal Galvanizers

1. What will happen if you achieve this goal?
2. How does this goal tie into your purpose & objectives?
3. Is this a goal you can expect God's help in reaching?
4. What are the greatest benefits from succeeding??
5. What are the consequences of failing?
6. What incentive/reward will you enjoy when it's reached?
7. What will life look like when you attain your objective?
8. Why else are you excited about reaching your goal?
9. What other considerations will help you take action?

List steps (Imagine yourself starting & finishing each one).

Goal Autopsy

I. Purpose

Why do I want this goal?
Does my goal support/tie into my Life Purpose & Plan?
Is my goal consistent with how/why God's created me?
Exactly how can this goal bring God glory?

II. Objectives

Does my goal contribute to an Objective?
Does it fit or conflict with my other Objectives?
Does it unbalance my 80/20 plan?

III. Priorities

How important is this goal compared to my others?
What will this goal cost me (time, energy, money)?
Will investing in this goal bankrupt me in other areas?
How vital is this goal in achieving my Life Plan?
How many hours am I willing to pay for this goal?
Is there a better time in my life-cycle to do this goal?
What is the best time for its accomplishment?
When is the best time to expend the effort?
Have I made the steps my #1A1 priority for each day?

IV. Goals

Is my goal written where I can review it regularly?
Have I done a Project Planner (PP)? A Goal Galvanizer?
Have I done a PP on why I haven't reached this goal?
Is it a SMART goal? (Specific, Measurable, Activating, Realistic, and Transforming)
Is my goal long range or short term?
Too big? or have I broken it down into manageable steps? Need smaller steps?
Are the steps under my control? Does each specific action step lead to the goal?
Did I schedule the steps on Monthly and Weekly sheets? Can I tell when I've taken the step?

V. Visualization

How much time have I spent reviewing this goal?
Can I see myself taking the steps and reaching my goal?
Do I practice within so I can do when out?
Do I visualize myself starting and finishing each step?
As I pray about my goals, am I mouthing words or is there a picture?
Have I studied & absorbed the traits of my role models?
How many check marks are on my Goal Galvanizer?

VI. Affirmation & Internalization (Self-Talk)

Do I believe God wants me to achieve this goal?
Is this goal worthy of my Lord and my efforts?
Am I worthy of achieving this goal?
Is this goal consistent with my image of myself?
Do I daily affirm my ability to achieve this goal?

VII. Inspiration Motivation Automation

Have I chosen awards I'll enjoy as/when I reach it?

Do I want this goal for the wrong reasons?

Do I need to change my motivation for this goal?

Do I have positive & negative motivation for reaching it?

Have I consciously programmed my sub-conscious robot for getting this goal?

Have I become a self-guided missile targeting on it?

Do my habits help or hinder me in achieving this goal?

VIII. Decision - Activation

When did I decide to go for this goal? What were the forces prompting me to decide to do it?

What have I decided NOT to do in order to achieve it?

Have I made the decision to fish or cut bait?

IX. Perspiration/Self-Discipline

When I set this goal was I aware of how much it would cost me?

Am I still willing to work and pay the price to achieve this goal?

Do I value the process as much as the product?

Do I believe that in all hard labor there is profit?

Are Satan and the world are opposed to God's will?

Do I draw upon the resources of the HS as I strive?

Am I getting stronger through the process of seeking it

Am I working harder or smarter toward the goal?

X. Cooperation

What help do I have in reaching this goal?

Have I gotten input or counsel on my achievement of this goal?

Have I patterned myself after others who have reached similar goals?

Do I walk with the wise so I will become wise?

Do I pursue my goal with others for encouragement?

Have I involved others to hold me accountable?

Who can I ask to ask me about my goal weekly?

Who can I blame for my failure to achieve my goal?

XI. Realization/Achievement

Have I reaped what I sowed?

Exactly what have I reaped?

Am I closer toward this goal than I was when I started?

How or what can I sow differently for a different result?

XII. Evaluation

Have I been daily and weekly evaluating the progress I've been making?

Have I been making progress toward my other goals?

Is the problem with the goal or the goal getter (me)?

On what did I spend the time budgeted for this goal?

Was the alternative goal/objective of greater value in my/God's sight?

Is this still a worthy goal for me to pursue?

What's the biggest obstacle standing between me and my goal?

Is it within my power, ability, responsibility to do something about this obstacle?

Am I being faithful with what I can do?

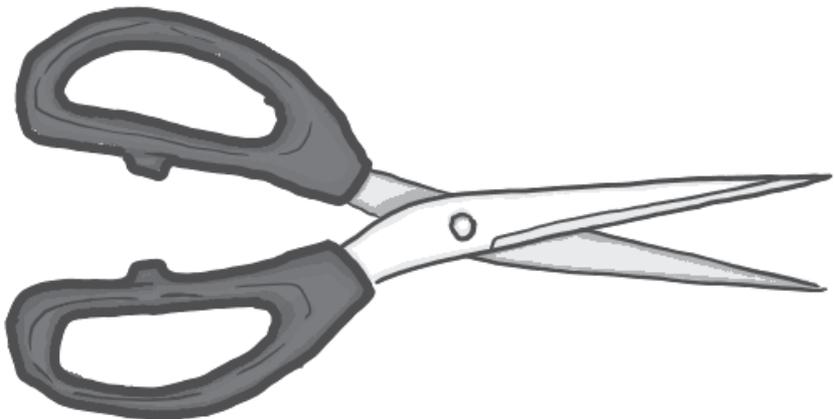
Have I laid and maintained the spiritual, personal, and material foundation for building toward this goal?

How can I be more creative in working smarter or getting over, under around or through the obstacles?

Have I listed in writing the reasons why I didn't achieve my goal? (Project Planner?)

Scissors – How to Simplify Your Life

1. List your routine tasks/activities.
2. Estimate how much time you spend *monthly* (*daily x 30; weekly x 4; quarterly/4*) on each one.
3. Why are you doing each one? How does it tie into your Life Purpose/Plan?
4. Is it worth the time you're spending on it?
5. To what Objective/Goal is it related? (*If not related, spell it out...or cut it out*)
6. What will happen if it's not done?
7. What is its classification and priority? (*Important + Urgent = I*)
8. Does it need to be done to the degree/standard to which you're doing it? (*How do you know?*)
9. Is there anyone else who could do it?
10. When do you do each task? Why then? (*deadline, habit, etc.*)
11. On what is each dependent (*someone else's work, something arriving in the mail, etc.*)
12. What makes it easy/fun or difficult? (*quiet, missing pieces, interruptions, etc.*)
13. Is there any other way to do it?
14. Can you combine or group it with any other tasks?
15. When would be the ideal time to do it?
16. Can you joyfully embrace the task as God's will for you?
17. **IF** so, schedule the task, or place it on an appropriate list.
18. Evaluate each non-routine or **new** task/activity in light of your objectives **before** you commit to it (*See Priorities and Will of God*)



Decision Maker - How to Prioritize

WILL OF GOD



WORD (Commands, Principles, Examples)

INPUT from others (Peers, Leaders, Experts)

LOGIC

Life Plan to glorify God and serve others

Obedience to the Great Commission

Grow in Grace (rewards)

Increase Usefulness to the Master

Christlikeness

LEADING of Holy Spirit

(not feelings/peace/circumstances but

conviction)

CLASSIFY

- I. Important & Urgent
- II. Important & Non-Urgent
- III. Non-important & Urgent
- IV. Non-important & Non-Urgent

Important tasks are those that contribute to your most important written goals and objectives (directly or as prerequisites).

Urgent tasks are those that must be done within a specified time (deadline) or have some other time specification.

PRIORITIZE

- A - (I) **ACT & ACHIEVE** this week (today)
- B - (II & III) **BEGIN ACTION** this week
- C - (III & IV) **CAN** be left undone

Questions to ask when comparing tasks:

Stitch in Time?

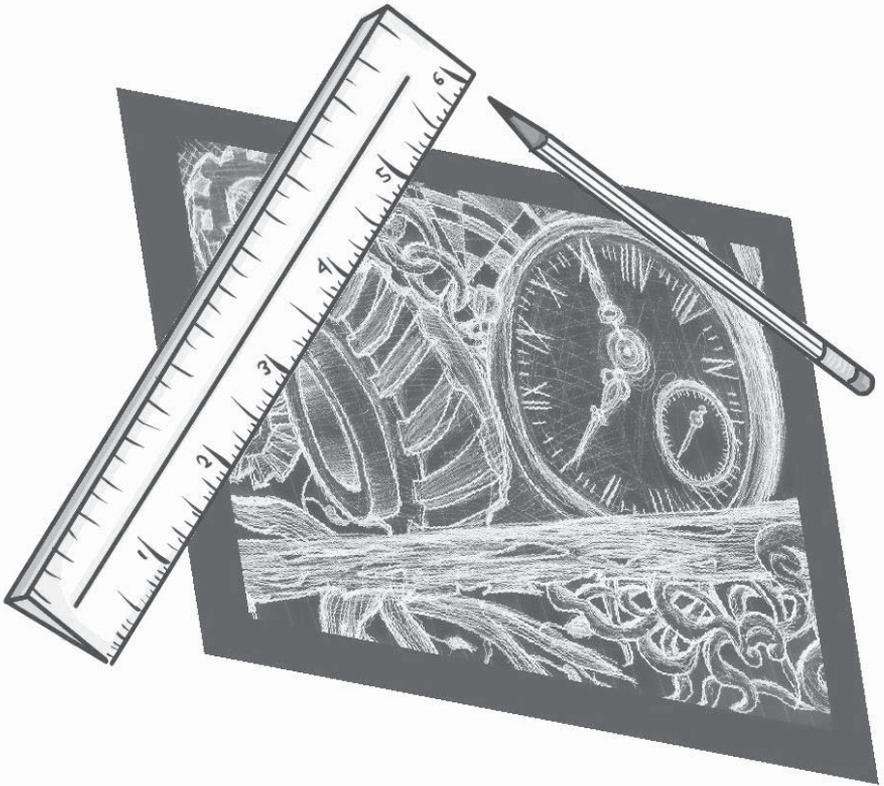
Balance?

Consequences (+/-) of doing or leaving undone?

Greatest Benefit/Damage

Delegate/Transfer to someone else?

Tools to Manage your Work



Work Worksheet

Evaluate your Work in terms of:

- 1) the work: utilization of your capacities
- 2) the investment: time, energy and skill required
- 3) the present people & environment
- 4) the future: potential for growth (inward and outward)
- 5) the return: money and benefits

Finding a Job You Can Love R. Mattson & Miller. Nelson

Discovering Your Design - Chapter 6

- a- Central Motivational Thrust
- b- Motivated Abilities
- c- Subject Matter
- d- Circumstances
- e- Relational Dynamic

a- Central Motivational Thrust p. 68

Acquire/Possess
 Combat/Prevail
 Excel/Be the best
 Gain response/Influence behavior
 Improve/Make better
 Meet needs/Fulfill expectations
 Master/Perfect
 Overcome/Persevere
 Serve/Help

Be in charge/Command
 Develop/Build
 Exploit/Achieve Potential
 Gain recognition/attention
 Make the team/grade
 Make work/effective
 Organize and Operate
 Pioneer/Explore
 Shape/Influence

b- Motivated Abilities p. 70

investigative
 visualizing
 formulating
 creating
 developing
 operating
 counseling
 performing
 writing
 learning

evaluation
 planning
 organizing
 construction
 implementing
 supervising
 teaching
 influence

Work as Worship - Biblical View of Work – Eph 6:5-9

"...do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men; knowing from the Lord you'll receive reward of inheritance. It is Christ whom you serve." (Col 3:23-24)

Play = effort expended voluntarily, in expectation of an inconsequential reward.
Work = effort expended (usually under compulsion) in expectation of a reward of significant/vital consequence.

Work is worship (and witness) if done with the right motives and attitudes.

Ordained by God for our benefit (as are all God's commands Ex 20:9)

Rewarding and rewarded (2x) if done Biblically

Konsists of serving another's needs (helping them reach their objectives).

- 1) Do I obey my boss' explicit instructions and implicit desires to the degree that delights him?
- 2) Are my motives pure in working?
- 3) Do I work as hard when he's gone as when he's hovering over my desk?
- 4) Am I perceived as a servant of Christ?
- 5) Do I please men so they'll like me or Christ so He'll reward me?
- 6) Do I embrace my work as the will of God?
- 7) Am I wholehearted and wholesouled in my service?

- 8) Do I exude an attractive attitude of cheerful good will, even in the midst of difficulties?
- 9) Do I view my work as loving service?
- 10) Am I conscious of earning Christ's reward as I toil?

I. WRONG Reasons for working

- 1 - To meet my needs, earn a living, keep body and soul together (Mt 6:11.25-33)
 - 2 - To make a lot of money by working hard (I Tim 6:6-10; Haggai 1:6-7)
 - 3 - To satisfy my desires for power, pleasure, & possessions (1Jn 2:16-17)
 - 4 - To make as much money as I can without going to jail (Mk 4:19)
 - 5 - To develop my sense of worth, significance or ego (Mt 6:26; Jer 9:23-24)
 - 6 - Help the economy by obtaining means to be a good consumer (Dt 28:38-42)
 - 7 - To find security, significance, self-worth, and pleasure outside of God (Gen 3:6)
 - 8 - To use the talents God has given (I Pt 4:10)
 - 9 - To gain a sense of accomplishment and fulfillment. (Ecc 2:24-26)
 - 10 - Produce something of intrinsic, lasting value (Ec 2:11; 2Pt 3:10-11; Jn 6:27)*
 - 11 -To contribute something to the work of God (help God out) (Is 46:9-10; Est 4:14)*
- *(See Walt Hendrichsen's booklet: "Why Go To Work?")

II. RIGHT Reasons for Working

- 1 + It is commanded {created with capacity for work - Gen 1:26-28; 2:15...became difficult after the Fall}.
- 2 + It is the channel through which God provides for our needs (II Thess 3:6-15)
- 3 + It enables us to give generously (Ephesians 4:28; II Cor 9:11)
- 4 + It develops our character and skills for God (I Sam 16:21f)
- 5 + It establishes our testimony with unbelievers (I Thess 4:11-12)
- 6 + It provides opportunity to be polished and refined (James 1:2-4)
- 7 + It provides opportunity for reward by God (I Peter 2:18-20)

III. Work Can Be A Worshipful Witness... ...if done Biblically

- A. When in balance (Matthew 5:16)
- B. When gossip-free (Ephesians 4:29)
- C. When free of selfish ambition (Js 3:13)
- D. When done in wisdom (Eph 5:15-16)
- E. When done in love (Matthew 7:12)
- F. When done with good works (Mt 5:1)
- G. When done as a light (Phil 2:15)
- H. When done with excellence (Ecc 9:10; Pv 22:29)

IV. Work Can Be ENJOYED...

...Only if We PLEASE GOD (Ecc 2:24-26)

- A. Obediently with sincerity of heart (Col 3:22)
- B. With Integrity (I Peter 2:12)
- C. Submissively (unjust/unreasonable 1Pt 2:13-20)
- D. With Humility (Proverbs 27 2)
- E. Selflessly (Philippians 2:12)
- F. Contentedly (Philippians 2:14 15; 4:11)
- G. Joyfully/Worry-free (Philippians 4:4-6)
- H. Diligently (Proverbs 18:9)

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. What are the advantages to an employer of a Christian employee? Any disadvantages? Would you hire yourself?
2. What common difficulties of your job could be eliminated if you applied the Scriptural principles of work? What should change?
3. What are the most valuable assets you have to offer an employer/client?
4. Does your job match your design and objectives? If not, why not change?
5. If Jesus were your direct boss, would your performance change? Should it?
6. Are you working for an eternal paycheck or just a temporal one?

Discovering Your Design...The Great Niche Hunt

David Frahm with Paula Rinehart @ Navpress

Take a mental snapshot of yourself doing something you really enjoyed at each stage of your life: 7yrs; jr hi; hi; college; summers; each job. Then answer the following about each.

ACTION SHOT (each decade)

Story Line:

- A. How did you get started in this?
- B. What were the specifics of what you actually did?
- C. What aspects of this activity gave you the greatest sense of personal accomplishment and reward?
- D. What would have made this activity even more rewarding for you?
- E. Why did you leave or stop doing it?

Put a check mark by each item that reflected in your snapshots..

I. Preferred Style of Processing Information

A. Perception (gaining awareness):

Interacting/discussing;
Observing/listening; Doing/trying; Fact finding/data collecting; Imagining/envisioning; Other..

B. Judgment (drawing conclusions): Analyzing; Evaluating; Interpreting

II. Style of Problem Solving

A. Originality and Invention

(introducing the new different or unique into being) Inventing; creating; originating; designing; coining; conceiving; authoring; innovation; giving birth to a new idea; being resourceful

B. Development and Extension

(improving upon what exists) adapting a refining; making better; improving upon; advancing, perfecting, honing; modifying; correcting, changing, clarifying; sharpening; enhancing, remodeling, overhauling; strengthening; adjusting

C. Reproduction and Maintenance

(implementing past proven solutions) standardizing; troubleshooting; conforming, duplicating, maintaining continuity, sustaining sameness, perpetuating uniformity, following set patterns and procedures

III. Style of Providing Structure:

Budgeting; Building; Categorizing; Collecting; Detailing; Diagramming; Goal-setting; Integrating; Master-planning; Packaging; Proceduralizing; Programming; Synthesizing; Other...

IV. Style of People Influencing

A. Function: Director-manager; Coordinator-facilitator; Promoter-advocate; Frontrunner-pacesetter;

Teacher-coach; Counselor-consultant;
Craftsman-specialist

B. Form: Verbal; Written; Visual;
Environmental

V. Preferred Elements:

The world of: animals; data;
equipment; human behavior; the
human body; logistics; machines
(industrial/office); manmade
materials; math; money; natural
resources; plants; people; sound;
thought; vehicles; visuals; words.

VI. Preferred Environments

A. Preferred Supervision: None;
Sponsorship; Delegation; Directive

B. Preferred Teamwork: Group
effort; Individualized effort in a
group context; Independent effort.

C. Preferred Conditions: academic,
aesthetic, cause, challenge, competition,
conformity, conservatism, creativity,
deficiency, discipline, efficiency,
flexibility, orderly, physical, practical,
predictability, precision, pressure,
repetition, risk, rules, spontaneity, travel,
other...

VII. Preferred Ends

A. Preferred Results: Making
things; Meeting needs; Moving
people

B. Preferred Rewards:

1. Intrinsic: being creative, being
unique-different, gaining mastery-
expertise, producing quality-excellence,
winning-beating the competition,
overcoming obstacles-challenges,
reaching goals-accomplishing objectives,
learning new things, keeping things
organized-under control, fulfilling
requirements, making progress, acquiring
what's needed, communicating, being
self-expressive, excelling-being the best
maximizing potential, solving problems-
making things work, making an impact,
other...

2. Extrinsic: money, recognition,
respect, reputation, opportunity,
inclusion, response, responsibility,
authority, freedom, justice, other...
The items with the most checkmarks
are the ones most important in a job
you'll love. Seven checkmarks for
seven photos = must be in job
situation.

Biblical Friendship— “What a Friend We have in Jesus”

I. The Nature of Friendship

II. In Order to be Friends with Each Other...

A. First be a Friend of God

Jesus was first a friend of God Jn 15:9

1. Obedience sets hearts in same direction John 15:14

2. Needs met on the infinite level
The condition which high friendship demands is ability to do without it. - Emerson 1882

3. Insights can be garnered from and compared against His Truth

4. You become a person of worth
2Ch 20:7; Isa 41:8; Jas 2:23

5. Character becomes more loveable *The only way to have a friend is to be one.* - Emerson 1882

6. Resources for rocky times in the relationship

7. We learn to love from a Master

B. Develop the Character/Skill Set Necessary

self denial; fidelity, loyalty; passion, purpose; confidence, bravery, courage; selfless; industrious; serve; resourcefulness; inquisitiveness; communicate; empathy; patience, forgiveness; freedom from jealousy, envy, greed; self-controlled (tongue control); nothing to hide, nothing to

prove, no one to impress; tact; truthspeaking in love;

C. Practice the Activities/Skills of Friendship

J&M White - Friends & Friendship: shares deeply (listen, talk, accept, understand), loyal, fun to be with, stimulating, encouraging, loving, self-sacrificing, spiritually challenging.

Free exchange of thoughts and lives (and time)

1. Friends share deeply Jn 15:15

2. Friends sacrificially love Jn 15:11

EVALUATE: Are my relationships free, open, and transparent or am I guarded, defensive and at times deceptive?

Is my transparency an emotional catharsis or does wisdom guide my self-revelation?

Do my friendships cost me anything or are they liaisons of convenience?

Are they marked by mutual self-centered or self-sacrificial love?

Do I verbally express my love and appreciation for my friends?

Do we communicate on the deepest levels or is superficiality the standard?

Does my friend know where I am battling sin? Is he/she an ally?

Repair, Maintenance and Cultivation

1. Instead of loving your enemies, treat your friends better.

2. It should be a part of our private ritual to devote a quarter of an hour every day to the enumeration of the good qualities of our friends. When we are not active, we fall back idly upon defects, even of those whom we most love. - M. Rutherford 1831-1913

3. Friends require testing.

4. Friends forgive and pray for each other Job 42:10

EVALUATE: Do I let my friendships deteriorate when I'm not urgently needing them, or do I cultivate them even in the off season?

Do I toss away relationships when they develop break, or do I seek to mend and glue them?

Do I dwell upon the sterling qualities of my friends when they act abrasively?

Do I consider how God can use the abrasive qualities of my friends to polish me?

Do I forgive as I have been forgiven and our Master modeled forgiveness?

Investment in Each other and in a Common Cause

1. Hence we picture lovers face to face, but friends side by side; c.s.

Lewis

2. Common objectives make friends

EVALUATE: Do my friendships move toward mutual edification into Christlikeness or are they roadside reststops?

Can the basis of my friendship last a lifetime? How committed am I to seeing people become what God intends them to be (realize their purpose and potential)?

What is the deep common interest upon which each of my friendships is based?

Is _____ more of a disciple because of me?

Am I moreso because of them?

Do I initiate love or do I wait for others to earn my approval or reach out to me first?

Empathy & Encouragement

Jesus stimulated others by His

example Jn 15:10 Heb 2:17ff Jn 11:5 Jesus dealt differently with Martha and Mary. Both said the same thing (vv21&32), yet He responded to Martha more on a cognitive level and Mary on a more emotional level. Jesus never lost sight of the objective vv 15&42 though in the process He delayed reaching the objective v35

EVALUATE: Can I respond cognitively and emotionally to my friends needs?

Does my encouragement infuse people with courage spurring them to face and do the difficult, or does it insulate them from change by aiding and abetting their complacency? Can I reject sin without rejecting the person?

Am I climbing the mountain so that I can call others alongside?

Have I overcome personal failure so that I can comfort and encourage others?

Need Solving

He not only gave them fish but taught them how to fish Jn 15:14 - 16

EVALUATE: Do I like to meet needs so I feel needed and worthwhile, or do I seek to prompt growth toward Christ-sufficiency?

Am I drawn to relationships where my needs can be met temporarily or solved permanently?

Do I accurately observe and listen, prayerfully interpret what I observe, and then patiently help others apply the Scriptures?

Defend Life and Reputation

Friendship demands

discriminatory allegiance Jas 4:4

Jesus' loyalty to the disciples superceded their disloyalty to Him (i.e., Peter) His loyalty is seen not only in the promise of the Great Commission, but in the promise of the HS and present advocacy

EVALUATE: Do I defend the reputation of my Savior and Christian siblings, or will I stab them in the back for a pat on the back? Do I intend to make life-long friends (knit soul sweaters) or is my focus more on who can provide the thrill of the moment?

BETROTHAL/COURTSHIP/ ROMANCE/DATING WORKSHEET

Wink to Wedding Timeline

{Leave...cleave...one flesh}

First figure out the timeline functions, then the appropriate way to Biblically express the functions. Mirror God's self-sacrificial, other centered love for an eternal objective

I. Commitment to Christlikeness Purity and Spousability Growth*

*See: *Sleeping Beauty*

and *Prince Charming* outlines on *Truthbase.net*

A. Don't Waken Love until the appropriate time

Song of Solomon 3:5 I charge you... Do not stir up nor awaken love until it pleases.

B. Don't Train yourself to like something that isn't good for you

1Th 5:22 Abstain from every form of evil.
1Pt 2:11 Beloved, I beg you, as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul,

C. Don't Defraud 1Thess 4:1-9 **KEY PASSAGE** see also 1Cor 7:1

II. Contact

Eye-contact (filter: danger, values, preferences, likes/dislikes, standards/selection criteria)

Smile (acceptance, interest, respect, confidence)

Talk (build commonality, demonstrate other-centeredness, discern needs)

Receptivity/Reciprocity/Availability/Encouragement

Repeated Interaction / Relating/Mutual need-meeting and Respect / Group setting

III. Commonality (Social & Intellectual intimacy)

Observation; Mutual Service

Friendship (See TOYL Material on Biblical Friendship)

Fondness/Affection Brother-Sister Relationship

TOYL: Bad Relationships Objective: To get my needs for _____ met through another person. (*rather than God*)

IV. Compatibility of Life Purpose and Goals (*Intellectual & Spiritual intimacy*)

Desire for a permanent relationship [See *Premarital Counseling Checklist on Truthbase.net*]

Meeting families/Counsel

"Is he a leader I can submit to, who is submitted to God in following His will (under authority, disciplined, proven disciplenaking)?"

"Is she a woman submitted to Christ's Lordship, following His will (under authority, disciplined emotions, proven disciplenaking)?"

V. Creator's Will (See TOYL Will of God)

(love= sacrificing yourself to do what's in another's highest interest)

VI. Confirmation: Parental

Permission/Blessing (Courtship??)

VII. Communication (Spiritual & Emotional intimacy)

Discussion of marriage;

Proposal/Engagement (Betrothal??);

Wedding and Living plans/Doubts

VIII. Consummation (*Physical intimacy*)

Kiss??? See "What a Kiss Communicates" then when it is appropriate to express what to whom. Josh Harris, **I Kissed Dating**

Goodbye; Elliott, Passion and Purity

SEE **PROVERBS SURVEY: SOLOMON ON SEX** Truthbase.net

Accountability (The Missing Link)

Accountability Relationship

Hallmarks (cf Morely chapter: Man in the Mirror)

Acceptance and Affirmation

Rm 15:7

1) Accept one another as "people in process" *1 Jn 3:2-3; 2 Cor 3:18*

2) Affirm and Honor one another as disciples *Rm 12:10*

Commitment to Communicate in Confidence

Eph 4:29

Levels: 1) Cliché; 2) Facts; 3) Ideas & Judgments; 4) Feelings & Emotions; 5) Open Knowing

Barriers: 1) Rejection; 2) Passivity; 3) Pride; 4) Criticism 5) No Transparency

Counsel Choices *Rm 15:14; Col 3:16; 1*

Thess 5:14

Objective Orientation *Heb 10:24-*

25; Col 1:28-2:2

Understanding Motives & Motivations *Gal 6:1-2*

Note Needs and Pray *Js 5:16; Col*

4:12

Track Targets *Pr 27:17; Ecc 4:9-10; 2 Cor*

5:9; Phil 3:14-15

Allow Asking of Tough

Questions *Heb 3:13; Pr 27:6; Rm 14:12; 2 Cor*

5:10

Build Up One Another in

Biblical Benchmarks *Eph 4:29;*

1Thess 5:11

Invest in the Relationship

1Thess 2:7-8 2Cor 6:11-13

Love One Another as Christ has loved you *Jn 13:34-35; 1 Jn 4:7-12*

Inspire & Encourage *Rm 15:4-5; 2*

Co, 7:13; 1 Thess 4:18; Heb 12:5

Transform One Another by Truthing it in Love *Rm 12:1-2; Eph 4:15-16*

Yuck it up while Yearning for Godliness *2 Tim 2:22*

To get started:

1. Prayerfully determine God's Purpose, Objectives and Goals for your life.
2. Observe and prayerfully determine what imperfect person God can best use to help you reach those goals. Be a cat hanging on the screen door.
3. Discuss & agree upon characteristics and ground rules of your relationship.
4. Commit to regularly scheduled meeting and intermittent phone contact.
5. If you're not in or planning to be in an accountability relationship, what sin are you hiding or hoarding? God sees it and so do most perceptive people. Humble yourself!

LORD OF THE RINGLESS: CONTENTMENT AND SINGLENESS

(Last Week) **III. How to have what you want and want what you have:**

Change for the best; **Trust** God for the rest
A. **Contentment** is found in submitting to your present path as God's perfect will Js 4:6-10

B. We might need to change (do what God wants us to) to get on the right path (**Change** for the best) Rom 12:1-2

C. We must draw upon God's grace to prayerfully change, thankfully wait, and joyfully endure (**Trust** God for the rest) 2Cor 12: 9

IV. Knowing God (character and promises) is the Key to Contentment

A. God is Sovereignly and wisely in control "God has arranged all my circumstances for my best benefit and His glory"

B. God is infinitely Good and Loving "He will give me what's best when it's best, that is when I'm ready for it"

C. God gives all-sufficient grace as well as perfect gifts "He will give me grace to profitably wait for the fulfillment of what's best." Grace is the coin of the realm of heaven, it's what enables us to transact business in the spiritual realm.

V. Both Marriage and Singleness have Advantages and Disadvantages

[Responsibilities]

A. Our primary and continual responsibility is to serve and glorify God in whatever state we're in

1Cor 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? 20 For you were bought

at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. 2Cor 5:15 He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.

B. We need to develop the character & skill set necessary for Biblical relationships and friendships

Phil 2:4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. (See TOYL Biblical Friendships)

If we've learned to have God meet our needs then we're free to meet the needs of others.

C. We should develop the skill set necessary for God to entrust to us one of his choice partners

1Cor 7:32-35 But I want you to be without care, that you may serve the Lord without distraction.

1. Future husbands should demonstrate loving leadership as they seek to shepherd others, and plan on meeting needs as an ACTER Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. 28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

2. Future wives should demonstrate Christlike followership as they seek to love others and plan on meeting needs as a STARR Eph 5: 22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own

husbands in everything. 33 and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

D. It is impossible for us to miss the will of God if we are seeking Him with all our heart,

Jer 29:11 I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. 13 And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Ps 37:3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. 4 Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.

Mt 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

1. Put your desire to sleep in the will of God, as you be a good steward of what He's entrusted to you Song of Solomon 8:4 I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, Do not stir up nor awaken love Until it pleases.

2. Relate with brothers and sisters as would Christ, without defrauding (gain advantage) 1Thess 4:1 we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus, as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God that you should abound more and more, 2 for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus. 3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, 5 not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 that no

one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. 7 For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness.

Questions for

Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. What causes discontent with one's circumstances? Does changing the circumstances change us? Why do we think the grass is greener...?
2. How can God lovingly use our discontent to draw us into a place of greater blessing? What can prevent that from happening?
3. How can a person independently missing God's objective will, determine His subjective will about a marriage partner and timing?
4. How does living with a roommate now prepare you for living with a spouse in the future? How is it different?
5. When can seeking for or shopping for a spouse be in conflict with God's perfect will for us?

See: Knowing How to Live By Fern Horst

http://www.singleness.org/pr_knowing.shtml

<http://www.backtothebible.org/gateway/today/17267> Elisabeth Elliot: "You are loved with an everlasting love." Linda Dillow:

Gift-wrapped by God; Josh Harris: I Kissed Dating Goodbye.

Marriage is What You Make It -- Feast or Famine

Eph 5:22-6:4 Family Life I:

Marriage...Feast or Famine? BC 7/95

Bad Objective = To get my needs for _____ met through my spouse and children. (*security, significance, worth, pleasure, companionship, etc.*)

Better Objective = To profitably reflect the unity, love and wisdom of God.

Unity = Intermeshing of distinct personalities for the accomplishment of a worthy objective

Love = Self-sacrificially do what is in another's best interest

Wisdom = Choice of the right objectives and right means of attaining them

Mastercraft a Dovetailed Bond rather than Mishmash a Butt Joint Admire, Accept and Appreciate God's Perfect Gift to You *Pr 18:22*

Adjust, Accommodate, and Affirm the Differences

Resolve, Remove, and Reduce

Sources of Conflict *SoS 2:15; Eph 4:29-32*

Communicate over effect and cause

Out with the excess baggage, erroneous expectations, self-centered slop

No hiding and hurling

Forgive as you've been forgiven (*graciously, undeservedly, permanently*)

Learn your lessons well or you'll repeat them in a living hell

Chose to compromise on what's right and change yourself on what's left (*as a gift of love to your mate*)

Transform your filters, values, self-talk and tapes (*parental, societal, and other*) {otherwise, see "L" above}

Readily Fulfill Roles and Responsibilities *Ephesians 5*

Respecter

Obeayer of the

Director's/Manufacturer's Directions

Lover (not just Liker or

Lustor)

Executor of Developmental

Tasks: Leave, Cleave, One Flesh, etc.

Server of Needs: Identify,

Purify, Satisfy (*His Needs, Her Needs, Harley. 86*)

Acter: Affectionate, Conversationalist,

Transparent/Trustworthy, Economic Earner,

Responsible Father

Starr: Sexual, Team/Playmate, Attractive,

Resourceful/Domestic, **Respecter**/Esteemer

Invest in Intimacy on all Levels:

Intellectual, Social, Spiritual,

Emotional, Sexual (*Love Life, Wheat. Zond 80.*

Intended for Pleasure, Wheat. Rev 77.)

Align you Attitudes and Actions

with Christ's *Phil 2*

Maturity = having enough self-esteem/worth to be other-: centered, serving & esteeming

Grow with Godly Goals *Gal 6:7*

Individual and Corporate; Spiritual Maturity

(Christlike) Ministry; Social and Recreational

(Leisure); Accountability (Life Friends)

Expect to Triumph through Trials

Phil 4:13 Cherishing Commitment

Questions for

Reflection/Discussion/Response: 1.

What attracted you to your spouse and why did you decide to marry him/her? 2. What expectations do you think would most help or hinder a magnificent marriage? What are expectations doing to yours? 3. What's been helpful in developing the oneness or unity God designed for marriage? 4. If you could wave a magic wand and change anything about your marriage or mate, what would it be? Why? 5. Explore with your mate which attitudes/actions could have the greatest benefit if incorporated into your relationship.

See Gottman **7 Relationship Principles for Making Marriage Last Series** on Truthbase.net

Discovering Your Child's Design

*Ralph Mattson & Thom Black
LifeJourney Books, D.C. Cook*

Observe and Listen in terms of:

- 1) Utilitarian Actions
- 2) Developmental Actions
- 3) Relational Actions
- 4) Expressive Actions

Perceive and Record Consistencies in the areas of:

- 1) Is he/she pushed or pulled into action
- 2) What specifically motivates your child to action: people (who and how), external conditions, internals (ideas, desires)
- 3) How much time does your child use (internal clock)
- 4) To what kind of environment is your child drawn
- 5) What does your child like to encounter
- 6) What capabilities does your child consistently use: visual, audio, oral, mechanical, manual/physical, intellectual/mental, leadership

Understand your child's unique learning style!!!

Home Schooling Objectives:

BAD: To reproduce the public school process at home
To keep child sheltered from the world for as long as possible

To prevent infection of worldly values
To develop Christian character

BETTER: To awaken within each child the joy of self-discovery learning

To have more time with your children to better influence, inculcate and ingrain Biblical values and lifestyle

To match instruction with learning style and needs

To develop the unique potentials of each child

BEST:

Biblical Parenting Power

TOYL Eph 6:1-4 Family Life IV: The Proverbial Parent BC 7/95

Purposefully Plan and Prioritize your Power Parenting Pr 1:7-8

Purpose of Parenting: *To shepherd the child(ren) God's entrusted into my stewardship from being parent controlled to self controlled to HS controlled so that my child(ren)-disciple(s) will bring glory to God as they achieve competency in their spiritual, social, and vocational developmental tasks.*

Children are commanded to obey (Eph 6:1; Col 3:2), honor (Ex 20:12) and requite (1Tim 5:4)

Walk with God (for strength; personal wholeness; model curbing natural instincts, fears, crying, reactions)

Accept Authority & Responsibility and Acknowledge Reality Pr 2:1-15

Accept your child's uniqueness and God's provision of all you need.

Acknowledge your mistakes (past, present, and future) and the humanity of your child.

Rules, Rod and Reproof give Wisdom and Security Pr 29:15; 13:24; 19:18

Sell them on the what, why and benefit (see outline on Discipline 8/91)

Esteem Them so They'll Esteem

Themselves (see outline Self-worth 8/95) Pr 4:1-27

Compete: develop the basic skill and character set for survival in our society

Compensate: develop their unique motivated potentials to excel

Celebrate: praise, honor, unglued with enthusiastic affirmation over their accomplishments

Need Meet as God Meets Your Needs (security, acceptance, belonging, love, etc.) Pr 3:11-12

Study needs, interests, abilities, temptations, reactions (Sesame Street)

Teach and Train for both Here and Hereafter ("What to stress for success" 8/95) Pr 3:1-18

SELECTED RULES & ORDINANCES FOR PARENTS

1. Thou shalt have no other gods before your relationship with God.
2. Thou shalt not take the name of parent in vain, but consistently exercise authority as God has done for you.
3. Thou shalt love, enjoy and delight in each child God's loaned to you, to deliver you from your selfishness.
4. Thou shalt honor and affirm the unique pattern and potential God's created in each child.
5. Thou shalt not kill thy child's sense of worth and value by criticism.
6. Thou shalt act toward thy children with pure emotions and actions which are proper for the whole world to see.
7. Thou shalt not steal thy children's childhood from them.
8. Thou shalt speak and model the truth in all thy dealings with thy children.
9. Thou shalt not covet or compare thy neighbors' children in the presence of thy children.
10. Thou shalt not covet thy child-free neighbors' freedom, clean house, or undisturbed sleep.

Parental Ordinances (continued)

- a. The most helpful thing you can do for your child is cultivate your own relationship with God as your top priority.
- b. Your model for parenting and disciplining your children is that of your heavenly Father.
- c. How you relate to your mate indicates how you will relate to your children, and determine how your children will relate to you.
- d. Parents are commanded to inculcate the Lord's values and godly behavior.
- e. Right values will result in right behavior.
- f. Parents are commanded not to provoke their children to anger nor to discourage them.
- g. Parents have to respond to every challenge of their authority.
- h. The rod should be reserved for rebellion (rather than childish irresponsibility/forgetfulness) to teach just, earned consequences.
- i. Folly (choice of wrong objectives) is replaced by wisdom with both the rod and reasonable reproof.
- j. Rules and discipline are for the benefit of the child, and must be enforced consistently to provide security.
- k. If the parent uses (abuses) their children to boost their own self esteem, they're losers who will beget losers.
- l. The basis of Biblical self worth/value is a relationship with Jesus Christ in which value and worth are given and received.
- m. We have to help our children compete, compensate, and celebrate.
- n. Criticism kills.
- o. We must respect the way God has created our children with unique abilities and potentials, and train accordingly.
- p. Our goal is to see our children as independent disciples of Jesus Christ.
- q. Our children are a trust from God. We're just borrowing them and may have to return them without a moment's notice.

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. What makes you feel adequate/inadequate as a parent? How will you be different from your parents?
2. What are some of the pitfalls of parenting you've observed?
3. What makes parenting harder/easier? Over which of those items do you have control?
4. If all the children in the world were like yours, in what kind of shape would the world be?
5. If your children turn out to be just like you, will you have succeeded or failed?

Magic Lamp of Self-Esteem

EpH 6:1-4 Family Life VI: The Magic Lamp of Self-Esteem BC 8/95

The basis of an unshakeable self-worth is the daily decision to please God by living as Christ's disciple. Enduring worth and value is not found in being created (hell) or saved ("worthless servant"), but in being a disciple and doing the things that earn approval and esteem from the One who matters most ("Well-done, good and faithful servant"). **Esteem them so they'll esteem themselves.**

Accept them and their individual learning curve. Allow for mistakes and need for repetition

Competency

Train...Compete/Compensate/Celebrate

Help them do what they can't do themselves; Refuse the impulse to jump in and take back responsibility

Inquire about what they're doing and why (ask questions) to build understanding and discernment

Encourage the effort & the slightest progress, REWARD, raise the bar, REWARD, then wean

Value them as well as their progress, both verbally and non-verbally

Expect their best, carefully criticize, ending on a positive note of praise and approval

Competency Train (see Part V: "What to Stress for Success")

Target: have an age and ability appropriate objective

Review and Relate to what's already mastered (preview and REWARD)

Attention: get them focused and free of distractions, looking with eager curiosity

Interest: build need; sell on benefits and feasibility, keeping motivated

throughout Numerous attempts with feedback, encouragement, and intermediate REWARDS

The Seeds of Greatness, Dennis Waitley '83: Self-Esteem, Creativity, Wisdom, Purpose, Communication, Faith, Adaptability, Perseverance, Perspective.

Megaskills, Dorothy Rich '88: Confidence, Motivation, Effort, Responsibility, Initiative, Perseverance, Caring, Teamwork, Common Sense, Problem Solving

Pathfinders, Gail Sheehy '81. 1) My life has meaning and direction; 2) I have triumphed over trials/transitions; 3) I rarely feel cheated or disappointed by life (learned from failure); 4) I'm achieving my long term goals of a comfortable life, family security, and personal accomplishment; 5) I am pleased with my personal growth and development; 6) I am in love with my partner, and I love mutually; 7) I have many friends (deep, loyal, non-competitive, forgiving, reciprocal nourishment); 8) I am a cheerful optimist; 9) I am not thin-skinned or sensitive to criticism (intrinsic worth vs. external value); 10) I have no major fears.

The Parenting of Champions, J.R. Lucas '89.

1) Faith 2) Integrity 3) Holiness 4) Stability 5) Confidence 6) Balance

Leading a Child to Independence, McKean '86; Excellent, Biblical Objectives!!

Ecstatically Celebrate their Accomplishments

Love them Unconditionally and Consistently

Envision their Future Goal Achievements

Believe in them (by faith if necessary)

Respect and Reinforce their Person and Production (**The Gift of Honor**, Smalley & Trent)

Affirm, Affirm, *Advise*, Affirm, Affirm

Talk to them as if they were the Christ-child: Take Time, Ask Questions, **Listen**, Keep Focused on them

Educate them about their future and how they'll feel (**Preparing for Adolescence**, Dobson.)

Self-Critique by their own standards so they'll be immune to the criticism of others

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. How can a parent with a poor self-worth celebrate the worth of their child? Re-parent yourself (see #2 below)
2. **Accept reality, Blame appropriately, Consider causes/rationalize, Decide to forgive, Emphasize positive, Find Support, Grow by your Goals, Help others**
3. Can you come up with a list of thirty-one ways to communicate worth and value to your child/spouse/friend/self?
4. What are some of the top problems you've had or observed in teens/adults? How prevent?
5. Make a list of the "Training Objectives" you observe in

proverbs; How can you implement them?



The ABC's of Success

What to Stress for Success II:

The following traits, phrased in the form of affirmations, are synthesized from dozens of lists of success habits, from the Fruit of the Spirit to the Boy Scout Code. Think of creative ways you can emphasize or build one trait into your child's life each day or week. If you opt for the weekly plan, note the growth that has occurred in the course of the previous six months and celebrate.

I am (a):

Achiever - I plan, start and reach the finish line in time to complete tasks and goals worthy of my potential.

Brave - I face consequences, danger, fear or pain with unflinching confidence and courage.

Compassionate - I am sensitive to understand the view-points and feelings of others, what they want and need, and then gently take appropriate action according to the golden rule. I walk a block in their moccasins.

Disciplined Disciple - I make the daily decision to deny myself for the service of God and the eternal glory of Christ.

Enthusiastically Optimistic - I creatively seek out the possibilities of opportunity and wholeheartedly pursue my goals with well-founded faith, unwavering hope and perspective (even when surrounded by a herd of negatoids whining, complaining and singing the gloomy rain'n Monday morn'n, lost my wallet, ripped my pants, tried that, never tried that, can't be done blues).

Friendly - I practice the skills and activities of cultivating real, enduring, loving, accountable, transparent relationships (especially communication).

Godly - I am continually learning and reprogramming my robot to do all that God has revealed (in the Bible) He requires of me.

Honest - I tactfully and transparently speak and live according to the truth, even when it hurts or is humiliating. What you see...

Initiating - I take the bull by the horns whether it's sleeping or charging at me, aware of the consequences, with a goal in view.

Joyful - I consistently rejoice in the knowledge that I have chosen what is ultimately best, even when the alligators are nibbling my ears.

Knowledgeable - I gather and act out of an ever-growing base of accurate, useful information, as a generalist and specialist.

Loyal Lover - Without cowardice, I am committed to consistently sacrifice myself to do what's in another's best interest regardless of cost, personal preference, inclination or their reaction or lack thereof.

Mentor - I seek to live an other-centered, modelable inimitable lifestyle, investing in others, generously passing on the truths and lessons God's taught me, according to their needs and (stimulated) interests.

No - I say "NO" to temptation and peer pressure that leads away from my objectives the path of life. I'm not afraid to be different.

Objective Driven - I make my plans and decisions according to a vision of the perfect purpose and will of God, not my transitory feelings, and habitually order my actions to achieve my goals and reach my objectives.

Persevering - I never quit in doing what is best, but patiently and creatively problem solve for the prize. I never give up.

Questioning - I respectfully and curiously inquire into both the "what" and "why" of my world and the people in it.

Responsible - I am worthy of trust because I am self-motivated to do what I'm supposed to, without blaming or excuses.

Servant - I exercise self-discipline to meet other's needs while being a good steward of my time, treasure and talents.

Teamworker - I humbly maximize others' potential in generating, communicating, sustaining and achieving commonality of purpose.

Uncommonly Sensible - I manage my time 80/20, emphasizing what's important, planning my work, then working my **written** plan, knowing what must be done precisely, approximately, thoroughly, substantially, partially, or not at all.

Virtuous - I consciously cultivate and strive for a character hallmarked by moral excellence, especially the four cardinal virtues: **justice** (righteous, fair treatment and due reward in accordance with honor and standards),

prudence (implies not only caution but also the capacity for judging in advance the probable results of one's actions), **fortitude**

(strength of mind that allows one to endure pain or adversity with courage), and **temperance** (restraint or self-control of appetites and desires. "*The highest possible stage in moral culture is when we recognize that we ought to control our thoughts*" - Charles Darwin . "*A little kingdom I possess, Where thoughts and feelings dwell; And very hard the task I find, Of governing it well.*" - Louisa May Alcott.

Wise Worker - I equip and renew myself so I chose the right objectives and the right means of attaining those objectives in profitably and energetically serving the needs of others, until the job is done.

Xenophile - I extend to strangers the same concern and hospitality that I would like to be shown.

Yin-Yang - I maintain a balance between and within my work & leisure, relationships, personal growth, spiritual growth and ministry; protecting myself from burnout, resulting in energy, peace, and physical, spiritual, mental, emotional, and financial health.

Zealous - I am enthusiastically and diligently devoted to the glory of God and loving service of others, even when I want a nap.

Training Objectives and Christian Career Path

Mark those you're able to help/mentor others in with an "5", those in which you feel competent but not yet reproductive with a "4", those which you're fairly well grounded but still need some more growing with a "3", those with which you are unfamiliar with a "2", and those which you recognize as needs you'd like to meet this year with a "1".

1. Assurance - I am certain that if I died tonight, I would spend eternity in heaven. I can explain why I believe that, and can prove it from the Scriptures. I have publicly thanked God for my salvation, and can relate my Christian testimony to someone in three minutes. I can take someone though the Ephesians 2 presentation of the gospel.

2. Worship - I have a consistent (6/7) devotional time with God: reading His word to better know Him and what He desires for me; responding back to God in prayer; and then recording a key daily thought which I share with someone weekly. Using the Bible, (II Tim 3:16-17; Psalm 5) I can teach someone else how to have a Quiet time. I understand the purpose and nature of corporate worship, and have publicly thanked, praised, and given glory to God.

3. Prayer - I regularly bring my needs and requests before God at the beginning of each day, and throughout the day as the occasion warrants. I keep a prayer list (TOYL)

and have shared an answer to prayer with my mentor/accountability partner, and my shepherding group, and the Body. I can take someone though the Matthew 6 pattern for prayer.

4. The Word - I can demonstrate that I'm using all five means of getting the Word of God into my life, (including Bible Study and Scripture Memory), and have shared an insight from the Word with my mentor/accountability partner, and my shepherding group, and the Body. I can take someone though the discipleship materials on the Word, and can list half a dozen benefits of the Word in my life.

5. Lordship - I have made living as an obedient disciple of the Lord Jesus my top priority and have symbolized it by baptism. I have reordered my life purpose, objectives, and weekly schedule to reflect my commitment, and make my decisions in accord with the Will of God. I have sought out an accountability partner to aid me in my quest for holy living. I can take someone though the II Corinthians 5 motive for Lordship.

6. Body Building - I can articulate the Biblical purpose of the Church. I have shared with my mentor six specific obediences to the "one another" commands. I have submitted myself to a local body of believers as indicated by signing an agreement of fellowship/membership, and actively participating in a Shepherding group. I can take someone though the Acts 2 pattern for Church.

7. Witnessing - I have shared my faith with an unbeliever to the point where they had a clear option of accepting or rejecting it. I can sketch out a simple explanation of the gospel from memory. I have identified and am cultivating two relationships with non-christians outside my immediate family. I am laboring together with others in a visitation or share group. I can take someone through the John 4 paradigm of evangelism.

8. Discipleship - I have read two of the recommended books on Discipleship have developed a personal philosophy of ministry, shared my plan for becoming a disciplemaker with my shepherd, and am implementing that plan with help from my accountability partner.

9. Speech - I have completed a topical study of the use of the tongue, developed a Biblical Philosophy of Speech, reprogrammed my speech habits, all of which has had a noticeable effect on my conversation.

10. Work & Money - I have completed a topical study on the obtaining and using of money and have developed budgets to guide me in being a good steward of my time as well as my money and strength.

11. Relationships - I have completed a topical study of relationships (dating, husband-wife, parents-children, employer-employee, governmental, church, believer-unbeliever, believer-carnal believer, friendships) and developed and

ingrained a set of Biblical principles for relating to others.

12-23. Theology - I have worked through each of the dozen theological studies with another person, developing and making appropriate life applications from each, which I've shared in my Shepherding group. (God: Father, Son, Holy Spirit; Man; Sin; Salvation: Justification, Sanctification, Glorification; Bible; Church; Future Prophecy; Angels and Satan.)

24-28. Topical Studies - I have spent one month on each of five topical Bible studies, satisfying needs and interests from the TOYL evaluation, and shared the results of my study with someone else.

29. Inductive Bible Study - I have studied and developed an exegetical outline for a book of the Bible, using the various study resources. I can trace the author's argument through the book, putting each passage in its intended context, and derive both the original and contemporary applications.

30. Teaching - I have taught/preached in a public setting so that people understood and were motivated to do what God wanted.

Survey of Discipleship

I. CURIOUS *Those who followed Christ and expressed a willingness to listen to His teachings.*

Matthew 4:25 Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him. 5:1 Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him...

II. CONVINCED *Those who believed Jesus was a prophet/priest.*

John 2:11 This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.

III. COMMITTED *Those who believed Jesus was the promised King, and who follow in spite of hardship, willing to pay the same price Jesus did to accomplish God's will for their lives.*

John 6:66 From this time **many of his disciples turned back** and no longer followed him. 67 "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve. 68 Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. 69...Holy One of God."

1) Lk 14:26 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters--yes, even his own life--he **cannot be my disciple**."

2) Lk 14:27 And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me **cannot be my disciple**."

3) Lk 14:33 same...any of you who does not give up everything he has **cannot be my disciple**."

1) John 8:31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you **hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples**." 32 Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free.

2) John 13:35 By this all men will know **that you are my disciples**, if you **love** one another."

3) John 15:8...to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, **showing yourselves to be my disciples**."

IV. CONFORMED *Those who in the process of following Christ experience a transformation of values, attitudes, and actions, becoming like Christ.*

Decision to be Made

Mt 9:9 Mk 8:34 Then he called the crowd to him **along with his disciples** and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Luke 14:28-33 In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple. 34 "Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? 35 It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out. "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Luke 9:62 Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is **fit for service** in the kingdom of God."

I to be Denied

Mt 19:27 We have **left everything** to follow you! What then will there be for us? 29 And everyone who has left **houses** or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or **fields** for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.

Luke 14:25 14:33...does not give up everything he has **cannot** be my disciple. Mt. 10:37

Savior to be Followed

John 12:26 Whoever **serves me must follow me**; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. 1 Peter 2:21 John 10:4, 27; Mt 8:19 1Cor 11:1 Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ. 2Th 3:9...make ourselves a model for you to follow.

Alternatives to following Christ 1TI 4:1...**follow deceiving spirits** and things taught by demons. 5:15 Some have in fact already turned away to **follow Satan**.

2 Pt 2:2 Many will **follow their shameful ways** and will bring the way of truth into disrepute. 10 This is especially true of those who **follow the corrupt desire** of the sinful nature and despise authority. 15 They have left the straight way and wandered off to **follow the way of Balaam** who loved the wages of wickedness. Jude 1:16 These men are grumblers and faultfinders; they **follow**

their own evil desires 18 They said to you, "In the last times there will be scoffers who will **follow their own ungodly desires.**" 19 These are the men who divide you, who **follow mere natural instincts** and do not have the Spirit.

Cross to be Carried

Luke 14:27 And anyone who does not **carry his cross** and follow me **cannot** be my disciple.

Matthew 10:38 and anyone who does not **take his cross** and follow me is **not worthy** of me. 39 Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Incarnation to be Imitated

Immersion (in Water & Word) to be Continued

Matthew 28:18 "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore **going, make disciples** of all nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and **teaching them to obey** everything I have commanded you. And I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Jn 8:30-32 Lk 6:40 student (disciple) is not above his teacher, but everyone who is **fully trained** will be **like** his teacher.

Production to be Produced

Mark 1:17 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you **fishers** of men." Ac 14:21-23

Jn 15:5 vine...branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you **bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.**

Love to be Lavished

Jn 13:34 "A new command I give you: **Love** one another. As I have loved you, so you must **love** one another. 35 By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you **love one another.**"

Ac 11:29 The disciples, each according to his ability, decided to provide help for the brothers living in Judea

VI. CROWNED *Those who have paid the cost that Christ paid will share in the reward that Christ received for His faithfulness and service.*

Expectation to be Earned

Matthew 16:23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not **have in mind the things of God**, but the things of men." 24 Then Jesus said to his **disciples**, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will **find** it. 26 What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? 27 For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's **glory** with his angels, and then he will **reward** each person according to what he has done.

Matthew 10:41-42; 19:21 27-29; Lk 9:23 "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily & follow me. 24 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will **save** it. 25 What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self? 26 If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his **glory** and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. 2Jn 8 Watch out that you don't lose what you have **worked** for but that you may be **rewarded** fully. Col 3:23 work heartily... since you know that you'll receive an **inheritance** from the Lord as a **reward**

SEVEN Key Discipleship Passages Study Guide:

http://truthbase.net/knowning_god.html

The Motive: Followers of the Lord Jesus Christ need to develop certain relationships in order to mature in their faith.

There are seven key passages of Scripture that provide Divine insight into those relationships.

Truth is an essential building block in our growth as Christians. One New Testament pattern of interacting with the Truth is first:

Learning the Truth (deepening our understanding by first private meditation/study and then public interaction/discussion);
then Living the Truth (determining what we can expect of God and what He expects of us, and then applying it in our daily lives);
and finally, Loving others with the Truth (developing others in their relationship with God by helping them apply Truth to their needs).

The Master Plan: The basic idea is to learn each passage so well that it becomes part of our lives and then we can pass it on to others. It usually takes a couple of weeks to grasp the meaning of the passage and its implications for our lives. So, the idea is to meet twice to discuss each passage: the first week to raise questions and thoughts for further study, and the second time to share conclusions and applications from your study. After the first session, you'll receive a study guide with some additional resources for the

second week. It can take much longer than a couple of weeks to integrate a passage into our values and actions, depending on our desire and how closely our beliefs, values, and actions match those mandated in Scripture, but the sooner you start, the better. At the end of each session, you should be applying the Truth to your life, and able to pass it on to someone else in either helping them get established in their faith, or in assisting their growth, or in ministering to others. Go make reproductive disciples. (Matthew 28:19-20)

The Method: Devote some quality time each week (ten minutes a day or an hour a week, at a minimum) learning all you can about the passage and its implications for your belief system and life. The best way to learn is to ask questions about the verses, and then try to answer them, first on your own, and then with others. Ask: Who? What? When? Were? Why? and How? as you read. To whom is the passage written? What idea was the author trying to get across to his readers? What did he expect them to do with the information? How should they do that? What will happen if they do or don't? Why did the Holy Spirit include it for us today? How does this work today? And so on.

Write out the verses, one phrase at a time, and try to figure out how the phrases are related. Look up words you're not sure of in a dictionary, or any other study aids you have. But make sure you are focusing on what

God has said in the verse, not what some other verse says or what someone else says about it. Ask God to give you insight into what it means and how He expects you to respond to it. You'll learn some additional study techniques along the way, but asking questions about the verse is the best technique for studying the Bible. Bring your unanswered questions to the discussion and be prepared to share some of your answers.

The Passages

(It would be a really, really good idea to memorize these verses as you go along):

1. Your relationship with God in Salvation - Ephesians 2:8-10

Focus: the assurance of salvation by grace through faith, and how to share the good news with someone else.

2. Your relationship with the Word of God - 2Timothy 3:16-17

Focus: convinced of the absolute necessity of the Bible for life and growth, we'll learn five ways to integrate it into our lives (QT).

3. Your relationship with God the Father in Prayer - Philippians 2:6-7

Focus: stimulating communication with our heavenly Father, by understanding the Biblical principles and methods of prayer.

4. Your relationship with the Holy Spirit of God in Sanctification -

Romans 12:1-2 (study supplement: Romans 8:8-17)

Focus: developing a Biblical understanding and sensitivity to the HS in our lives, to draw on His power to live fruitfully and faithfully.

5. Your relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ - 2Corinthians 5:9-10

Focus: trusting and submitting ourselves to His perfect Lordship, so we'll learn how to experience His perfect will in our lives.

6. Your relationship with Other Believers – Hebrews 10:24-25 (study supplement: Acts 2:41-47)

Focus: obeying Biblical commands to interact with “one another,” we'll reap the blessings of Biblical relationships and fellowship.

7. Your relationship with Non Believers – Romans 1:16-17 (study supplement: John 4:1-42)

Focus: seeing Jesus share the gospel at the water cooler, we'll be motivated to sensitively share God's love (and our testimony) with others.

Mark 1:35 Devotional time too Quiet?

35 Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed.38 But He said to them, "Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also, because for this purpose I have come forth."

I. READ, REFLECT, RESPOND, RECORD The *sine qua non* is interaction between God and you, between His Word and your thinking, feeling, and life! We develop our relationship (availability & responsiveness) with God by spending quality time listening and talking to Him, communicating and appreciating Him.

Cars Cuties Cash Dt 17:16 he shall not multiply horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses, for the LORD has said to you, 'You shall not return that way again 17 Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself. 18 Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites. 19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these

Doctrine - The Path

Reproof - Where I'm off the path

Correction - How to get back on path

Training - How to stay on the path.

What God's like?

What I'm like/should be?

What He expects of me?

What I can expect of Him?

statutes, 20 that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel. POWER, PLEASURE, POSSESSIONS

1Kg 10: 23 So King Solomon surpassed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom. 26 gathered chariots and horsemen; he had 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen, in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem. 27 He made gold/silver as common in Jerusalem as stones...28 Also Solomon had horses imported from Egypt and Keveh; 11:1 But King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites— 2 from the nations of whom the LORD had said to the children of Israel, "You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods." Solomon clung to these in love. 3 And he had 700 wives, princesses, and 300 concubines; and his wives turned away his heart. 9 So the LORD became angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned from the LORD God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice

II. Suggestions For Reflection

Who, What, When, Where, Why, How, How Much? Meditation=implications for applications II Tim 3:16-17 Does this passage show me:

III. Suggestions For Reading Develop a plan; See Standard Suggestions Sheet; Read the passage being taught at your church. **Sign up for DailyTruthbase.Blog** Your Quiet Time is for God's benefit, then your benefit, and then to help build up the Body. Read the pamphlet *My Heart, Christ's Home* by IVP. Join the Book of the Month Club with a friend: spend an entire month in one book of the Bible using your Bible Study skills for your allotted time. Finish your study with the Four R's and share what you learned with your friend. Find a list of the attributes of God in a Bible Dictionary (under the heading "God, Attributes of") and look up the verses listed or better yet find you own. For each attribute write a descriptive paragraph about God and how that effects/should effect your thinking, feelings, and actions. Use a devotional guide for a month like *My Upmost for His Highest* by Oswald Chambers, or one of Chuck Swindoll's books. (make sure you do the suggested exercises and look up the verses.) Read a Book of the Bible along with a Commentary (Bible Knowledge Commentary, Victor Books. Walvoord/Zuck. Use a Topical Bible or Concordance and spend a couple of days studying and responding in areas of need and interest

IV. Suggestions On Responding/Recording See the Daily Prayer Pattern on the Weekly Prayer List. See Psalm 5 example. Pray the scriptures back to God in your own words, in the first person, substituting "I, me, my" when appropriate. Take away a doggie bag, by jotting down a key applicational thought (journal/Post-it). Share with someone. Memorize. TOYL

V. Time & Place: Why in the morning?

Puts God first; Gain God's perspective on your day; Pray thru ToDo list; Morning and Evening sacrifice; Example of Jesus Mk 1:35: Instruction of Jesus- when do you pray for daily bread?; Every Christian biography; Every reproductive disciple; Develops the habit, easier to maintain; Less distractions; Look for how God answers throughout day (Ps 5); Allows you to reflect and pray more as you do the routine tasks (shower, commute, etc)

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. Why is a consistent QT almost universally difficult? What are your best reasons for having a QT? What motivates you to have a QT?
2. Why do QT's become stale or you don't get anything out of them? How can you have a feast with God (Milk, Cereal, Sizzling steak)
3. What factors/conditions are in effect when you have a great interactive time with God? How can you make those times be the norm?
4. What will you do this week to enrich and deepen and delight in your relationship with God? What help do you need?

Pray through ToDo List: 1) Read, 2) Reflect, 3) Respond, 4) Record
Proverb/Psalm of the Day Scripture Memory (See Affirmations)

Prayer List (See Guide)

Bible Reading Plan

THE LAW (PENTATEUCH)

Genesis	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50
Exodus	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40
Leviticus	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27
Numbers	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36
Deuteronomy	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34

HISTORY (PRE-EXILIC)

Joshua	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
Judges	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21
Ruth	1 2 3 4
I Samuel	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
II Samuel	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
I Kings	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22
II Kings	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

HISTORY (POST-EXILIC)

I Chronicles	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
II Chronicles	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36
Ezra	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Nehemiah	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
Esther	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

POETRY

Job	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42
Psalms	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150
Proverbs	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
Ecclesiastes	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
Song of Solomon	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

PROPHECY (THE MAJOR PROPHETS)

Isaiah	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66
Jeremiah	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52
Lamentations	1 2 3 4 5

Ezekiel	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48
Daniel	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

PROPHECY (THE MINOR PROPHETS)

Hosea	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Joel	1 2 3
Amos	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Obadiah	1
Jonah	1 2 3 4	Micah	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Nahum	1 2 3	Habakkuk	1 2 3
Zephaniah	1 2 3	Haggai	1 2
Zechariah	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Malachi	1 2 3 4

NEW TESTAMENT HISTORY (GOSPELS/ACTS)

Matthew	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28
Mark	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
Luke	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
John	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21
Acts	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

PAUL'S EPISTLES

Romans	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16		
I Corinthians	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16		
II Corinthians	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13		
Galatians	1 2 3 4 5 6	Ephesians	1 2 3 4 5 6
Philippians	1 2 3 4	Colossians	1 2 3 4
I Thessalonians	1 2 3 4 5	II Thessalonians	1 2 3
I Timothy	1 2 3 4 5 6	II Timothy	1 2 3 4
Titus	1 2 3	Philemon	1

THE GENERAL EPISTLES

Hebrews	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13						
James	1 2 3 4 5	I Peter	1 2 3 4 5	II Peter	1 2 3		
I John	1 2 3 4 5	II John	1	III John	1	Jude	1
Revelation	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22						

Pray through ToDo List

1) Read, 2) Reflect, 3) Respond, 4) Record

Proverb/Psalm of the Day Scripture Memory (See Affirmations)

Prayer List (See Guide)

Spiritual Warfare Prayer (prerequisites)

Dr Ed Murphy "Handbook of Spiritual Warfare", Nelson Pub, p 593. Appendix D&B: Requirements for Deliverance and Staying Free from Further Demonization

REQUIREMENTS FOR DELIVERANCE

1. Be assured of salvation through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. Humble yourself before God. Be totally open and honest with Him.
3. Confess and renounce the sin of your family line.
4. Confess and renounce your own sins.
5. Choose to forgive everyone who has hurt, rejected, or offended you, especially those who have injured you the most deeply (an act of faith and obedience; your emotions have nothing to do with the matter).
6. Ask God to forgive, redeem, and cleanse those who have hurt you. Desire (Qy faith) their salvation and spiritual well-being.
7. Commit the totality of your life to the absolute lordship of the Lord Jesus Christ.
8. Speak out against Satan and his demons declaring they no longer have any place in your life. Their sin grounds have been removed. They must now leave your life and not return.

REQUIREMENTS TO STAY FREE FROM FURTHER DEMONIZATION

1. Practice "The Daily Affirmation of Faith." This is the "word of your testimony" (Rev. 12:11; Eph. 3:10). (See Appendix A.)
2. Repeat the "Warfare *Prayer*" found in Appendix B. When *you* feel internal resistance to this prayer, it is demonic. Practice James 4:7—Sa until the demons leave. Tell them to leave quietly and with no harm to you.
3. Study Ephesians 6:1—20 daily. By faith put on the whole armor of God. That armor is yours in Christ, i.e., he is the armor (Rom. 13:12—14; 2 Cor. 6:7; 10:4; Gal. 3:27). Pray according to Ephesians 6:18—20.
4. Stay away from all sinful practices. Avoid any environment which will lead you into temptation. Avoid the companionship of persons who could lead you back into sin.
5. Begin daily Bible study Don't be concerned if you don't understand everything in the Bible. Keep reading.
6. Join a Bible-believing, Christ-honoring local church. Attend faithfully. Attend Sunday School with your age group.
7. Try and get into a small Bible study-prayer group, a James 5:16 prayer-share-healing group.
8. Pray daily Start a prayer list of things and persons you want to pray for. God will answer your prayers.

Spiritual Warfare – Murphy p 522-523

Pitfall Two: Inadequate Pre-Deliverance Counseling

Failure to counsel adequately before attempting deliverance (if deliverance is needed) is the second pitfall. The purpose of pre-deliverance counseling is to discover what is truly occurring in the counselee's life. If there is demonic activity the purpose is to help the individual understand the "sin handles" to which demons have possibly attached themselves. Demonic powers gain entrance only through sin areas in a person's life. Sin areas give demons something to hold on to, hence the term "sin handles." The apostle Paul refers to them as 'grounds' or 'footholds'

(PHILLIPS) in the believer's life (Eph. 4:27).

In chapter 54 we examined generational or familial sin, discovering that such sin comes as a judgment from God. It often involves strong demonic influence, even demonization, which seems to pass down through a family's line from one generation to the next.

The enemy may have gained entrance into the family by one of several ways: through dedication of oneself or the family to an occult organization, a non-Christian religion, a god (which Paul calls a "no god" in Gal. 4:7), or evil spirits; or through curses put on a family or its members (including self-curses). Demons may have come through the commitment of a family head to sinful businesses such as crimes prostitution, or pornography, palmistry, New Age practices, conducting seances, reading tarot cards, venerating ancestors, or producing and selling occult literature. In addition, demons may enter through acts of violence and bloodshed, abuse, deceit, or various kinds of similar sinful acts.

Generational demonization will usually continue until someone in that family line finally takes responsibility for the ancestral sins, repents, and claims the cleansing blood of Christ to break the demonic power. After this occurs, all curses can be broken and the demons cast out. Such acceptance of responsibility for generational sin, repentance, and cleansing needs to precede deliverance. If the person falls back into the family sin, then repents, generational sin may have to be broken again.

Finally, we must never forget that people often come into bondage to sin because they have been the victim of the sins of others. Even if the person is too young to sin personally or to remember the abuse itself, reactions against it can erupt into sins such as anger, rage, hatred (including self-hate), shame, rejection (including self-rejection), rebellion, and even attempts at suicide. Victims may also develop a myriad of sexual problems, such as excessive masturbation, promiscuity, sexual addictions, and frigidity. Victimized people are often drawn into these types of sinful behavior without knowing why.

Only as such sin areas are recognized by the person and dealt with through confession, repentance, and forgiveness through the cleansing power of Christ can total freedom from demonic attachment truly occur. That freedom usually occurs over a period of time, but it can occur instantly.

Unfortunately, many who practice spiritual warfare ministry and deliverance counseling often fall short at this point. Too often the counselor or deliverance minister goes directly after the demons, battling them sometimes for hours until the demons' suffering becomes so extreme that they leave or are "cast out" of the victim—but for how long?

If effective pre-deliverance counseling is short-circuited, the deliverance will usually only be temporary. If the sin handles still remain, the original demons can easily return—with reinforcements (Matt. 12:42—45)! If the original demons are forbidden to return, millions of other "free-floating" demons like them are ready to latch onto the still existing handles in the believer's life. Truly, "the last state of that man becomes worse than the first" (Matt. 12:45 NASB).

Pitfall Three: Inadequate Post-Deliverance Counseling (see handbook)

See DEFENSE AGAINST DARK ARTS STUDY GUIDE on Truthbase.net

Spiritual Warfare Prayer (note prerequisites on Appendix D)

Heavenly Father, I bow in worship and praise before you. I cover myself with the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ as my protection during this time of prayer. I surrender myself completely and unreservedly in every area of my life to yourself. I do take a stand against all the workings of Satan that would hinder me in this time of prayer, and I address myself only to the true and living God and refuse any involvement of Satan in my prayer.

Satan, I command you, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, to leave my presence with all your demons, and I bring the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ between us.

Heavenly Father, I worship you, and I give you praise. I recognize that you are worthy to receive all glory and honor and praise. I renew my allegiance to you and pray that the blessed Holy Spirit would enable me in this time of prayer. I am thankful, heavenly Father, that you have loved me from past eternity, that you sent the Lord Jesus Christ into the world to die as my substitute that I would be redeemed. I am thankful that the Lord Jesus Christ came as my representative, and that through Him you have completely forgiven me; you have given me eternal life; you have given me the perfect righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ so I am now justified. I am thankful that in Him you have made me complete, and that you have offered yourself to me to be my strength.

Heavenly Father, come and open my eyes that I might see how great you are and how complete your provision is for this new day. I do, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, take my place with Christ in the heavenlies with all principalities and powers (powers of darkness and wicked spirits) under my feet. I am thankful that the victory the Lord Jesus Christ won for me on the Cross and in His resurrection has been given to me and that I am seated with the Lord Jesus Christ in the heavenlies; therefore, I declare that all principalities and powers and all wicked spirits are subject to me in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I am thankful for the armor you have provided, and I put on the girdle of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the sandals of peace, the helmet of salvation. I lift up the shield of faith against all the fiery darts of the Enemy, and take in my hand the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God, and use your Word against all the forces of evil in my life; and I put on this armor and live and pray in complete dependence upon you, blessed Holy Spirit.

I am grateful, heavenly Father, that the Lord Jesus Christ spoiled all principalities and powers and made a show of them openly and triumphed over them in Himself. I claim all that victory for my life today I reject out of my life all the insinuations, the accusations, and the temptations of Satan. I affirm that the Word of God is true, and I choose to live today in the light of God's Word. I choose, heavenly Father, to live in obedience to you and in fellowship with yourself.

Open my eyes and show me the areas of my life that would not please you. Work in my life that there be no ground to give Satan a foothold against me. Show me any area of weakness. Show me any area of my life that I must deal with so that I would please you. I do in every way today stand for you and the ministry of the Holy Spirit in my life.

By faith and in dependence upon you, I put off the old man and stand into all the victory of the Crucifixion where the Lord Jesus Christ provided cleansing from the old nature. I put on the new man and stand into all the victory of the Resurrection and the provision He has made for me there to live above sin. Therefore, in this day, I put off the old nature with its selfishness, and I put on the

new nature with its love. I put off the old nature with its fear and I put on the new nature with its courage. I put off the old nature with its weakness and with all its deceitful lusts and I put on the new nature with all its righteousness and purity.

I do In every way stand into the victory of the Ascension and the glorification of the Son of God where all principalities and powers were made subject to Him, and I claim my place in Christ victorious with Him over all the enemies of my soul. Blessed Holy Spirit, I pray that you would fill me. Come into my life, break down every idol, and cast out every foe.

I am thankful, heavenly Father, for the expression of your will for my daily life as you have shown me in your Word. I therefore claim all the will of God for today. I am thankful that you have blessed me with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. I am thankful that you have begotten me unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. I am thankful that you have made a provision so that today I can live filled with the Spirit of God with love and joy and self-control in my life. And I recognize that this is your will for me, and I therefore reject and resist all the endeavors of Satan and of these demons to rob me of the will of God. I hold up the shield of faith against all the accusations and against all the insinuations that Satan would put in my mind.

I do, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, completely surrender myself to you, heavenly Father, as a living sacrifice. I choose not to be conformed to this world. I choose to be transformed by the renewing of my mind, and I pray that you would show me your will and enable me to walk in all the fullness of the will of God today

I am thankful, heavenly Father, that the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds, to the casting down of imaginations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and to bring every thought into obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore in my own life today I tear down the strongholds of Satan, and I smash the plans of Satan that have been formed against me. I tear down the strongholds of Satan against my mind, and I choose to think my thoughts after you, blessed Holy Spirit. I affirm, heavenly Father, that you have not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. I break and smash the strongholds of Satan formed against my emotions today, and I give my will to you, and choose to make the right decisions of faith. I smash the strongholds of Satan formed against my body today, and I give my body to you, recognizing that I am your temple; and I rejoice in your mercy and your goodness.

Heavenly Father, I pray that now through this day you would quicken me; show me the way that Satan is hindering and tempting and lying and counterfeiting and distorting the truth in my life. Enable me to be the kind of person that would please you. Enable me to be aggressive in prayer. Enable me to be aggressive mentally and to think your thoughts after you, and to give you your rightful place in my life.

Again, I now cover myself with the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ and pray that you, blessed Holy Spirit, would bring all the work of the Crucifixion, all the work of the Resurrection, all the work of the glorification, and all the work of Pentecost into my life today I yield my life to you. I refuse to be discouraged. You are the God of all hope. You have proven your power by resurrecting Jesus Christ from the dead, and I claim in every way your victory over all satanic forces active in my life, and I reject these forces; and I pray in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ with thanksgiving. Amen.

This prayer is taken from Mark Bubeck's book *The Adversary* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1975) and was written by Dr. Victor Matthews and lightly edited by Dr. Neil T. Anderson. Used by permission. (in orig.)

Dr Ed Murphy "Handbook of Spiritual Warfare", Nelson Pub, p 593.

Truth Transformers: Mind-Renewing Affirmations

I WILL AFFIRM THE FOLLOWING SCRIPTURAL TRUTHS ABOUT MYSELF:

Who I am/my **IDENTITY** as a believer "in Christ": (i.e., Gal 2:20; II Cor 5:17)

My **PURPOSE** in life: (I Cor 6:20; 10:31; II Cor 5:9-10; Phil 1:21; I Pt 2:9-12)

My **GOALS** in life: (Mt 6:33; I Cor 3:13-14; 9:24-27; Phil 3:8-11; I Pt 1:17)

My **TRUST** in the Lord: (Pv 3:5-6; Phil 4:6-7,13,19; Mt 6:24-33; Heb 11:6)

My **VICTORY** over sin: (I Cor 10:13; Rm 6:1-14; I Jn 2:15-17; 4:4; Job 31:1)

My use of **TIME**: (Eph 5:15-16; Ps 90:12; II Pt 3:11-14; Ecc 3:1-15)

My performance at **WORK**: (Col 3:23-24; Pv 18:9; 24:3-4; 27:23-27;

My **SPEECH**: (Eph 4:29; Col 3:16; 4:6; Pv 10:11, 19; 18:13; 26:18-19)

My **STEWARDSHIP**: (Pv 3:9-10; Lk 16:11; I Tim 6:6-10, 17-19)

My role as a **SPOUSE**: (Eph 5:22; I Pt 3:1-8; Pv 5:15-21; I Cor 7:2-5; SoS 4:16)

My **RESPONSE** to trials: (Js 1:2-4; 5:10-11; II Cor 4:17-18; Heb 12:2-3)

My **CHARACTER**: (Gal 5:22-23; II Pt 1:4-8; I Tim 3:1-13; Col 3:1-10; Pv 6:16)

My **RELATIONSHIPS**: (I Cor 15:33; Phil 2:1-10; Pv 27:17; Mt 20:26-28; Mk 12:31)

OTHER AFFIRMATIONS:

Devotional Time & Prayer List

TOYL PRAYER LIST & GUIDE

DAILY

Prayers of Thanksgiving
 Prayers of Adoration & Praise
 Confession/Forgiveness
 Prayers for Renewal
 Correct Thinking
 Correct Attitudes/Feelings
 Correct Actions
 Prayers of Affirmation
 Victory over the World
 Victory over the Flesh
 Victory over the Devil
 Prayers for Personal Needs/**Priorities**
 Prayers for Others
 Doxology

SUNDAY

Seek after God
 Self:Growth in Christ
 My local Church
 Those who lead
 Others who serve
 Purpose/Plans
 Other Churches/Ministries
 Educational Institutions

MONDAY

My Mate
 My Ministry
 Evangelism
 Friends / Family Members
 Neighbors / Associates
 Others

TUESDAY

Thanksgiving
 Things
 Relationships
 Faithfulness as a steward
 with my things; with my time
 with my treasure

WEDNESDAY

The World

Workers in the cause of Christ
 Foreign Missions
 Local Missions
 The Great Commission

THURSDAY

Those who believe
 Personal Friends
 Those who've helped me grow
 Those I'm helping to grow
 Those in my Church
 Those in other churches
 Those who are oppressed

FRIDAY

Family
 Relatives
 Friends

SATURDAY

Salvation of Those in Institutions
 Salvation of Those in bondage
 Government
 Local / State Federal / World

Sanctification: It Ain't Gonna Reign No More

Raised = Dead to Sin ... Alive to God -Romans 6:4,6,9,14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for you are not under the law, but under grace.

Decide to believe (by faith) the truth that you are dead to sin and alive to God *Ro 6:11 Likewise reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God through Jesus Christ our Lord. 12 Let not sin therefore reign in you 2Pe 1.-5; 1 Thess 4:1-7)*

Extinguish desire through envisioning consequences and examining motives & the sin process then **EXIT** at the first sign.

Ro 6:19-21; 8:13 For if ye live according to the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. Col 3.-5 Mortify therefore your members

Jas 1:14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away by his own lust, and enticed. 15 men when lust has conceived, it brings forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, brings forth death

Admit sin, Name it (sin) and Claim it (forgiveness) in your journey *1Jo 1.-8-9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive & cleanse us from all*

Don't slip back but do the new thing ... to the point of shedding blood *Heb 12:4 Ye have not yet resisted to blood, striving against sin. Ro 8:18*

Align your thinking, values, feelings, and actions with the Word of God and Will of the Spirit then **ACT AS IF** *John 17.-17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. Ro 6:17,- 8:14,- 12:1-2*

Live soundmindedly (purposefully & objectively) as you pursue holiness with others who call upon the Lord *2Ti 2:21-22*

Imagine & ingrain the correct attitudes & behavior by thinking & prayer

Jps 1:8 ... thou shalt meditate ... for the purpose of obeying Php 4:8 think on these things.

Value holiness and the blessing (reward) of God above all else *Ro 6:18,22 Col 3:1-2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.*

Expect God to work through others and trials to produce in you the character and actions of His Son *Ro 8:28-29, 32 conformed to the image*

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. Why aren't more believers thinking, looking, and acting like Jesus Christ?
2. Are there alternatives to eradicating sin habits other than reprogramming your robot with the Word? If so, are they working for you?
3. Is it easier to be "set free" from self-indulgence or self-centeredness? (Jn 8:32)
4. At what stage in the process of sanctification would Satan be most likely to thwart your efforts? Are you accountable to anyone for help?
5. How much time have you actually spent seriously reprogramming your robot for holiness? When will you spend the time?

PERCEPTION AND PERFORMANCE
3: EMOTIONS A

You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You. 4 Trust in the LORD forever, For in YAH, the LORD, is everlasting strength.

Fools Vent - Wise Prevent

Pr 29:11 A fool vents all his feelings, But a wise man holds them back.

I. Our Habits & Values create Expectations, influencing our Perceptions & Emotions, determining our Performance.

Experiences Values Expectations Filter
Perceptions Emotions Performance
Feedback

II. Emotions can be positive/helpful or negative/hurtful; denied, avoided, or used and mastered

Pr 29:11 Vent = cause wind/spirit/disposition to go out (Hiphil - causative); Holds = soothe or still back (Piel -intentional/intensive)
No one makes us feel; we choose to create feelings, acc our rules; by what we focus on, meaning we attach, represent = re present

TEN categories/types of emotions and their message

(from Tony Robbins *Lessons In Mastery*)
Steps (Robbins): 1. Identify emotion & signal; 2. Listen to message about what needs to change (perception/rules or procedure); 3. Get curious about what it's offering you how can benefit; need to change way acting, feeling, communicating; 4.Reprogram by rehearsing how to use as tool of empowerment; 5. Take constant and repeated action to improve and change life

1. Uncomfortable: low intensity: boredom, impatient, uneasy, distressed, embarrassed
Message: need to change, clarify what you want, take action until you get it. *Isa 26:3*

2. Fear: concern, apprehension, worry, anxiety, scared, frightened, terrified (don't deny or surrender to) *IPt 5:7 Casting all your cares upon Him...He cares for you.*

Message: need to prepare self to deal with or avoid negative consequences (appropriate versus fixation)
Isa 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'

3. Hurt: loss (intimacy, trust) (is there really a loss? Maybe need to change expectation or way of communicating)
Message: expectation not met *Php 4:19 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*

4. Anger: irritated, livid, resentful, furious, rage – outgrowth of hurt {build-up} (how you deal will result in closeness or distance)
Message: important rule or standard has been violated (clarify or compromise {personal stds}) *Eph 4:31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. Eph 4:26 do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath,*

5. Frustration: held back, hindered in pursuit of something *Ps 138:8 The LORD will perfect that which concerns me*
Message: change approach to achieving goal (flexible) *Jas 1:4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. Ps*

18:32 *It is God who arms me with strength, And makes my way perfect.*

not be charged against them.17 But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me,

6. Disappointment: sad or defeated, something you expect didn't work out well
Php 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say, rejoice!

Message: outcome won't happen unless you change expectation to more appropriate outcome in light of reality

7. Guilt: regret (don't deny it, nor surrender – it will intensify into inadequacy, inferiority)
Message: you violated the standard and must do something immediately to ensure you won't do it again in the future (make right) *1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

8. Inadequacy: less than or unworthy (is criteria appropriate or do I need to change procedure) *2Tim 3:16-17 adequate/perfect/equipped*
Message: need to do something to get better in this area right away *Php 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

9. Overloaded: overwhelmed, hopeless, depressed, more than you can deal with (too much in too short a period of time) *Mt 26:38*
Message: reevaluate what's most important (necessity or desire), prioritize, take action on first one, back in control! *2Co 9:8 God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.*

10. Lonely: separation *Ps 42:11 Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God.*
Message: need to connect with another
2Tim 4:16 At my first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me. May it

Questions for

Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. What situation tends to evoke a strong negative emotional response? What are your expectations in that situation? What values are revealed?
2. How does complete faithful submission to the Lordship of Christ “solve” emotional problems or keep them from arising?
3. Is it easier to change our values or reprogram our robot (subconscious habit) responses? How do you act your way into a feeling?
4. What emotion would you most like to master? Why? What advantages would you experience? What would you have to change?

5. ACTION STEP: note the times and expectations that evoke a feeling you want to master. Analyze, Adjust (values/expectation), Act.

LIES WE BELIEVE (That Keep Us Bound To Sin)

I. Lies Regarding MY JOY & PURPOSE

- My highest joy and delight can be found in something or someone other than God (or apart from His revealed will)
- My happiness/peace depends upon external circumstances: (situation at work, spouse, condition of apartment, response of others, finance)
- Temporal pleasure outweighs the eternal benefit of self-sacrifice

II. Lies Regarding WHO I AM

- My worth or value is dependent on what I do/have in the eyes of others
- What I do is more important than what I am.
- Explanations excuse behavior.
- The way I am is the way I will be. I can't help being the way I am or having the personality I have.
- I am better/more important than someone else...than I really am
- I have rights.
- Being different is bad.
- I have no control over how I feel, or think, or act, nor over my attitudes
- I have to be true to my feelings. I only have to do what I want or feel like doing.

III. Lies Regarding MONEY & POSSESSIONS

- Security is found in savings/job rather than the sovereignty of God.
- Money buys happiness (respect, worth/value as an individual).
- What we have is purely a function of our efforts
- God doesn't own it all.
- The abilities and resources God has entrusted to me are to be used for my comfort, security, and pleasure.
 - More is better.

IV. Lies Regarding GOD'S WAYS

- God's acceptance of me is unconditional.[His love is unconditional.]
- God won't reward me differently from others. God wouldn't want me to do anything foolish.

There is no future judgment (rewards or punishments) for the words and works of believers, therefore I can live as I please.

- God always keeps us in the dark about what He's doing or wants.
- God has infinite patience in dealing with His creatures
- My sins won't find me out, nor fester, nor impede my growth but will just go away.

V. Lies Regarding GOD'S WORD

- God doesn't mean what He says.
- Sin isn't deadly; it doesn't kill
- It's more important what others think than what God thinks.
- Tradition or the majority determine truth.
- God's word must be tempered by experience or culture
- God's standards are relative.
- I need a model before I obey or follow the principles of Scripture.
- God doesn't expect me to accurately understand Scripture.
- Studying the Bible should be easy if God wants me to do it.
- I can master sin without mastering the Scriptures.

VI. Lies Regarding WHAT I DO

- My time is my own; I need to protect it rather than pour it out for others.
- God needs me to accomplish His purpose.
- My love of others can be conditional.
- My acceptance of others must be unconditional.
- God is content if I show up (on Sunday), fork up (a few bucks) and shut up (when it comes to praise and witnessing).
- God doesn't hold be accountable for the souls of my co-workers or neighbors.
- Parents are incapable of discipling their children to maturity-
- Submission in marriage is to one another.
- Success is more important than faithfulness.
- I don't have enough time/strength to do all that God wants me to do.
- I should only love the lovely or do what makes me feel good.

VII. Lies Regarding NATURE OF CHRISTIANITY & CHURCH

- The purpose of Christianity is something other than glorifying God through obedient discipleship which will result in reproductive Christianity.
- Worship and love are emotional feelings.
- Christianity/religion is a private affair between me and God, independent of other believers.
- Submission is only in black and white areas.
- Ritual/appearance is more important than reality.
- Ministry or Bible Study is only for the superspiritual rather than a way of life.
- Holiness is automatic rather than a product of blood, sweat, and tears.
- I have to like someone and be like them to learn from them.
- I can be in subjection to Christ and not in submission to His Body.
- Imitations and difficulties are to be avoided as bad rather than welcomed as blessings that refine me.
- Serving God means going into full-time Christian work.
- There is a Biblical distinction between clergy and laity.

VIII. Lies Regarding RELATIONSHIPS

- Relationships either "click" or don't based upon common interests/backgrounds (rather than having God in common).
- Relationships and Church are for getting my needs satisfied.
- Letting a person be comfortable (save face) is better than open rebuke.
- Love is letting a person peacefully continue in sin and error.
- Others cause me to sin or prevent me from doing what's wise
- Fear of man is more important the fear of God.

IX. Lies Regarding MY RELATIONSHIP TO GOD

- God's highest goal for me is my happiness (rather than my holiness).
- The chief end/purpose of man is self-gratification.

- I can be pleasing to God without sacrifice (pain, suffering, rejection.)
- We're just sinners saved by grace (so it's natural to continue to sin.)
- Sin is pleasurable, and a little sin never hurt anyone.
- Power, pleasure, and possessions can be sought and enjoyed apart from God.
- God is to be enjoyed, not feared; God is to be feared, not enjoyed.

X. THEOLOGICAL LIES:

- You can lose your salvation.
- You have to repent to be justified. You can be sanctified without repenting.
- There are some sins that God won't forgive.
- I need something more than what God has given to live the Christian life.
- Our efforts are going to bring in the kingdom.
- There is no kingdom, nor are there differential rewards and punishments.
- Special wisdom from God is necessary to interpret the Bible
- The bad guys in the Scriptures are always the unbelievers.
- Satan doesn't have influence over believers, nor does he control the world.

Peg System for Scripture Memory Enhancement

#	BODY	PLACE (Chapter)	PERSON (Verse)	ITEM (Verse)	Action	Other
0	<i>z,s=eyes</i>	<u>ZOO</u>	Zoro	saw	sow	cei(ling)
1	<i>t,d=toe</i>	<u>HUT</u>	Dough Boy/ET	tea	tow	hot
2	<i>n=knee</i>	<u>INN</u>	Noah	wine	wane	new
3	<i>m=muscle</i>	<u>HOME</u>	Moe/Ma	ham	mow	Omaha
4	<i>r=rear</i>	<u>ROW</u> (Houses)	Ray (Charles)	oar	row	error
5	<i>l=love handle</i>	<u>HILL</u>	Whale	hail	lie	eel
6	<i>sh,ch,j=shoulder</i>	<u>SHOW/SHOE</u>	Witch	jay (blue)	show	jaw
7	<i>k,c=collar</i>	<u>KEY</u> (FL)	Cow	ax	coup	hawk
8	<i>f,v=face</i>	<u>HIYE</u>	Eve	ivy	vow	wave
9	<i>p,b=point</i>	<u>WEB/BAY</u>	Pooh	whip	bye/boo	bee
10	<i>t,d & s,z</i>	<u>HADES/DAYS</u> (Inn)	<u>Toys</u>	ties	doze/ties	dues
11	<i>t,d & t,d</i>	<u>TUT</u> (Pyramid)	Toad	tutu	toot	tote
12	<i>t,d & n</i>	<u>DUNE</u>	Tin man	tin (can)	dine	tune
13	<i>t,d & m</i>	<u>TOMB</u>	Adam	dime	tame	dome
14	<i>t,d & r</i>	<u>TOWER</u> (Eiffel)	Tire man	tire	Tear	tour
15	<i>t,d & l</i>	<u>DALE/DELL</u>	Dale (Evans)	towel	duel/deal	dial
16	<i>t,d & sh,ch,j</i>	<u>DITCH</u>	Dutch (boy)	dish	Dash	douche
17	<i>t,d & k,c</i>	<u>DOCK</u>	Doc	Duck (white)	Take	Duke
18	<i>t,d & f,v</i>	TV	Thief	Daffey (black)	dive	dove
19	<i>t,d & p,b</i>	<u>TUB</u>	Tubby/Tabby	Tape	tip	dip
20	<i>n & s,z</i>	<u>NOOSE</u> (gallows)	Groucho	Nose	neice	news
21	<i>n & t,d</i>	<u>NET/NUT</u> (shell)	Newt	nut/net	note	knot
22	<i>n & n</i>	<u>NOON</u> (high)	Nun	nanny		anon. (AA)
23	<i>n & m</i>	<u>GHOME</u> (igloo)	Gnome (fairy/elf)	name (tag)		
24	<i>n & r</i>	<u>NERU</u> (Taj Mah)	Nero	Nair		Neru (jacket)
25	<i>n & l</i>	<u>NILE</u> (river)	Cleopatra	nail	knell	Nelly
26	<i>n & sh,ch,j</i>	<u>NICHE/NOSH</u> (bagel)	Nacho Bandito	notch	"natch"	natchua'(re)
27	<i>n & k,c</i>	<u>NUKE</u> (microwave)	Nick (St.)	gnocchi	knock/ho nk	neck
28	<i>n & f,v</i>	<u>NAVY</u> (carrier)	Knave (jack)	Knife		
29	<i>n & p,b</i>	<u>NOB</u> Hill	Newbie	Knob	"nope"	nape
30	<i>m & s,z</i>	<u>MAZE</u>	Moose (Bullwinkle)	Mouse		Ms.
31	<i>m & t,d</i>	<u>MOAT</u>	Mate/Mute	mat		meat

Top Ten Time Wasters

1. Reactive Fireman
Tyranny of the Urgent
2. Purposeless Tasks
*80/20, perfectionism, control
freak, escapism, TV*
3. Disorganization
*No: written plan, priorities,
logical order; clutter*
4. Telephone Tag/Interruptions
5. Inability to Say "NO"
*worth/value from others'
opinions*
6. Dull Saw - Low Energy
no planned maintenance
7. Repeating Mistakes
no review/evaluation
8. Indecision
*failure to commit to a plan,
follow priorities*
9. Independence
solo effort
10. Procrastination
perfectionism

Top Ten Time Savers

1. Align with PURPOSE
*meetings,
interactions/relationships, record-
keeping*
2. Proactive Planning
*plan your work—work your
plan,
what...how...when...to what
standard)*
3. Organize[r]
*work smarter and harder,
task, schedule and environment*
4. 80/20 Priorities & Performance
5. Just Say "NO"
*listen, reflect, reject, reason,
alternative*
6. Sharpen the Lumberjack as well as the
Saw
7. Review/Evaluate
Purpose, Priorities, Progress
8. Delegate, Direct & Control
*not abdicate, follow-up until
done*
9. Synergize
10. Sit on Your Hands

Personal Leadership Development Traits

POSES Plan Organize Supervise
Evaluate Sell on Change -bc

Principles of Leadership

<http://www.bigchalk.com>

To help you *be, know, and do*, follow these eleven principles

1. Know yourself and seek self-improvement. In order to know yourself, you have to understand your *be, know, and do*, attributes. Seeking self-improvement means continually strengthening your attributes. This can be accomplished through reading, self-study, classes, etc.

2. Be technically proficient. As a leader, you must know your job and have a solid familiarity with your employees' jobs.

3. Seek responsibility and take responsibility for your actions. Search for ways to guide your organization to new heights. And when things go wrong, they will sooner or later, do not blame others. Analyze the situation, take corrective action, and move on to the next challenge.

4. Make sound and timely decisions. Use good problem solving, decision making, & planning tools.

- I. Does what's right
- J. Controlled by values
- K. Loyal to the bitter end
- L. Looks for solutions
- M. Perseveres when challenged

5. Set the example. Be a good role model for your employees. They must not only hear what they are expected to do, but also see.

6. Know your people and look out for their well-being. Know human nature & the importance of sincerely caring for your workers.

7. Keep your people informed. Know how to communicate with your people, seniors, other key people within the organization.

8. Develop a sense of responsibility in your people. Develop good character traits within your people that will help them carry out their professional responsibilities.

9. Ensure tasks are understood/supervised/accomplished. Communication key to this responsibility.

10. Train your people as a team. Although many so called leaders call their organization, department, section, etc. a team; they are not really teams they are just a group of people doing their jobs.

11. Use the full capabilities of your organization. By developing a team spirit, you will be able to employ your organization, department, section, etc. to its fullest capabilities.

Qualities of a Basketball Leader

<http://coachlikeapro.tripod.com/basketball/id13.html>

- N. Relies on internal motivation
- O. Words and actions agree
- P. Self-confident
- Q. Choices add up to success

Don Campbell **Nehemiah: Man in Charge**, p. 23

1. He established a reasonable and attainable goal.
2. He had a sense of mission.
3. He was willing to get involved.
4. He rearranged his priorities in order to accomplish his goal.
5. He patiently waited for God's timing.
6. He showed respect to his superior.
7. He prayed at crucial times.
8. He made his request with tact and graciousness.
9. He was well prepared and thought of his needs in advance.
10. He went through proper channels.
11. He took time (three days) to rest, pray, and plan.
12. He investigated the situation firsthand.
13. He informed others only after he knew the size of the problem.
14. He identified himself as one with the people.

15. He set before them a reasonable and attainable goal.
16. He assured them God was in the project.
17. He displayed self-confidence in facing obstacles.
18. He displayed God's confidence in facing obstacles.
19. He did not argue with opponents.
20. He was not discouraged by opposition.
21. He courageously used the authority of his position.

Top Ten Traits of School Leaders

http://www.educationworld.com/a_admin/admin190.shtml

Last month, 43 of the Education World Principal Files principals participated in a survey. The result of that survey is this list of the top ten traits of school leaders, presented in order of importance.

1. Has a stated vision for the school and a plan to achieve that vision.
2. Clearly states goals and expectations for students, staff, and parents.
3. Is visible -- gets out of the office; is seen all over the school.
4. Is trustworthy and straight with students and staff.
5. Helps develop leadership skills in others.
6. Develops strong teachers; cultivates good teaching practice.
7. Shows that he or she is not in charge alone; involves others.
8. Has a sense of humor.
9. Is a role model for students and staff.
10. Offers meaningful kindnesses and kudos to staff and students.

U.S. Army 11 Leadership Principles <http://www.bigchalk.com/cgi>

Be tactically and technically proficient	Make sound and timely decisions
Know yourself and seek self-improvement	Develop a sense of responsibility in your subordinates
Know your soldiers & look out for welfare	
Keep your soldiers informed	Employ your unit in accordance with its capabilities
Set the example	
Ensure the task is understood, supervised and accomplished	Seek responsibility and take responsibility for your actions
Train your soldiers as a team	

U.S. Army 23 Traits of Leadership Character: Bearing; Confidence; Courage; Integrity; Decisiveness; Justice; Endurance; Tact; Initiative; Coolness; Maturity; Improvement; Will; Assertiveness; Candor; Sense of humor; Competence; Commitment; Creativity; Self-discipline; Humility; Flexibility; Empathy/Compassion

Effective Leaders - Toastmasters

<http://www.womentodaymagazine.com/career/7leader.html?a=1106>

- **Make others feel important.** If your goals and decisions are self-centered, followers will lose their enthusiasm quickly. Emphasize their strengths and contributions, not your own.
- **Promote a vision.** Followers need a clear idea of where you're leading them, and they need to understand why that goal is valuable to them. Your job as a leader is to provide that vision.
- **Follow the golden rule.** Treat your followers the way you enjoy being treated. An abusive leader attracts few loyal followers.

- **Admit mistakes.** If people suspect that you're covering up your own errors, they'll hide their mistakes, too, and you'll lack valuable information for making decisions.
- **Criticize others only in private.** Public praise encourages others to excel, but public criticism only embarrasses and alienates everyone
- **Stay close to the action.** You need to be visible to the members of your organization. Talk to people, visit other offices and work sites, ask questions, and observe how business is being handled. Often you will gain new insights into your work and find new opportunities for motivating your followers.
- **Make a game of competition.** The competitive drive can be a valuable tool if you use it correctly. Set team goals, and reward members who meet or exceed them. Examine your failures, and celebrate your group's success.

Marine Corps Principles <http://www.campvishus.org/USMCPrinTraits.htm>

6. Know yourself and seek self-improvement.
7. Be technically and tactically proficient.
8. Develop a sense of responsibility among your subordinates.
9. Make sound and timely decisions.
10. Set the example.
11. Know your Marines and look out for their welfare.
12. Keep your Marines informed.
13. Seek responsibility and take responsibility for your actions.
14. Ensure assigned tasks are understood, supervised, and accomplished.
15. Train your Marines as a team.
16. Employ your command in accordance with its capabilities.

Marine Corps Traits

Dependability - The certainty of proper performance of duty.

Bearing - Creating a favorable impression in carriage, appearance and personal conduct at all times.

Courage - The mental quality that recognizes fear of danger or criticism, but enables a man to proceed in the face of it with calmness and firmness.

Decisiveness - Ability to make decisions promptly and to announce them in clear, forceful manner.

Endurance - The mental and physical stamina measured by the ability to withstand pain, fatigue, stress and hardship.

Enthusiasm - The display of sincere interest and exuberance in the performance of duty.

Initiative - Taking action in the absence of orders.

Integrity - Uprightness of character and soundness of moral principles; includes the qualities of truthfulness and honesty.

Judgment - The ability to weigh facts and possible solutions on which to base sound decisions.

Justice - Giving reward and punishment according to merits of the case in question. The ability to administer a system of rewards and punishments impartially and consistently.

Knowledge - Understanding of a science or an art. The range of one's information, including professional knowledge and an understanding of your Marines.

Tact - The ability to deal with others without creating offense.

Unselfishness - Avoidance of providing for one's own comfort and personal advancement at the expense of others.

Loyalty - The quality of faithfulness to country, the Corps, the unit, to one's seniors, subordinates and peers.

Leadership - Self-Assessment

<http://www.nwlink.com/~donclark/leader/self.html>

This self survey will provide you with feedback as to your feelings of leading others. Rate yourself on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being a definite YES and 1 being a definite NO.

Be honest about your answers as this survey is only for you own self-assessment.

Circle the number which you feel most closely represents your feelings about the task

NO YES

- 1 2 3 4 5 - I enjoy working on teams.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I am able to speak clearly to others.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I enjoy relating to others on an interpersonal basis.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I am good at planning.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I can interpret rules and regulations.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I feel comfortable asking others for advice.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I enjoy collecting and analyzing data.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I am good at solving problems.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I am comfortable writing memos to others.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I can delegate work to others.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I am effective at handling employee complaints.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - Giving directions is comfortable for me.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I know how to develop goals and carry them out.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I am comfortable at implementing new techniques.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I enjoy appraising other's performance & giving feedback.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - If I made an mistake, I would admit it and correct it.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I am able to resolve conflict in the workplace.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I believe in diversity in the workplace.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - I thrive on change.
- 1 2 3 4 5 - One of my greatest desires is to become a leader.

Score the survey by adding the numbers that you circled: _____ My score

A score of fifty or higher indicates a desire to become a leader and a perceived ability to perform the tasks required of a leader.

A score of fifty or less indicates a general dislike of wanting to become a leader or a perceived inability to perform the tasks required of a leader.

BUT, no matter what your score is, your commitment, desire, and determination are the biggest indicators of you ability to become a leader.

Use this assessment to help you to determine what skills and abilities you can continue to improve (Strengths) and what skills and abilities you need to develop (Opportunities for growth).

What are your top two strengths?

What are your top two opportunities for growth?

What steps will you take this week to lead yourself?

*****The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader**, Maxwell identifies these top traits as: character, charisma, commitment, communication, competence, courage, discernment, focus, generosity, initiative, listening, passion, positive attitude, problem-solving, relationships, responsibility, security, self-discipline, servanthood, teachability, and vision--and then defines them in ways that readers can absorb and utilize.

Help for the Chronically Late

Causes:

1. Rebellion against Authority
2. Self Centered
3. Need for Attention (poor self image)
4. Lack of Self Control
5. Poor Planning
6. Overcommitted
7. Ignorant/Untaught
8. Unfocused/Irresponsible
9. Faithless/Untrustworthy

Lazy Sluggard

Correctives:

Accept responsibility

Confess the sin

Hate the sin

Reprogram your robot

(See Dead to Sin...Alive to God)



Saga of the Sorry Sluggard

Pr 24:30-34; 26:13-16 BC 9/92

I. Looking at the Sluggard's Pattern of Procrastination

- A. False _____ for inactivity *26:13 The slothful man says a lion in the way; a lion in the streets. He has all kinds of excuses for putting things off: I've tried it before. I've never tried it before. It might not work. It might work in an unexpected manner. It's too hard.*
- B. False _____ without accomplishment *26:14 As the door turns upon his hinges, so the slothful upon his bed. Thinks activity is a substitute for achievement.*
- C. False _____ without completion *26:15 The slothful hides his hand in his bosom; it grieves him to bring it again to his mouth. Starts but never finishes.*
- D. False _____ without rational base *26:16 The sluggard's wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason. Rationalizes every failure.*

II. Lacks of the Sluggard

- A. **Wisdom** *6:6-11 "Go to the ant ... observe and be wise" (Wisdom = choosing the right _____ and the right _____ of attaining them.)*
- B. **Fear of the Lord** *9:10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. Need to develop an internal motivation to take advantage of opportunities.*
- C. **Humility** *26:12 Do you a man wise in his own conceit? There is more hope of a fool than of him. 26:16 The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.*
- D. **Understanding** *24:30 I went by the field of the slothful by the vineyard of the man void of understanding. Ps 111:10 of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments*
- E. **Faithfulness** *10:26 As vinegar to the teeth, and as smoke to the eyes, so the sluggard to them that send him.*
- F. **Diligence** *13:4 The soul of the sluggard desires, and has nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.*
- G. **Uprightness** *15:19 The way of the slothful [man is] as an hedge of thorns: but the way of the righteous [is] made plain.*
- H. **Initiative** *20:4 The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold,- [therefore] shall he begs in harvest, and have nothing.*
- I. **Righteousness** *21:25-26 The desire of the slothful kills him; for his hands refuse to labor. 26 All day long he craves for more, but the righteous gives...*

III. Learning from the Sluggard's Process of Poverty

- A. Observation - "Saw" "Looked"
- B. Interpretation - "Applied heart (reflected)"
- C. Application - "Received instruction"
- "A little _____ leads to a large _____."*

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Life Response:

Do the "little things" make a large difference? Was the sluggard neglecting "little things"? Why is laziness sin? Are the "lacks" in #II. (above) causes or consequences? Can one be lazy by busily doing the wrong things? Why?

Recommended Reading List

I. WORK The Great Niche Hunt - Frahm

Your Work Matters to God -Sherman & Hendricks

Finding a Job You Can Love -Mattson & Miller

What Color is Your Parachute -Bolles

II. RELATIONSHIPS Happiness is a Choice -Minirth & Meier

John Powell: Why am I...Fully Human...Secret of Staying in Love; Dale Carnegie

The Art of Speed-Reading People -Tieger (PersonalityType.com)

Caring Enough to Confront -Augsberger Trauma of Transparency -Howard

Quality Friendship -Gary Inrig Friends & Friendship-White & White

Building Up One Another -Gene Getz His Needs, Her Needs -Harley

III. PERSONAL GROWTH Psychology of Winning -D. Waitley

Lead On -John Haggai The Making of A Christian Leader -Engstrom

Almost anything by John Maxwell: [21 Indispensable Qualities/Laws of a Leader](#)

Disciplines of a Beautiful Woman -A. Ortlund

Spiritual Leadership -J. Oswald Sanders Unlimited Power-Robbins

How To Get Control of Your Time and Your Life -Alan Lakein

Seven Habits of Highly Effective People -Steven Covey

Managing Your Time -Engstrom & Mackenzie

IV. SPIRITUAL LIFE True Discipleship -MacDonald

The Healthy Christian Life -Minirth & Meier Bondage Breaker-Anderson

Scripture Talks with God -Anders & Boa (Drawing Near)

Shadow of the Almighty -Elizabeth Elliott Man in the Mirror-Pat Morley

My Utmost for His Highest -Oswald Chambers

The Man Who Shook the World -John Pollock (Bio of Paul)

A Layman's Guide to Applying (Interpreting) the Bible -Hendricksen

Joy of Discovery -Wald; Methodical Bible Study -Traina

How to Enjoy Your Bible -Sterrett; Living by the Book-Hendricks

The Lies We Believe -Chris Thrumen (M/M)

Growing Deep in the Christian Life -Chuck Swindoll

V. MINISTRY Disciples are Made, Not Born -Walt Hendricksen

Lost Art of Disciplemaking -Leroy Eims The Disciplemaking.....-Bill Hull

The Essentials of New Life (Follow Up) -Francis Cosgrove (Navs)

The Dynamics (Essentials) of Discipleship Training -Gary Kuhne

*I'm Glad You Asked -Boa & Moody

Sharpening the Focus of the Church -Gene Getz Body Life -Stedman

Dynamics of Church Growth -Jenson & Stevens

Where Do We Go From Here?-Ralph Neighbor

VI. OTHER

Marriage Takes More Than Love - Jack & Carole Mayhall

His Needs/Her Needs Willard Hartley Language of Love-Smalley (Trent)

Dare to Discipline -James Dobson Christian Child Rearing... - Meier

What's a Biblical Church? Ecclesiology

...not a Club for Christians, but a...

CORPORATION OF THE COMMITTED

Christ as Savior and LORD

Obedience of His Word and Observance of His Ordinances

Members of His Body

Mission of Making Disciples through Evangelism & Edification

Interdependent Inequality

Truth-Speaking in Love

Transforming Lives & Relationships

Exaltation, as well as: Exhortation & Encouragement

Developing Reproductive Disciplemaking Bodies

...not a Hospice for the Hurting, but a...

HOSPITAL FOR THE HEALING

...not a Uniformity of Likes, but a...

UNITY OF LABORERS

...not a Retreat Center, but a...

REPRODUCTIVE COMPLEX

...not a Cafeteria of Choices, but a...

COMPREHENSIVE CURRICULUM

Couple, Cell, Congregation, Celebration, Conflagration

...not a Home for Bums, but a...

HOTEL FOR BUSINESSPEOPLE BUSY ABOUT THEIR MASTER'S BUSINESS

Church Objective: To glorify God by obeying His command to love one another (*do what's in another's best interest*) and in the process make disciples (*reproduce Christlike character and actions*)

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response: How does a Biblical Church differ from a Bible Study? What's the primary task of the Church? What ideas about the Church do we get from society/culture rather than from Scriptures? Where should commitment to a Biblical Church be in our priorities? Should someone be involved in a non-Biblical church? What should they do?

See **What to Look for in a Church** on Truthbase.net Fall 2010 Also see CatacombChurch.blog

TOYL Perfection, Perfectionism and Reparenting

I. God's Law Guides toward Perfection; Our Inner Law Goads toward Perfectionism

The Law **does not make** anything perfect, any more than a stake makes a tree grow.

The law shows the path and points out faults (off the path) and outlines correctives (how to get back and stay on the path) (2Tim 3:16&17) Rom 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin.

Gal 2:16 a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. Gal 3:24

Therefore the law was our schoolmaster *to bring* us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

II. Perfection is growth in Christlikeness; from the process of mind/value/action transformation...

[getting your act together (Renewal-sanctification), through the auditions (Relationships), and on the road (Responsibility-ministry)];

...to benefit God, others and ourselves;

...that results in **maturity**, blessing and reward.

A. Possible Job 1:8 the LORD said to Satan, considered my servant Job, *there* is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that fears God, and eschews evil? (Gen 6:9 Noah was a just man *and* perfect in his generations, Noah walked with God.

2Ki 20:3 LORD, remember now how I have walked before you in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done good in your sight.

B. Commanded Gen 17:1 LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be you perfect. Mt 5:48 **Be** therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect. Mt 19:21 Jesus said to him, If you will be perfect, *go and* sell that you have, and give to the poor. and you shall have treasure in heaven: and come *and* follow me. Result of Applying Scripture in QT 2Ti 3:17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished to all good works.

C. Process

1. Php 3:12 No...attained...already perfect but I follow after, that I may take hold of that for which also I have taken hold of by Christ

2. 1Ki 8:61 Let your heart be perfect with the LORD our God, to walk in his statutes, and to keep his commandments as today.

3. Ps 101:2 will behave myself wisely in a perfect way... I will walk within my house with a perfect heart

4. 2Ch 19:9 And he commanded them, saying, "Thus you shall act in the fear of the LORD, faithfully and with a perfect heart:

5. 2Ch 25:2 he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, but not with a perfect heart.

6. 1Ki 11:4 Solomon turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD as *was* heart of David

7. Ps 101:6 My eyes *shall* be on We faithful of the land, they may dwell with me: he that

walks in a perfect way, he shall serve me.

8. Php 3:15 as many as be perfect:, be thus minded: and if in any thing you be otherwise minded. God shall reveal even this to you.

9. God's Effort Gal 3:3 Are you so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are you now made perfect by the flesh? Heb 13:21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus. 1Pt 5:10 God of all grace...called us to his eternal glory by Christ Jesus. after that you have suffered a while, make you perfect

10. Our Effort Js 1:25 looks into the perfect law of liberty, and continues, not a forgetful hearer, doer of the work, blessed in deed. In Faith Jas 2:22 See how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? In Works Rev 3:2 Be watchful and strengthen what remains. That are ready to die: for I have not found your works perfect before God In Speech Jas 3:2 If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body In Love 1Jn 4:17 our love made perfect that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear: because fear involves torment, he that fears is not made perfect in love.

11. Other's Effort Col 4:12 Epaphras. laboring fervently for you in prayer, you may stand pence' and complete in all the will of God 1Co 2:6 we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world 1Tim 3:10 Night and day praying exceedingly that we might see your face, and might perfect that which is lacking in your faith? 1Co 2:6 we preach. warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom: that we may present every man perfect in Christ

12. Corporate aspect John 17:23 I in them, you in me, that they may be made perfect in unity; that the world may know... 2Co 13:11 brethren be perfect be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you. Eph 4:13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to measure of stature...

D. Blessed 2Ch 16:9 eyes of the LORD...whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Product of endurance Jas 1:4 let patience have *her* pen> work, that you may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. Not free from enemies Ps 64:4 That they may shoot in secret at the blameless; Suddenly they shoot at him and do not fear.

III. Perfectionism is deriving our worth/value from accomplishments in the temporal rather than the eternal spiritual realm...

[selectively and overly obeying our choice of commands to the exclusion (disobedience) of other weightier commands

...to impress ourselves, others and even God (doing temporal and even spiritual activities for looking good in the sight of men);

...that results in paralysis, obsessiveness, hypocrisy, discontent, frustration and failure.

A. Perfectionism arises from a lack of genuine accomplishment (especially in God's sight) and/or (parental/self) approval.

A poor self image stems from a lack of parental approval/attention in childhood, and failure to achieve and recognize real success/competency in adulthood. Frequently perfectionists are accomplished but still driven, and unhappy.

A perfectionist covers up failure and guilt in other realms by overcompensating in a less significant realm. God designed guilt to make us feel badly when sinning. It is impossible to have a clear conscience while engaging in sinful thoughts/attitudes/behavior.

We try to cover up our inadequacy with fig leaves of overachievement in usually insignificant areas where we feel we have an easy advantage. This backfires on two accounts:

1) failure to deal with the real problem to gain God's approbation,
and 2) a hollow victory which we "achieved" in an insignificant area or by cheating.

B. Symptoms we have seen: lack of joyful contentment

1. Failure to recognize and enjoy (partial) accomplishments (belittle achievements): I wouldn't join any club that would accept me.

2. All or nothing approach which comes from either a poor self image that can't risk failure or a pride that says. "If! can't do it "well" I won't do it at all" which really says: "If I can't indulge my carnal desire to do it my way. I won't play at all."

3. Unrealistic goals. Procrastination for rationalization. Hypercritical Self talk or escapism when one fails.

4. Lack of Receptivity to help/input because it undermines alleged competence; Reject suggestions if didn't think of it themselves

5. Put on a show: Care more about your plan for impressing with perfection than the other person

6. Enslaved to expectations of others; or faulty view of self; ego driven; No perseverance/endurance = Sluggard.

7. Defensive/Aggressive when cover blown; Must blame others for lack of achievement.

C. Help and Hope

1. When we tire of wasting our lives unsuccessfully trying to cover-up alleged or real failure, there's hope.

Need humility to admit (recognize and claim responsibility/ownership) for our faults. Without it we stay stupid.

Pr 12:1 Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge: but he that hates reproof is stupid.

Need a willingness to learn and grow from mistakes; a perspective that we are imperfect people in process. PPGINFWMY

2. Instead of all or nothing, it's better to have risked and lost, than never to have tried.

God judges us on our faithfulness, not our outward accomplishment - perfection.

Need minimum standards, consistently achieved. "What about Bob" baby steps.

If it's worth doing, it's worth doing poorly (at first) and might be worth keeping at below average to achieve higher goals.

3. Reparent Yourself

Accept reality (you're damaged);

Blame appropriately (parent's fault);

Consider causes (ancestral curse; damaged parents beget damaged kids; end it with your generation)

Decide to forgive (to free from bitterness and open up channel of gods grace-power):

Emphasize positive (you need for god's grace has been enhanced; you can better relate to others who hurt, etc.):

Grow by Godly GOALS that earn the pleasure and approval of Cod, the only source of real and enduring worth:

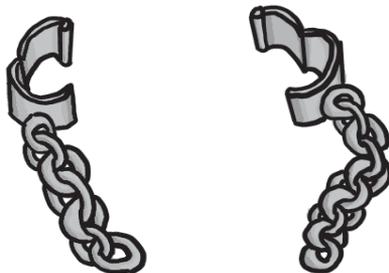
Find Friends (for Support in achieving your goals {Body}):Help others through same process.

Ingrain (and imagine) a new value system.

Suggestions: My worth comes from daily decision to deny self to obey and please God: Process is more important than product; A little effort consistently expended will beat the hare; By the yard it's hard, by the inch it's a cinch: The Spiritual and Eternal supersede the Material and Temporal: Who I am is more important than what I do; I'd rather be a failure in a cause that ultimately succeeds than a success in a cause that ultimately fails; What God (who looks at the heart) thinks of me is more important than what others (who look at temporal appearances) think of me; All who will live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer grief from others and discouragement from Satan; I can't please all the people all the time, nor even myself; A failed attempt to obey is better than success at disobedience: If I fail and learn from my failure, I'm farther along the road to success than if I don't try, don't learn, or don't get up; This world is not all there is, there's a new world coming in which God rewards righteousness, and God will give me all I need to do His righteous will. Anything worth doing is worth doing poorly (at first).

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. Why does the law fail to perfect? What does Christ offer that's superior? Is the law of benefit to NT believers?
2. If perfectionists appear successful, what's wrong? Is it wrong to get your worth from what you do? What are other sources of worth?
3. Are men and women different in exhibiting perfectionism? How do women/mothers commonly exhibit perfectionism? Men?
4. How would a commitment to Biblical obedience "solve" perfectionism?
5. Does everyone need to reparent themselves? Where do people get hung-up in the reparenting process?



Can God Meet Emotional Needs?

Hebrews 4:14-15 Part I: 14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

I. What is an Emotional Need? **e-motion** An intense mental state that arises subjectively rather than through conscious effort and is often accompanied by physiological changes; a strong feeling. The part of the consciousness that involves feeling; sensibility *MS Bookshelf* JLK *An emotion is a controllable response to a stimulus that passes through a learned value filter and expresses itself in a learned behavior.* -BC

An emotion can be positive (life-enhancing) or negative (destructive), godly or sinful. -BC 1/99
 "an emotional need is a craving that, when satisfied, leaves you with a feeling of happiness and contentment, and, when unsatisfied, leaves you with a feeling of unhappiness and frustration. There are probably thousands of emotional needs. A need for birthday parties, peanut butter sandwiches, Monday Night Football, I could go on and on. Some have them, some don't. "From Harley @ marriagebuilders.com
 "These "personal" needs are intimacy with God, fellowship with other people, and self-worth...we must have unconditional love and acceptance, a feeling of being cared for, and a lifestyle that makes an impact on others with good and lasting effects. our self-worth is enhanced to the extent that those emotions and qualities define our lives. Yet another way of describing these basic needs is that we need a sense of belongingness, an assurance that we are considered worthy by someone important to us, and a feeling that we are useful and competent. When I believe that someone important to me wants me and accepts me, I can regard myself as "good," approved, capable, and adequate to deal with daily life, partly to satisfy that person... Security includes being able to regard ourselves as loved, accepted, and cared-for as individuals. Significance involves being able to regard ourselves as important and valuable to others in impacting their lives for good. *Minirth & Meier, The Healthy Christian Life p 139-143*
An emotional need, as opposed to a desire, is a lack, which if unmet prevents you from doing the will of God. -BC

II. Types of Needs (Power {security/significance}, Pleasure. Possessions)

Security Freedom from fear - sense of being taken care of (*Mt 6:25-33*)

Significance/Worth Being: Loved; ..Needed; ..Valued; ..Understood; Belonging; Lonely-Friends Worth-Validation/Affirmation

Validation: I'm OK, my perceptions of reality are accurate, or valid; it is OK/not OK for me to have been treated this way...

Wanting to be liked; In control (shop til drop); Sympathy: self pity - poor me; Complain worry (taught); criticize others;

Justice; Competence: be strong, adequate; Social: talk, share = double joy; halve sorrow

III. How God Meets Needs Looking to another finite, fallible person to meet my needs is futile; it's temporary at best, using rather than loving that person, stunting my growth.

An emotional need is met by an awareness and embracing of the Truth that the All-Sufficient Creator God has initiated a permanent relationship with me and lovingly gives me everything I need to do His perfect will and have godly contentment in the midst of any circumstances.

Pour out your feelings to God (not people) being Honest to God (*Matt 26:38*)

Recognize that God is able to change you or your circumstances, meeting your need/thorn with internal or external grace

Align your will with the Father's knowing that The Father Knows Best (*Lk 22:42*)

Yield yourself unreservedly to embrace and do God's perfect will

Mt 12:30 you shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first

Heb 13:21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom...

2Co 9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

Phil 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me. 19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ

IV. How God gives us...

Affirmation (See Outline on Self-Worth) *Mt 25:21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.*

Pleasure *Ps 27:4 One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.*

Comfort *Ps 94:19 In the multitude of my thoughts within me thy comforts delight my soul. 2Cor 1:3 Blessed...the God of all comfort; 4 Who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort with we ourselves are comforted of God.*

Perspective *Ps 3:3 But You, O Lord, are a shield for me, My glory and the One who lifts up my head. 4 I cried to the Lord with my voice, And He heard me from His holy hill. Selah 5 I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord sustained me.*

Safety *Ps 4:1 Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have relieved me in my distress; Have mercy on me, and hear my prayer. 6 There are many who say, "Who will show us any good?" Lord, lift up the light of Your countenance upon us. 7 You have put gladness in my heart, More than in the season that their grain and wine increased. 8 I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; For You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety. (Ps 91:5-7)*

Defense and Joy *Ps 5:1 But let all those rejoice who put their trust in You; Let them ever shout for joy, because You defend them; Let those also who love Your name Be joyful in You.*

Assurance *Ps 6:3 My soul also is greatly troubled; But You, O Lord-how long? 6 I am weary with my groaning; All night I make my bed swim; I drench my couch with my tears. 8 Depart from me, all you workers of iniquity; For the Lord has heard the voice of my weeping.*

Worth *Ps 8:4 What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him?*

Justice *Ps 9:2 I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High. 4 For You have maintained my right and my cause; 9 The Lord also will be a refuge for the oppressed, A refuge in times of trouble. 10 And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; For You, Lord, have not forsaken those who seek You.*

Security *Ps 10:17 Lord, You have heard the desire of the humble; You will cause their heart to be secure; You will cause Your ear to hear;*

Encouragement *Ps 13:2 How long shall I take counsel in my soul, Having sorrow in my heart daily...3 Enlighten my eyes, Lest I sleep the sleep of death; 6 I will sing to the Lord, Because He has dealt bountifully with me.*

Joy *Ps 16:8 I have set the Lord always before me; Because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved. 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; My flesh also will rest in hope. 11 You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

Satisfaction *Ps 17:15 I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake with Your likeness*

Support *Ps 18:18 confronted me in my calamity, But the Lord was my support. 28 For You will light my lamp; The Lord my God will enlighten my darkness.*

Comfort *Ps 25:16 Turn to me, and have mercy on me, For I am desolate and afflicted. 17 The troubles of my heart have enlarged; Bring me out of my distresses!*

Strength Ps 27:10 *When my father and my mother forsake me, the Lord will take care of me. 13 I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the Lord In the land of the living. 14 Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!*

Help Ps 28:7 *Lord is my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart greatly rejoices, And with my song I will praise Him.*

Gladness Ps 30:11 *You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness,*

Courage Ps 31:23 *Oh, love the Lord, all you His saints! For the Lord preserves the faithful, And fully repays the proud person. 24 Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart, All you who hope in the Lord.*

Freedom from Fear Ps 34:4 *I sought the Lord, and He heard me, And delivered me from all my fears. 5 They looked to Him and were radiant, And their faces were not ashamed. 9 Oh, fear the Lord, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him.*

Satiety Ps 36:7 *How precious is Your loyalty, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Your wings. 8 They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house, And You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures. 9 For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light. 10 continue Your loyalty to those who know You, And Your righteousness to the upright in heart.*

Delighted Desires Ps 37:4 *Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.*

Loyalty Ps 38:8 *I am feeble and severely broken; I groan because of the turmoil of my heart. 9 Lord, all my desire is before You; And my sighing is not hidden from You. 10 My heart pants, my strength fails me; As for the light of my eyes, it also has gone from me. 11 My loved ones and my friends stand aloof from my plague, And my relatives stand afar off. 12 Those also who seek my life lay snares for me; Those who seek my hurt speak of destruction, And plan deception all the day long. 15 For in You, O Lord, I hope; You will hear, O Lord my God.*

Deliverance Ps 40:11 *Do not withhold Your tender mercies from me, O Lord; Let Your lovingkindness and Your truth continually preserve me. 12 For innumerable evils have surrounded me; My iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to look up; They are more than the hairs of my head; Therefore my heart fails me. 17 But I am poor and needy; Yet the Lord thinks upon me. You are my help and my deliverer; Do not delay, O my God.*

Anti-Depressive Ps 42:2 *My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. 5 Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him For the help of His countenance.*

Anti-Anxiety Ps 46:1 *God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. 46:2 Therefore we will not fear...*

Restoration Ps 51:8 *Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice. 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. 12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit.*

Refuge Ps 62:5 *My soul, wait silently for God alone, For my expectation is from Him. 6 He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be moved. 7 In God is my salvation and my glory; The rock of my strength, And my refuge, is in God. 8 Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us.*

Rejoicing 63:1 *O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water. 5 My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, And my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips. 6 When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches. 7 Because You have been my help, Therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice. 8 My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me.*

Care Ps 66:16 *Come and hear, all you who fear God, And I will declare what He has done for my soul. 17 I cried to Him with my mouth, And He was extolled with my tongue. 18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear. 19 But certainly God has heard me; He has attended to the voice of my prayer. 20 Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer, Nor His mercy from me!*

Comfort Ps 69:16 *Hear me, O Lord, for Your lovingkindness is good; Turn to me according to the multitude of Your tender mercies. 17 And do not hide Your face from Your servant, For I am in trouble; Hear me speedily. 18 Draw near to my soul, and redeem it; 19*

You know my reproach, my shame, and my dishonor...20 Reproach has broken my heart, And I am full of heaviness; I looked for someone to take pity, but there was none; And for comforters, but I found none.

Loyal Companionship 73:22 *I was so foolish and ignorant; I was like a beast before You. 23 Nevertheless I am continually with You; You hold me by my right hand. 24 You will guide me with Your counsel, And afterward receive me to glory. 25 Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You. 26 My flesh and my heart fail; But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. 27 For indeed, those who are far from You shall perish; You have destroyed all those who desert You for harlotry. 28 But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord God, That I may declare all Your works.*

Being Understood Ps 139:10 **LORD, you have searched me, and known me. 17 How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! 18 If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.**

V. Some Thoughts to Feel deeply about

God is sufficient for all our needs (physical & emotional) and wants (II Cor 12)

1. We all have needs, but not necessarily the same needs.
2. We need to be aware of our needs so we can go to God with them, for Him to meet them.
3. A desire is not a need; but is met the same way.
4. God meets our needs/desires when we have a right relationship with Him
5. Part of having a right relationship with God involves yielding our rights and expectations (Mt 5:29; 19:12)
6. God may occasionally, temporarily meet our needs through a person/the Body
7. If we look to people to meet our needs/desires, we exclude God from the process. (Must look up not down)
8. God frequently meets our needs (particularly social) through ministry (denying self for the benefit of others) (Mt 16:25)
9. It is possible to experience abundant life being deprived in solitary confinement in Samaria/Siberia for sharing your faith.
10. In case you were napping:

An emotional need is met by an awareness and embracing of the Truth that the All-Sufficient Creator God has initiated a permanent relationship with me and lovingly gives me everything I need to do His perfect will and have godly contentment in the midst of any circumstances.

Extra Credit: Find the Biblical Truth (verse) that contradicts the following lies. *John 8:32.*

Some irrational misbeliefs that may be the source of a lot of disturbed emotions are: (*MM Healthy Christian Life p 140-141*) "It is necessary for me to be loved and approved by others" "

"I must always be perfect in my achievements and above criticism in order to be worthwhile."

"I not help the way I feel." "Because I am a Christian, God will not allow negative things to happen to me." "My feelings are always a true sign of God's love, presence, and guidance."

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. Are feelings God-given? If not, where do they come from? If so, are they amoral? Why is it important to be aware of all of them? 2. What is the natural, worldly way of dealing with unmet emotional needs and desires? How and why should that change in a believer's life? 3. If God is sufficient for all our needs, why do so few Christians take advantage of His sufficiency? Why the gap between knowing and feeling?
4. What should one do if one's marriage partner doesn't follow through on their vows, or fails to meet their spouse's emotional needs? 5. How could Paul and Barney be beaten yet rejoicing? Suffering need, yet content? Were they out of touch with their feelings?

Faithfulness: Semper Fi Hebrews 3:1-6

Definition of Faithfulness 1. Adhering firmly and devotedly, as to a person, a cause, or an idea; loyal. 2. Worthy of trust or belief; reliable. 3. Consistent with truth or actuality

Loyally follow through on commands (spirit & letter), beliefs, responsibilities and promises, esp: {time, money, strength and aspirations}

Achiever - I plan, start and reach the finish line in time to complete tasks and goals worthy of my potential.

Disciplined Disciple - I make the daily decision to deny myself for the service of God and the eternal glory of Christ.

Godly - I am continually learning and reprogramming my robot to do all that God has revealed (in the Bible) He requires of me.

Honest - I tactfully and transparently speak and live according to the truth, even when it hurts or is humiliating. What you see...

Loyal Lover - Without cowardice, I am committed to consistently sacrifice myself to do what's in another's best interest regardless of cost, personal preference, inclination or their reaction or lack thereof.

1. Goes against the Grain of Society Nu 12:7 My servant Moses *is* not so, who *is* faithful in all mine house.

2. Characteristic of God Ps 36:5 Your mercy, O LORD, *is* in the heavens; *and* your faithfulness *reaches* unto the clouds.

De 7:9 Know the LORD is God, the faithful God, keeping covenant & mercy with them that love him & keep his commandments to 1000 generations

3. Steward does bidding 1Sa 2:35 I will raise me up a faithful priest, that shall do according to that which is in mine heart and in my mind

1Sa 22:14 who *is so* faithful among all your servants as David, goes at your bidding, and is honorable in your house?

1Co 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful. 1Ti 3:11 wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.

Tit 1:6 If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.

a. Finances 2Ki 22:7 no reckoning made with them of the money delivered into their hand, because they dealt faithfully.

Lifestyle Lu 16:10 He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. 11 If therefore you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true *riches*? 12 And if you have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own? 3Jo 1:5 Beloved, you do faithfully whatsoever you do to the brethren, and to strangers;

b. Work 2Ch 34:12 And the men did the work faithfully:

c. Speech Ps 5:9 For there is no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part is very wickedness...Pr 11:13 talebearer reveals secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit conceals the matter. Pr 14:5 A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies.

d. Fragile Ps 12:1 Help, LORD; for the godly man ceases; for the faithful fail from among the children of men. Pr 20:6 Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find? Isa 1:21

4. Based/Founded in Fear of God Ne 7:2 charge over Jerusalem: for he *was* a faithful man, and feared God above many.

2Ch 19:9 And he charged them, saying, Thus shall you do in the fear of the LORD, faithfully, and with a perfect heart.

Nourished by mercy 1Co 7:25...yet I give my judgment, as one that has obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful. **Gal 5:22 HS fruit**

Delight to God Mt 25:21 Well done, good & faithful servant: faithful over a few I will make you ruler over many enter you into the joy of your lord.

5. Basis of Blessings Ne 9:8 And found his heart faithful before you, and made a covenant with him to give the land...

1Sa 26:23 The LORD render to every man his righteousness and his faithfulness

Ps 101:6 Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walks in a perfect way, he shall serve me.

Pr 28:20 A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that makes haste to be rich shall not be innocent. Pr 29:14

Lu 19:17 he said to him, Well, you good servant: because you have been faithful in a very little, have you authority over ten cities.

Re 17:14 the Lamb shall overcome them:...King of kings: and they that are with him *are* called, and chosen, and faithful.

Re 2:10 Fear none of those things which you shall suffer...be faithful unto death, and I will give you a crown of life.

Protection Da 6:4...they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him.

Ps 31:23 O love the LORD, all you his saints: *for* the LORD preserves the faithful, and plentifully rewards the proud doer.

6. Basis for Ministry and Influence Mt 24:45 Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord has made ruler...

Ac 16:1...saying, If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide *there*. And she constrained us

2Ti 2:2 you heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

1Co 4:17 Timothy, who is my beloved son, and faithful in the Lord, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. Can faithfulness be compartmentalized? Is it faithfulness when we pick and choose our obedience?
2. Do some personality types have an easier time with faithfulness? Is it a function of upbringing/rearing? Unfair advantage?
3. What motivates you to be faithful? Why/how are you tempted to be unfaithful?
4. Where do you find it easier to be faithful? What helps you? How would you help someone be more faithful?

 In what areas of your life do you struggle with faithfulness? How can you be more faithful to God this week? What items?

Faithfulness with our Time

Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Mr 8:37

Time is the interval during which we can sin (indulge our desires)
or get blessed (invest in our priorities).

I. OUR TIME ISN'T OUR OWN 1Co 6:19 ...you are not your own 20 For you are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. (See Faithfulness and Good Stew 8/98)

II. We Have All The Time There Is And Will Have To Give An Account For Faithfully Using It According To God's Purposes

A. God works on a timetable Jn 7:6 Then Jesus said: My time is not yet come: but your time is always ready. Mk 1:15 Ga 4:4

B. God has a timetable for us

Ac 17:31 appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness...

Lu 19:44 shall lay thee even with the ground...because thou knew not the time of thy visitation.

Lu 21:34 take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.

Ro 13:11 And that, knowing the time, that now *it is* high time to awake out of sleep: for now *is* our salvation nearer than when we believed.

C. Sometimes we don't get a second chance

Jas 4:14 you know not what shall be tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appears for a little time, and then vanishes away.

Ec 9:10 Whatever you find to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, where you go

1Pe 1:17 since you call on the Father, who judges according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:

1Pe 4:17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

Lu 12:40 Be you therefore ready also: for the Son of man comes at an hour when you think not.

III. MAKE MOST OF TIME BY WALKING IN WISDOM

Col 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Eph 5:15 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, 16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. 17

Wherefore be you not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.

A. Number Days & Apply Heart to Wisdom [Pick right objectives and right means of attaining those objectives]

Ps 90:9...we spend our years as a tale that is told 10 The days of our years are 70; if by reason of strength 80, yet is their strength TOYL and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away. 11 Who knows the

power of your anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath. 12 So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. (or present a heart {decision making} of wisdom)

De 32:29 O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!

B. Priorities (God's will) Need To Be Determined By Prayer Mark 1:35

C. Our Objectives-Not People Should Control Our Time

Ac 18:20 When they desired him to tarry longer time with them, he consented not

Jn 9:4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night comes, when no man can work.

IV. DON'T SPEND, KILL OR WASTE TIME, BUT RATHER INVEST IT IN:

Life Purpose & Plan; Objectives; Goals, Priorities (God {spiritual growth}, spouse, children, ministry {relationships}), work {personal growth}, leisure/recreation)

- Ac 17:21 all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing

- 1Pe 4:2 no longer should live the rest of time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God. 3 the time past of *our* life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, reveling, banquetings, and abominable idolatries:

- Jude 1:18 How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts.

+ **Ministry** 1Ti 6:19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

+ **Growth** Heb 5:12 For when for the time you ought to be teachers, yea have need that one teach you again he first principles...

+ **Reward** Ro 8:18 I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us

V. Manage The Minutes And The Years Will Take Care Of Themselves

No goals = no Lordship; ¼ goals = no review; ½ goals = no sacrifice; ¾ goals = no fun; All goals = no challenge

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. What are some of the biggest misuses of time? How can we eliminate these from our lives? How can you save time?
2. If we always have all the time we need to do God's will, how can we possibly run out of time? 2Cor 9:8
3. Does God hold us accountable for results or the use of our time?
4. Would having more time help you be more faithful in its use? Have you ever considered tithing your time as a sign of God's ownership?
5. For what will you exchange the 604,800 moments God will give you this week? (223,200 completely discretionary)

Faithfulness with our Treasure Pt 1: Getting Heb 3:2

- Stewardship: Using what God’s entrusted to us according to His desires: His glory, others’ benefit, and our needs.
- Financial stewardship (not finances) is a barometer (present and future) of our present self-control and future reward
- The Means of money (job) can be just as much an idol as the product (power, pleasure, possessions) or money itself

I. We Don’t Own Anything; God Owns it All

1Ch 29:11 Your, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is your; your is the kingdom, O LORD, and you art exalted as head above all. 12 Both riches and honor come of you, and you reigns over all; and in your hand is power and might; and in your hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. 14 But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come of you, and of your own have we given you. 16 O LORD our God, all this store that we have prepared to build you an house for your holy name comes of your hand, and is all your own. 17 I know also, my God, that you try the heart, and have pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of mine heart I have willingly offered all these things: and now have I seen with joy you people, which are present here, to offer willingly unto you.

Hag 2:8 The silver *is* mine, and the gold *is* mine, says the LORD of hosts.

Isa 45:3 I will give you the treasures, and hidden riches, that you may know that I, the LORD, which call you by you name, am the God of Israel.

Deut 8:11 Beware that you forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments...12 Lest eaten and full...13silver and gold is multiplied...14 Then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the LORD thy God, which brought you out of...bondage; 17 And you say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand has gotten me this wealth. 18 But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that gives thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day. 19 And it shall be, if you do at all forget the LORD thy God...ye shall surely perish.

God isn’t impressed by nor in need of our money Job 34:19 *How much less to him* that accepts not the persons of princes, nor regards the rich more than the poor? for they all *are* the work of his hands. Job 36:19 Will he esteem your riches? *no*, not gold...

Ec 5:19 God has given riches and wealth, and has given him power to eat thereof, and to rejoice in his labor; this *is* the gift of God.

Ec 6:2 A man to whom God has given riches, wealth, and honor, so that he wants nothing for his soul of all that he desires, yet God gives him not power to eat thereof, but a stranger eats it: this *is* vanity, and it *is* an evil disease.

II. A Million Dollars Still Isn’t What It Never Used To Be

A. Limitations:

Doesn’t Deliver Pr 11:4 Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivers from death.

Eze 7:19 They shall cast their silver in the streets, and their gold shall be removed: their silver and their gold shall not be able to deliver them in the day of the wrath of the LORD: they shall not satisfy their souls, neither fill their bowels: because it is the stumblingblock of their iniquity.

Zep 1:18 Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD'S wrath...

Temporal Pr 27:24 For riches *are* not for ever: and does the crown *endure* to every generation?

Re 18:17 For in one hour so great riches is come to nought.

Jas 1:10 But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away. 11...so also shall the rich man fade away

Doesn't satisfy Ec 4:8...neither is his eye satisfied with riches 5:10 nor he that loves abundance with increase: this *is* also vanity.

Isa 55:1...he that has no money; come you, buy, and eat...without money and without price. 2

Wherefore do you spend money for that which is not bread? and your labor for that which satisfies not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat you that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

B. Inferior to:

Wisdom Pr 16:16 How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!

Pr 3:14 For the merchandise of it *is* better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.

Pr 8:10 Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold.

Pr 8:19 My fruit *is* better than gold, yea, than fine gold; and my revenue than choice silver.

Commandments Ps 19:10 More to be desired *are they* than gold, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

Righteousness Ps 37:16 A little that a righteous man has *is* better than the riches of many wicked.

Knowledge Pr 20:15 There is gold, and a multitude of rubies: but the lips of knowledge *are* a precious jewel. (See Ec 7:12)

Knowing God Jer 9:23 Let not the wise...mighty...rich man glory in his riches: 24 glory in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord

Reputation Pr 22:1 A *good* name *is* rather to be chosen than great riches, *and* loving favor rather than silver and gold.

Uprightness Pr 28:6 Better *is* the poor that walks in his uprightness, than *he that is* perverse *in his* ways, though he *be* rich.

People Isa 13:12 I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir.

C. Dangers:

Self sufficiency Pr 30:8 give me neither poverty nor riches...9 lest I deny Thee...

Deceived Mr 4:19 cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

Unfruitfulness Lu 8:14...are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of *this* life, and bring no fruit to perfection.

Neglectful of God Lu 12:21 So *is* he that lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

Keep from Kingdom Mr 10:23 And Jesus looked round about, and says unto his disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God! 24...how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God! 25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. Mt 19:23-24

Flypaper Lu 18:23 And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich. 24 And when Jesus saw that he was very sorrowful, he said, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!

Sleeplessness Ec 5:12 The sleep of a laboring man is sweet, whether he eat little or much: but the abundance of the rich will not suffer him to sleep.

Hurt Ec 5:13 There is a sore evil *which* I have seen under the sun, *namely*, riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt.

Pride Pr 28:11 The rich man *is* wise in his own conceit; but the poor that has understanding searches him out.

Emptiness Lu 1:53 He filled the hungry with good things; and rich he sent empty away. 6:24 woe to you that are rich! you have received your reward

Error and Snare 1Ti 6:9 they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 the love of money is the root of all evil: which coveted they erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Idolatry Mt 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate... Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

False confidence/joy Job 31:24 If I have made gold my hope, or have said to the fine gold, *You art* my confidence; 25 If I rejoiced because my wealth *was* great, and because mine hand had gotten much...

Misplaced Trust Ps 49:6 They that trust in their wealth, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches;

Ps 52:7 this is the man that made not God his strength; but trusted in the abundance of his riches, and strengthened himself in his wickedness.

Ps 62:10 Trust not in oppression, and become not vain in robbery: if riches increase, set not your heart *upon them*.

Wrong Purchases Ac 8:20 Peter said: Your money perish with you, because you have thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

Judgment Jas 5:1 Go to now, *you* rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon *you*. 2 Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. 3 Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. You have heaped treasure together for the last days.

III. Wealth And Poverty Are Consequences

Wealth is a consequence of:

A. Obedience - Blessing Pr 10:22 The blessing of the LORD, it makes rich, and he adds no sorrow with it.

Ho 2:8 she did not know that I gave her corn, and wine, and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold, *which* they prepared for Baal.

Dt 7:11 Thou shalt therefore keep the commandments... 13 And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee... 14 Thou shalt be blessed above all people: there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle. 15 And the LORD will take away from thee all sickness

B. Wisdom Pr 14:24 The crown of the wise *is* their riches: *but* the foolishness of fools *is* folly.

Pr 3:16 Length of days *is* in her right hand; *and* in her left hand riches and honor.

8:18...durable riches and righteousness.

Eze 28:4 With you wisdom and with your understanding you have gotten you riches, and have gotten gold and silver into you treasures: 5 By your great wisdom and by your traffic have you increased you riches, and your heart is lifted up because of you riches:

C. Knowledge Pr 24:4 And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

D. Labor Pr 13:11 Wealth *gotten* by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathers by labor shall increase.

E. Humility Pr 22:4 By humility *and* the fear of the LORD *are* riches, and honor, and life.

F. Fear God Ps 112:3 Wealth and riches *shall be* in his house: and his righteousness endures for ever.

G. Righteousness Pr 11:28 He that trustees in his riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.

H. Faithfulness Pr 28:20 A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that makes haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

I. Inheritance Pr 19:14 House and riches *are* the inheritance of fathers: and a prudent wife *is* from the LORD.

J. Luck Ec 9:11 I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race *is* not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favor to men of skill; but time and chance happens to them all.

Poverty is a consequence of:

A. Laziness Pr 10:4 He becomes poor that deals *with* a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent makes rich.

B. No self-control/discipline/denial Pr 21:20 There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spends it up.

C. Pleasure loving Pr 21:17 He that loves pleasure *shall be* a poor man: he that loves wine and oil shall not be rich.

D. Greedy haste Pr 28:22 He that hastens to be rich *has* an evil eye, and considers not that poverty shall come upon him.

E. Usury Pr 15:5 He that puts not out his money to usury, nor takes reward against the innocent. He that does these things shall never be moved.

F. Oppression and Bribes Pr 22:16 He that oppresses the poor to increase his riches, and he that gives to the rich, shall surely come to want.

G. Poor priorities Pr 23:4 Labor not to be rich: cease from your own wisdom. 5 Wilt you set your eyes upon that which is not? for *riches* certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.

H. Gotten unrighteously Jer 17:11 so he that gets riches, and not by right, shall leave them in the midst of his days, and at his end shall be a fool.

I. Neglect Pr 27: 23 Be diligent to know the state of thy flocks...24 For riches *are* not for ever... Pr 24:30 I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding;

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. Why do we think what we have is ours, rather than God's, who has entrusted it to us? Are any wicked rich? 2. What are some symptoms of someone who is owned by their money, or lack of it? How does it differ from bondage? 3. Why do we tend to think we are immune from the dangers of wealth? 4. What are common causes of wealth and poverty in our culture? 5. If wealth is inferior to a number of more valuable things, why do we pursue it like it was premier? 6. What view of God keeps us from being owned by what we own?

Faithfulness with Money Pt 3: Giving to Ourselves

©11/98 WF Cobb Truthbase.net **1Tim 6:10** *For the love of money is root of all evil: some people eager for money, have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.*

I. Why Some People have More Problems than Money

- A. Are sowing the causes of Poverty rather than Wealth (See Parts 1 & 2) and failing to weed out injurious causes
- B. No self-control/discipline immediate gratification; lust of eyes/flesh-pride of life; Julius Caesar mentality
- C. Standard rises with income; Standard doesn't matter/won't be judged by God; Small change doesn't add up to \$1 million
- D. As members of the Disposable Generation, Never learned to RESTRAIN, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle; Live at ease Isa 32 Js 5:1-5
- E. Falsely believe money satisfies; Use money/purchases to make self feel good, or boost status image Pr 27:20
- F. Trying to obtain inner enduring value (security, significance) with outer vanity (temporal mist); Your Treasure is another's Trash
- G. Deceived Mk 4:18 deceitfulness of riches and the lusts for other things enter in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful
- H. Discontent, Envy Ac 20:33 Covetous is idolatry Col 3:5 Mortify...covetousness, which is idolatry
- I. The Means of money (job) can be just as much an idol as the product (power, pleasure, possessions) or money itself
- J. Enslaved and robbed by Debt = Bondage (a sign of God's Judgment for lack of self control) De 28:12 The LORD shall open unto you his good treasure...and to bless all the work of your hand: and you shall lend unto many nations, and you shall not borrow. Pr 22:7 The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.
- K. Wrong Values Heb 11:26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he was looking to the reward.
- L. No stewardship mentality rooted in the fear of God; Don't think God owns it (see Part 1) 1Ch 29:11
- M. Giving less than 10%; Only 10% belongs to God (See Part 4) Malachi 3
- N. Hoarding rather than Generous; Stewardship is not hoarding Pr 11:24
- O. No trust God will provide (unrighteous walk); Dollar and a dream eliminates God from the scheme
- P. Devourer not rebuked Malachi 3:11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither...
- Q. Not seeking Kingdom and righteousness first Matt 6:33...and all these things (that the Gentiles seek) will be added to you
- R. Money controls decisions; Worshipping the almighty buck Mt 10:9 Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses,
- S. Love things and use people; {Gothard: Love Money if...}

II. Why God Gives us Money:

Not to use according to our will but to use according to the will of God

Ezr 7:18 And whatever seems good to you to do with the rest of the silver and the gold, that do after the will of your God.

- A. As a channel for His provision Matt 6:11 daily bread; 2Thess 3:10 no work, no eat; 1 Tim 5:8 provide for own...infidel

- B. Pay taxes Mt 17:24 master pay tribute? 27...fish...opened his mouth, you shall find a piece of money...give to them for me and you.
- C. Restoring debts Lu 19:8 Zacchaeus: Lord, half I give to the poor; if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.
- D. Save Pr 21:20 *There is* treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spends/devours all he has.
- E. Evangelize Lu 16:9 Make friends with the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations.
- F. Ministry/Eternal Dinner Parties Lu 14:12 dinner, call not friends, kinsmen, rich neighbors; lest recompense be made you...
- G. Test us Lu 16:11 If you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true *riches*?
- H. Develop contentment Ph 4:11...learned, in whatever state...to be content. 12...full...hungry...abound...suffer need. 13 I can do all things thru...
- I. Enjoy both present and future 1Ti 6:17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy; 18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to share; 19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.
- J. Cause joy by being lavish toward God and generous toward others (remember, money is not their real need) 2Cor 9:12 this service not only supplies the need of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings to God; (See Part 4 Giving to God and Others)
- K. Give to bring pleasure to God Isa 43:24 You have bought me no sweet cane with money...you have wearied me with your iniquities. Pr 3:5-6

III. How to Spend Strategically

- A. Courageously be a good stewards/managers of income/outgo whether we have a little or a lot
- B. Establish a “wartime” budget prayerfully and increase you ability to earn (self-limits, laziness, lack skill/knowledge/experience)
- C. Go for value: Consider value in the context of stewardship of time and talents (opportunities); Pray before you pay
- D. Lifestyle Frugality/Carefulness Jn 6:12...let nothing be wasted Lu 15:8 ten pieces of silver...lose one...seek diligently till she find it?
- E. Develop sales and desire resistance; How do you stop an elephant from charging? Ps 62:10...if riches increase, don't set your heart on them.
- F. Consider: need, make do or live without, alternatives, standard/quality, reasons, rent, sale, budget, counsel, witness, pray, wait, will of God?
- G. Spend on your needs while investing in your future pleasure. Lu 16:11 If not faithful in the unrighteous mammon...entrust with the true riches?

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. If we agree that it all belongs to God, why do we spend on ourselves what even belongs to others?
2. Is saving inconsistent with trusting God? Is it better to increase earnings or decrease spending? What if God doesn't provide?
3. How can a believer justify spending on their own pleasure while in the midst of a “spiritual war” and starving people?
4. How do you know if you're being a good steward and your spending is honoring/glorifying God?
5. If you're not living within a God-honoring emulable budget, why not? What steps can you take to deny yourself and follow Christ?

Faithfulness -Money Pt 4: GIVING TO GOD

2 Cor 9:7 ^{10/98} *Every man according as he purposes in his heart... God loves a cheerful giver*

OT Giving: 23% Mandatory tithes & offerings (Lev 27; Num 18; Dt 12, 14; Lev 19); Free-will offerings, vows, alms (Ez 1)

NT Giving is purposeful, sacrificial, hilarious, free-will expression of the worth of God (worship) that flows from a perfect heart full of grace and gratitude (Lk 7:47 forgiven much love much)

I. Giving is Worship

A. Our giving should honor God by showing He is worthy of our best sacrifice Pr 3:9 Honor the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: 10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

Heb 13:16 do good - share/communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

B. Giving should be Lavish toward God, Generous toward others 2Cor 9:6 sows sparingly...reap....sows bountifully shall reap

C. God doesn't like being Lord of the Leftovers Mal 1:10 I have no pleasure in you, says the Lord, nor will I accept an offering

D. Get Blessed or Rob God Mal 3:7 Return unto me, and I will return to you...8...Yet you have robbed me...In tithes and offerings. 9 You *are* cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me...10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that *there shall not be room enough to receive it.* 11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes...12...call you blessed

E. Giving should done by all; Poverty doesn't exempt from giving Ex 23:15 and none shall appear before me emptyhanded Le 14:21 if he be poor, and cannot get so much; then he shall take one lamb for an offering...Ex 30:15 The rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less than...when they give an offering...atonement 2 Cor 8:2...their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality.

F. We should give sacrificially whether we have a little or a lot; Giving is measured not just by what we give, but also what we keep Lu 21:2 he saw also a poor widow casting in two mites. 3...this poor widow has cast in more than they all:

G. Motive is more important than amount 2Cor 8:12 if first a willing mind, accepted according to that a man has, *and* not...

H. We can give more than gold Ac 3:6 Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I you: In the name of Jesus...rise up and walk.

II. Giving is a Grace 2Cor 8:7 as you abound in...faith, utterance, knowledge, diligence, love to us, abound in this grace also. Act 4:33...and great grace was upon them all. 34 Neither any that lacked...sold, 35 laid...feet...distribution according...need. 2 Cor 9:8 God's able to make all grace abound to you...always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may abound to every good work:

III. Giving has been proven to be Part of a Comprehensive Program of Spiritual Well-being and Preventative Maintenance

A. Giving must come out of a perfect heart 1Chron 29: 9 Then the people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the LORD: and David the king also rejoiced with great joy.

Mt 5:24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift. (15:5)

B. Giving starts with dedication of self to God 2Cor 8:5 first gave themselves to the Lord, and to us by the will of God.

IV. Joy Results from Choosing What is Best {Paradox of sacrifice and joy}

2 Cor 8:2 How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. 3 For to *their* power, I bear record, yea, and beyond *their* power *they were* willing of themselves; 4 Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift...

A. Giving results in blessing Lk 6:38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give to you. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

B. True Riches Lu 16:11 If you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? 2Co 6:10

C. Needs met Phil 4:18...received...a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God. 19 But my God shall supply all your need...riches

D. Heavenly bank account Php 4:17 Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.

V. How & Where to Give: Instructions & examples: Local Church; believers in need, local/distant relief, missionaries (local and foreign) 2Jn 11

A. Give regularly & proportionately 1Cor 16:2 first of the week every one of you lay by him in store, as *God* has prospered...

B. Give to those in need Eph 4:28...labor, working with *his* hands thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needs

C. Priority is believers Ga 6:10...opportunity, let us do good to all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

D. Equality is not ease 2Cor 8:13 not that other men be eased, and you burdened: 14 But by an equality, now at this time your abundance *may be a supply* for their want, that their abundance also may be *a supply* for your want: that there may be equality:

E. Give where you're taught Gal 6:6 Let him that is taught in the word share with him that teaches in all good things. Mt 10:10...the workman is worthy of his meat. 1Co 9:14 Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel. 1Co 9:11 we have sown to you spiritual things...we shall reap your carnal things? Ro 15:27For if...partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister unto them in carnal things. 1Ti 5:17 Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in the word and doctrine. 18 For the scripture says, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treads out the corn. And, The laborer *is* worthy of his reward. Lu 10:7

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1.If giving results in blessings, then why shouldn't one try to give as much as one can? Can you outgive God? 2. If stewardship of money is so important in the Christian life, why do we consider giving private and are ashamed to talk about it? 3. If you designate/control your giving, are you really giving it to God? (Cf. Whole burnt offerings) 4. Since we no longer sacrifice animals, how do we make sure we're giving God our best sacrifice (in order to to honor Him)?

5. Does your giving honor God or rob God? If robbing God, why? On what are you spending His money? Is change possible?

Faithfulness with Our Talents

1Peter 4:10

As every man has received a/the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 11 If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God gives: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

From Part 1 (9/98) : Characteristic of God; Based/Founded in Fear of God; HS fruit; Delight 's God ; Basis of Blessings, Ministry and Influence

Loyally follow through on commands (spirit & letter), beliefs, responsibilities and promises; using all according to God's purpose/plan

I. A good and faithful steward practices self denial to use all they have for the service of others and the glory of God.

1 Tim 4:12 Let no man despise your youth; but be an example to the believers, in word, in conversation, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. 15 Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that your profiting may appear to all. 16 Take heed...

II. What do you have of each of the following? How can you use it to glorify God and love others as yourself?

Grace

Personality

Design

Abilities/Talents

Mind/Intellect/Reason

Will/Emotions/Passion

Body/Voice

Possessions

Power/Influence

Opportunity

Education

Knowledge

Uniqueness

Background/Experiences

Strengths/Weaknesses

Not for our benefit, but for the benefit of others 1Co 4:7 For who makes you to differ *from another*? and what have you that you did not receive? now if you did receive *it*, why do you glory, as if you had not received *it*? (see also 2Co 5:15)

1Co 4:1 account us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.

2...stewards, that a man be found faithful.

Background Phil 3:4...If any thinks he has...trust in the flesh, I more...7 what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. (Zech 4:6)

Leadership of others Tit 1:7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre...

Edify Ro 12:6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, *let us prophesy* according to the proportion of faith; 7 Or ministry, *let us wait on our* ministering: or he that teaches, on teaching; 8 Or he that exhorts, on exhortation: he that gives, *let him do it* with simplicity; he that rules, with diligence; he that shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

1Co 12:4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal/others. 8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; knowledge 9 faith, healing 10 working of miracles, prophecy; discerning of spirits; tongues; interpretation of tongues: 11But all these works that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. 25 That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.

1 Cor 14:3 But he that prophesies speaks to men *to* edification, and exhortation, and comfort.

Minister Mt 20:28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Mr 10:45 For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Lu 8:3 And Joanna the wife of Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered to him of their substance.

2Co 9:1 For as touching the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to write to you:

Heb 6:10 For God *is* not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which you have shown toward his name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. How has someone benefited you or glorified God with what would appear to be an insignificant aspect of their life?
2. What "hidden" talents do you have that you're ashamed of or not using? Why? Is God pleased with your hoarding of your talent?
3. Do you use your talents more for your livelihood or sainthood? Whom do you chiefly glorify/benefit?
4. If joy comes from choosing what is best, what's the best use of your talents?
5. Make an inventory of you talents. Then list how you can use each one according to God's purpose by the end of the year.

TRULY FAITHFUL 2 Timothy 1:13

Hold fast the form of sound words, which you have heard of me, in faith and love in Christ Jesus.

Learn the Truth, Live the Truth, Love others with the Truth Eph

4:15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:

16 From whom the whole body joined and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the effectual working of every part, causes growth of the body to the edifying of itself in love.

I. KNOW WHAT TO DO {HAND: HEAR, READ, STUDY, MEMORIZE, MEDITATE}

A. Commit to Obey Jn 7:17 If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or I speak of myself.

B. Study & Shun 2Tim 2:14 Of these things put *them* in remembrance, charging *them* before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, *but* to the subverting of the hearers. 15 Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

1Ti 4:7 But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself *rather* unto godliness.

1Ti 6:20 keep what is committed to your trust, avoiding profane *and* vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:

Tit 1:14 Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.

Tit 3:9 avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain.

II. DO WHAT YOU KNOW {Meditate = Thinking through Implications for Applications}

View of: God, self, world, others; Different spheres: Family, Home, Work, Church, Gov't;

How affect: purpose, values, thoughts, feelings, actions?)

A. Non-Application is sin

Jas 4:17 Therefore to him that knows to do good, and does *it* not, to him it is sin.

Ro 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

2Tim 3:14 But continue in the things which you have learned and have been assured of, knowing of whom you have learned *them*; 15 And that from a child you have known the holy scriptures, which are able to make you wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine.

B. We will be held accountable Luke 12:41 Then Peter said unto him, Lord, do you speak this parable unto us, or even to all? 42 And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom *his* lord shall make ruler over his household, to give *them their* portion of meat in due season? 43 Blessed *is* that servant, whom his lord when he comes shall find so doing. 47 And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not *himself*, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many lashes. 48 But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few lashes. For to whom much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

III. SHARE WHAT YOU KNOW

Jn 9:25 be a sinner *or no*, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.

A. Share Accurately Mt 12:36 But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

B. Share Selectively Mr 6:11 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when you depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city.

C. Share Strategically: Endure & Hand-off to the..Faithful..Available..Teachable

2 Tim 2:1 You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things that you have heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit you to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. 3 You therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 4 No man that wars entangles himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who has chosen him to be a soldier. 5 And if a man also strive for masteries, *yet* is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully. 6 The farmer that labors must be first partaker of the fruits. 7 Consider what I say; and the Lord give you understanding in all things.

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. What's God's intended purpose for the Truth? How does one use the Truth in accord with God's purposes? How has Truth changed you?
2. Do most people drop the baton re: "learning", "living" or "loving others"* with the Truth? Why? Which is easiest to fix?
3. What keeps people from learning the Truth? Applying/Living the Truth? Passing it on to others? Which God would want you to improve?
4. If one's life is inconsistent with the Truth, what keeps them from changing immediately and permanently?
5. What helps you learn; live; love others with the Truth? Are you a FAT person investing in FAT people? If not, can you change?

THE ULTIMATE PERSONAL ORGANIZER



TOYL ORGANIZER INSTRUCTIONS

MONTHLY SHEET

Inside the Monthly Sheet (*Calendar Grid*)

1. Record each appointment as you make or plan it.
2. On the left side write down the steps you'll take this month toward the Objectives and Goals which you've determined are God's will for your life.
3. Schedule when you'll take the steps toward your goals.
4. Use the little box to check off when you've completed it.
5. Write the verse you'll memorize this month on the top.
6. Personalize that verse as an affirmation. (see examples)
7. Every time you look at the calendar, review the verse and affirmation, so you can effortlessly reprogram your robot.
8. Use the rectangle on the bottom left and the blank days to keep track of the information that usually gets lost.

Front of the Monthly Sheet (*Quadrants & Tasks*)

1. Use the ToDo List to record tasks for the month.
2. Do not list appointments, meetings, or tasks which already have a date to which you're committed. **Record** those tasks on the appropriate day or week.
3. Don't forget to record the task of preparing for the above.
4. You can use the shaded areas as a grid to classify tasks as they come in according to your Priority System (see the Weekly Written Priorities Instructions or Will of God h/o)
5. Upper Left = I (important & urgent); Upper Right = II (important & non-urgent); Lower Left = III (non-important & urgent); Lower Right = IV (non-important & non-urgent) [or just skip these]
6. After classifying, prioritize: (A = act & achieve this month; B= begin this month; C = can be left undone)
7. After prioritizing, number: 1, 2, 3, etc.
8. After numbering, schedule the week or day you'll do it.
9. You can also use the bottom quadrants to group people to contact, write, phone, fax, or things to get (shopping list)

Back of the Monthly Sheet (*Columns*)

Scorekeeper You have fourteen columns to keep track of anything that's important to you until it becomes an automatic habit. You can make it a game and compete against your previous efforts by assigning point values to each task or discipline you wish to build into your life. You can give yourself a plus each time you demonstrate a desired behavior, a minus each time you blew it, an a neutral when you made progress in standing still (i.e., for your diet: "+" = celery stick, "0" = nonfat Fig Newton, "-" = Dove bar. When you accumulate a hundred points, splurge on a watercress salad or a pint of New York Super Fudge Chunk). We tend

to delude ourselves until we see on paper, in our writing, our actual progress. Some suggestions of things to track:

- ⇒ Times spent doing any of the disciplines mentioned below
- ⇒ Quiet Time (minutes or a check for recording a thought);
- ⇒ Scripture memory attempts at writing out verse
- ⇒ Prayer time; Bible Study time spent; Temptation fled
- ⇒ Satanic influence resisted; Purpose/Goal/etc. review
- ⇒ Exercise (weight, S/U, P/U, etc., aerobic minutes)
- ⇒ Budget (time and/or money); Reading minutes or pages
- ⇒ Each time you filed or picked up or cleaned up

You can also track negative or destructive behavior so you can get a better idea of what progress your making or still need to make. For example: Temptations embraced; Hours of television; Unkind remarks made; Each time you get anxious, or angry; Unprofitable or unbiblical self talk.

People Page or Meeting Follow-Up Sheet

1. Keep pages alphabetically or in some logical order.
2. Use one for people with whom you have regular interaction to remind yourself of things to discuss
3. Keep track of observations, needs, quotes, commitments, and the day made.
4. Use the right columns to prepare for a meeting/discussion, marking the order of the items you wish to discuss, and then checking off each as discussed, indicating what action or commitment was decided upon.
5. Keep one or use a post-it to remind yourself of things to discuss with your spouse.
6. Use a people page for each client, so you can review their background and needs each time you call, as well as having a record of your dealings with them and ideas for future business with them. Record when you said you'd get back to them and immediately put in the appropriate monthly or weekly ToDo list.
7. Use one for each person in whose life you're seeking to minister. Note their needs, motivations, things that are important to them, prayer requests, goals (better yet, get a copy of their goals and pray for them as you pray over your goals).
8. Use one to keep track of your kids, their goals and your goals for them.

Idea Banks

Keep one IB for each project, committee meeting, goal, and area of interest. Whenever you hear or come across an idea which can help you reach a goal or fulfill a responsibility, write it down. Make an abbreviated reference to the source so you can find more information Use the IB to index a project file in which you keep articles, pictures, copies, etc.

Reading over your Idea Banks will generate new ideas. Time spent brainstorming when you're relaxed and there's no imminent project deadline will give you the ideas you'll need to zip through your projects when you are under pressure. When you're up to your neck in alligators, it's difficult to creatively consider alternative methods of swamp draining. Keep an Idea Bank for reading suggestions listing recommendations under appropriate categories (*TOYL Reading List*).

Inside the Weekly Sheet 

1. Use the space at the top to jot down a morsel from your quiet time so you can chew on it throughout the day. (See *Quiet Time Sheet* for suggestions.)
2.  Check the left side of the book icon if you've done the Proverb and Psalm of the day.
3.  Check the right side of the icon if you've followed your Bible Reading plan for the day and checked it off on the Bible Reading Sheet.
4. Use the space above or below the day of the week to fill in the date.
5.  Put a star in the other space after you've done hit your minimum standard for managing your daily life.
6. In the Life Goal slot put the step you'll take toward fulfilling your long range objectives.
7. **Check off each icon** as appropriate, keeping score if you're competitive.
8. Use the shaded priority section for listing urgent (Class I) items of the day & priorities from the front page.
9. Use the un-shaded section for the non-urgent (Class II)
10. Learn to abbreviate & write with an extra fine point pen.
11. Schedule approximately when you'll do your priorities, remembering 80/20 and that work expands to fulfill the time we allot to it.
-  Resist perfectionism and getting your worth from what you do ☹ rather than from the outworking of your decision to be a disciple. ☺
13. Circle the time of any appointments so you can see them at a glance.
14. Use your lunch time to further your non-urgent goals.
15. Link meetings and appointments with a People Page or Meeting/Project Follow-up.
16. Record any commitments when you make them and when they occur.
17. If possible keep track of what you did and with whom you spoke so you can have a basis for making intelligent decisions.
18. → Use arrows to record the duration of tasks.
19.  Reference where you can find worksheets or projects or files you worked on.
20.  At the end of the day go back; fill in what you missed.
21. You want to be able to look back and see what you did with your time so know where your time is going and you can plan more effectively.
22. If necessary track your calls or your interruptions so you can take corrective action.
23.  Record expenses as they occur.
24. Use the white space at the bottom for reminders when you review your day.
25. Use the blank at the bottom to plan your **menu**.

- 26. ☛ Can you kill two birds with one bomb? What could do the most damage if it blows up? Any Time Wasters to explode?
- 27. Use a (T) and an → arrow to transfer tasks to another slot.

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"Successful people make a habit of doing what unsuccessful people don't like to do."

The following Weekly & Daily Disciplines contain the habits that make the difference between people who reach their goals and those who do not, as well as the Spiritual Disciplines that make the difference between those who hear "Well done, good and faithful servant...Enter into the joy of your Master." and those who do not.

You're already doing many of these items, some consciously by design, others subconsciously out of habit. Determine which new habits you wish to ingrain into your life and to what degree or standard. Your initial standard can be asking yourself the questions below? Make the effort to check-off the icons of the items, as you perform it to your standard, until you're doing them effortlessly.

If you want a more accurate measure of your progress, instead of just checking off each icon, make it into a game and keep score. Give yourself a plus "+" or positive "1" over each icon you do to your standard, a zero for each you did partially, and a minus "-" or negative "1" for each you totally blew off. Record your net points in a column on your Scorekeeper (back of Monthly Sheet), and reward yourself each week you break one hundred. Or pay yourself a penny or a dime a point for being more effective and efficient.

☛ REVIEW: Am I looking at what I'm doing?

We generally act on or react to what's before us. The key to achieving your goals is to keep them in front of you and becoming proactive. The REVIEW discipline keeps in front of us the things that we've determined are important. Remember Jesus in the first chapter of Mark? He was able to resist the temptations to not do the Father's will because He spent time reviewing and keeping in front of Him why He had come. The REVIEW discipline saves time by: reminding us of the big picture, the "why" behind the "what"; stimulating new ideas in a relaxed environment before we must function under fire; and helping us remember the important yet nonurgent before it becomes it becomes a forest fire crises. There are items you'll want to review yearly, others, quarterly, monthly, weekly, daily, or even a number of times a day.

☑ Progress: How am I doin'?

Many people don't realize they're on a carousel instead of a train. They feel the motion. They stay in the saddle. They see the lights flashing by. They hear the music, and even know the tune. They mistake their ups and downs for progress, their activity for accomplishment. It's unlikely they'll ever wake up to the reality that their forty years of experience has just been the same year repeated forty times. They'll end their adult or spiritual life, approximately where they began, no runs, no hits, just one eternal error. They've wasted the life God's given them. They've failed to fulfill the purpose for which they've been created.

If you want to have the Time of Your Life invested in meaningful accomplishment, you need to review how you're doin'. You need to take or make the time to check out your life map; see where you are, where you've been, and set your sights on where you want to go. It's only

then that you'll know the difference between: "Desire accomplished is sweet to the soul" and "Bein' along for the ride."

1. Have I reaped what I sowed?
2. Do I like the crop? Does God like it?
3. How am I different now, from the way I was last week, month, year, decade?
4. How have my circumstances changed? What caused the effect?
5. What progress have I made in the things that are really important to me and God?
6. What accomplishment gives me/God the most satisfaction?
7. What made my progress possible? What could enhance?
8. What made my progress difficult/nonexistent?
9. What can I change or sow, beginning today, which will yield the results I and/or God want by this time next week, month, year?
10. How do I feel about my progress in light of II Cor. 5:10?

Goals & Steps: At what am I aiming and how will I achieve it?

If you aim at nothing you're sure to hit it. Moving the right target in front of our sights and keeping it there is the best way to ensure success.

Your Evaluation, Dream Development, and Purpose and Objectives Worksheet, followed by a Project Planner and Decision Maker where necessary, should have yielded Goals that God would be pleased to bless. As you pursue those Goals via the REVIEW discipline, you can do so with the confidence that you're doing the will of God for your life.

1. Have I determined that my goals are God's will for my life?
2. How much am I willing to pay to accomplish each of my goals?
3. Am I paying that cost?
4. How and when will I achieve my life goals?
5. Which goals will I take steps toward reaching this week?
6. What results do I hope to achieve this week?
7. What must be done this week?
8. Do my goals support my Objectives & Purpose?
9. Do my goals address my greatest needs and desires?
10. Do my goals reflect the balance stated in my Objectives?
11. Which goals need to be rewritten, transferred, or abandoned?
12. Which goals are I tempted to slack off on? Why?
13. Which goals do I need to start tracking on a Scorekeeper?
14. Where will I try 80/20?

Project Planners, Idea Banks, & Goal Galvanizers

What's the status of my current projects?

Your Project Planners take an opportunity, desire, or problem and turns it into steps you can follow to achieve a worthy goal. The Idea Banks help you develop your Project Planners. The Goal Galvanizers, Goal Trackers, and Scoresheets help you motivate yourself to be victorious in overcoming the more difficult obstacles by vanquishing procrastination.

1. What Project Planners need some more brainstorming or research?
2. Which need to be updated or rewritten or rescheduled?
3. Are I keeping my projects on scraps or in my notebook?
4. Do I need to start a new Idea Bank for something?
5. Do I need to develop a Goal Galvanizer for one of my goals?
6. Do I need to track the effort expended on a Goal Tracker?

7. Are my new projects in line with my Objectives & Purpose?
8. Do my potential projects conflict with my current goals?
9. What in my life supports my Personal Growth Objective?

✠ Affirmations & Visualizations

Have I affirmed Philippians 2:13 & 4:13? for each task?

We frequently sabotage our success by filtering our potential achievements through a flawed self image or faulty thinking. We also fail by doubting in the dark what God has revealed to us in the light. By affirming the correctness of our goals, and our Holy Spirit energized ability to achieve God's desire for us we can avoid the failure that comes from succumbing to the temptation to change our battle plan under fire.

Since every act starts as a thought filtered through our value system, we transform ourselves and our environment by ingraining in our minds correct or true thinking. Most behavioral deficits (sin) can be eradicated by examining our self talk for incorrect thinking, correcting it, and then visualizing ourselves acting according to the self talk based upon Truth. The visualization process is simply imagining or seeing yourself being and doing what God desires for you. It's praying honestly with your mind as well as your words and emotions. It's the flip side of the process by which we sin. (See James 2 and the Sanctification sheet "It Ain't Gonna Reign No More" for more information and suggestions.)

1. Will God give me all I need to do His will?
2. Does God desire me to make progress toward my specific goals?
3. How can God strengthen and help me to reach my goals? (Phil 4:19)
4. How will I feel as I achieve my goals this week?
5. Can I see myself acting and interacting as Christ?
6. Is my image of myself consistent with my goals?
7. In my Quiet Time, did I affirm that God will help me through each step?
8. Did I visualize myself starting & finishing each step.
9. Have I reprogrammed my robot with the Transforming Truth of the Affirmation on the Monthly Sheet?

✍ Scripture Memory

What Scripture will I use to renew my mind this week?

The ability of the Spirit of God to communicate with and direct us is largely limited by our understanding and ready knowledge of His Word. We can sharpen our mental ability and redeem much downtime by using spare seconds to store God's Word in our thinking where He can use it for our benefit and that of those around us.

1. Did I jot down the verse in the bottom margin and on a couple of Post-Its?
2. Will I try writing out the verse before I go to lunch each day?
3. How many days will it be before I can write out the verse from memory?
4. What verses need reviewing?
5. When will I look at the Scripture Memory Sheet?
6. Has God's Spirit used His Word in my life this week?
7. Can I recite billboard ads faster than Scripture?

✍ Prayer List For what am I believing God?

Praying through our "ToDo" list helps us sort out our priorities, get God's help and insight on the things that face us, and clear out any limiting or hindering emotions. It's a great feeling to enter each day knowing that we've aligned our activities with our Chief Executive's Agenda for our lives.

1. Am I plugged into my Power Source?
2. Have I prayed through my "ToDo" list as I picked my priorities?
3. How many items from the Daily Devotion pattern were in my Quiet Time?
4. Did I bring my concerns for the day before the Throne of Grace?
5. On what do I need some prayerful counsel?
6. What do I need to get off/on my prayer list?
7. What percent of my prayers are for myself/others/God's desires?
8. Have I prayed for the top needs of those closest to me?
9. Where on my schedule is my Spiritual Growth Objective supported?
10. When feeling overwhelmed or too busy or pressured, do I simmer, blowup or look up to God for perspective and wisdom?

🕒 **PREPARE: Am I ready to succeed?**

All our great insights and ideas from the REVIEW discipline will evaporate as fast as the steam on the bathroom mirror unless we make the effort to capture them in a usable form. The PREPARE discipline helps you develop the blueprint for the week/day so you can readily refer to it when the dust of your activities clouds your vision. It will also remind you to clear out the clutter you could trip over and have all the tools you'll need sharp and nearby. The three greatest time-wasters are procrastination, poor planning and improper preparation. This PREPARE section helps you focus on the important and urgent, while the PLAN section reminds you of the important and non-urgent.

📌 **Written Priorities:**

Have I written out my priorities for the week and each day?

Your dreams and desires will remain gathering dust in your notebook until you set their steps in lead (or ink) and check off each step as you climb past it. This is the essence of the \$25,000 idea (now worth over a million). Yet, as simple as it is, it would be tough for you to find 25 people who do it. See the TOYL Decision-Maker for more help.

1. I classify tasks as: I=Important & Urgent; II=Important & Non-Urgent; III=Non-Important & Urgent; IV=Non-Important & Non-Urgent.
2. Important tasks contribute to my Life Goals and Purpose.
3. Urgent tasks usually are noisy or have a deadline or time constraint.
4. Am I being tyrannized by the urgent or neglecting Class II?
5. I prioritize tasks as: A=Act & Achieve this day/week;
6. B=Begin today/week; C=Can be left undone;
7. D=Doesn't contribute to my written goals.
8. Did I number each "A" task in order of importance?
9. Did I determine when it's best to do each "A" and schedule it by number.
10. Do I determine and schedule the "B" tasks which have the greatest benefit?
11. If I feel overwhelmed to I move grumbling and whining to an "A" or do I pray and align my emotions with God's will?
12. Do I do only what is written down...Write down what I do...Be honest?

☞ **Pick Daily #1 Task What's my most important task to do each day?**

If you suffer from an obsessive-compulsive personality disorder (a sailboat that also rows when the wind is blowing), you've probably developed the habit of asking yourself at least four times an hour "What's the most important thing I can be doing right now." It's not a bad disorder by which to be slightly infected. However, remember that you charted your course for your #1 task before you set sail, and weather conditions do change. Your #1 task is a step or means of accomplishing your goals. It is not the goal, nor your Life Purpose. It can sometimes be the worst use of your time to pursue your #1 when the tide shifts, the waves kick up, and the currents move you within easy reach of other priorities. Be alert and flexible. You'll enjoy the cruise more.

Other people suffer from another personality disorder, sluggardibilis-somedayI'llis. They drift where ever the world blows them, never raising the sail, putting the oars on the water only to fend off the rocks. This disorder can be fatal if left untreated. The best treatment is a mild dose of the above.

1. If I could only do one task today, what would it be?
2. If I end the day having only done my #1 task, I'm succeeding.
3. If I've done everything except my #1, I'm probably losing.
4. Did I discipline myself to finish #1 before concentrating on #2.
5. Do I keep an eye out for gusts of wind or currents which could help me easily accomplish #2 or #3 without taking me farther from #1.

✂ **Cut Non- Objective Oriented Activities:**

What activities don't help me achieve my goals?

Non-Objective Oriented Activities are those things which you don't mind sacrificing when you've achieved a worthy goal. (Like the third serving of New York Super Chunk Fudge when you come in under your target weight.) Though at the time you put them under the knife, they'll scream that they're essential to your future happiness. You'll be inclined to be deceived by them if you have a propensity to procrastination or an enchantment with escapism. I doubt if any Olympic gold medallist sheds tears over the cost of having their national anthem played as they stand on the podium. It's okay to err on the acetic side, because these things reappear faster than stubble.

1. Did I eliminate as many "C's" as possible.
2. Have I seen how long I can postpone the others.
3. Did I care more about what God thinks than about what others think?
4. I will not even dream about doing "D's".
5. Have I just said "No" (Listen, Reflect, NO!, Reason, Substitute).
6. Did I try saying "No" to myself? Did I win?
7. Am I taking appropriate steps toward my Life Purpose and Objectives or am I wallowing in the world's refuse?

📁 **Administration & Filing: What can make me more effective?**

Everything has a cost. It costs to be organized. It costs to be disorganized. It costs to plan. You pay a high price for not planning. The idea is to strive for getting the maximum return on your investment in organization. Being organized is no substitute for results.

1. What recurrent time wasters could be solved by better organization?

2. Do I have a place for everything?
3. Is everything where I can find it when I want it, automatically?
4. Is it worth handling paper more than once?
5. Would "aging" papers make it easier to process them?
6. Do I sort my papers as: Q=Quick Action; R=Read; S=Save/File; T=Trash

 **Correspondence: Does my "outside" contact further my goals?**

1. Any replies or memos or letters to write?
2. Any phone calls to return or make?
3. Should I see, write, phone, fax or beepspeak?
4. Have I considered the best time to communicate?
5. Did I confirm all nonroutine appointments?
6. Can any of my correspondence be eliminated?
7. What's the downside of not replying?
8. Would an immediate reply save time?
9. Is it worth making an appointment to phone?
10. Any bills to pay? Packages to mail?

 **PLAN: When will I do what's most important?**

Unless you PLAN otherwise, the important will be drowned by the urgent, the eternal by the temporal. It's foolish to try to love God with all your heart (will) or soul (emotions) while neglecting the mind and strength. The questions in this category help develop your capacities to both harness the wind and row so you can more quickly accomplish your more urgent tasks.

 **Exercise/Diet/Sleep:**

Am I maintaining or improving my physical capacity?

Sound objectives housed in a sound mind, in a sound body is an unstoppable combination. It's futile to recharge your motivational batteries while filling your engine with super glue. Those who finish their course with joy will pass many wrecks along the way who had the right objectives, thinking, and methodology, but not enough "oomph".

1. Do I monitor the effect of my eating and exercise on my energy?
2. Am I operating at peak power? If not, why?
3. Would physical discipline enhance my mental or spiritual discipline?
4. What exercise will I get and when? (30 min., 3x)
5. Is my fuel appropriate for my engine?
6. Is my sleep sufficient and sweet?
7. Does my "recreation" charge me or drain me?
8. Would a break from my routine make me more productive?

 **Reading/Study: Am I increasing my mental capacity and competence?**

If people spent as much effort feeding their minds as they did filling their bellies, we'd be a race of mental giants, instead of giant midgets. Knowledge is not only power, lack of it is certain destruction. Determine what types of reading will help you reach your goals and then plan to enjoy doing it. The more you know the more useful you can be.

As long as you're planning on being a Christian the rest of your life, you'll be reading the Bible the rest of your life, so you might as well learn to do it right and profitably. (See *the TOYL Quiet Time Brainstorm* for more suggestions.) © 1990-2003 WF Cobb Truthbase.net Use the book icon on the front of the weekly sheet to track your progress. Check off the left side when you pick a book you'll read for the week. Check off the right side when you complete your personal Bible study.

1. Are I loving God with all my mind?

2. Do I have a book I'll be reading this week?
3. When could I listen to a book on tape?
4. What reading will help me grow professionally?
5. What reading will help me grow personally? Spiritually?
6. When will I do my independent Bible Study?
7. With whom will I discuss the results of my study?
8. Am I using "down time" profitably?
9. Does my schedule reflect a plan to grow according to my Personal Growth Objective?

☺ **Relationships: Am I relating to others in love as Christ would?**

God has created us to be people in relationship with Him and each other. Satan seeks to disrupt the relationships. Sin overturns the relationships. In Christ, relationships are not just restored, but grow and result in blessing. See "What A Friend We Have In Jesus" for suggestions.

1. What contact will enhance my relationship with my: spouse, children, family?
2. When will I interact with my accountability partner/mentor?
3. What time will I share with like minded believers?
4. What time will I invest in younger believers? Pre-believers?
5. What am I doing to enhance my ability to relate to others?
6. Do my relationships reflect the Biblical pattern or the world's?
7. Is Christ evident in all my relationships? Why/not? Are my relationships in line with my Relationships Objective?
8. Would I like interacting/living with me? Why?
9. Do I believe the Golden Rule is for kids or big people as well?

✎ **Service/Ministry: How can I enrich others?**

Work is basically serving the needs of others with the expectation of a temporal profit. Ministry is the same thing with an eternal perspective. Those who would be great in God's kingdom must be the servant of others. Our natural tendency is to be served rather than to serve, so with the determination of a salmon swimming upstream, we must plan to go against the flow of our nature and culture. See the Training Objectives for suggestions.

1. What needs exist in my sphere of influence which God could use me to meet?
2. When was the last time my service was a sacrifice? Cost me something?
3. How am I using the unique talents God's given me for the benefit of others?
4. Am I following Galatians 6:710 (even when weary; priority of the Body)?
5. Does my schedule prove that I have a Life Purpose and Plan to love others?
6. Do my activities move me in the direction of my Ministry Objective?
7. What would make my service a lavish demonstration of loyal love?
8. Is my love reflected in doing what makes me feel good or what's in the best interest of others?
9. Can I name something that would be in the best interest of each person I talk with today?
10. What people are more like Disciples of Jesus Christ as a result of my influence in their lives?

✎ **Christlikeness: How will I be more like Christ at the end of this week?**

We're not just supposed to like Christ, we're supposed to become like Him. Part of making Him look good in the eyes of others (bringing Him glory) is causing Him to be seen by others as they look at us. Becoming Christlike is like going up a down escalator. If we're not climbing we're declining. See Survey of Discipleship for suggestions.

1. When did I shine most like Christ today, this week?
2. What helped His light break through my life to others?
3. Where in my life is the Fruit of the Spirit?

4. What clouds are keeping me in darkness?
5. How long do I intend to let darkness overshadow me?
6. How do I demonstrate humility and teachableness?
7. In what am I demonstrating faith that God is Who He said He is and will do what He said He'll do?
8. If I were a branch could someone make grape juice from me?
9. Do I bear the marks of a Disciple?
10. If my schedule needs trimming, is my Spiritual Growth Objective the first to go?
11. Is it obvious that I've embraced my Master's purpose for life and that I'm following in His steps?

TIPS & SUGGESTIONS Front of the Weekly Sheet

1. Write the reference of the verse you're memorizing in the box at top.
2. Try writing the verse in the bottom margin.
3. Use the four quadrants to classify tasks according to urgency and importance, or for the different spheres/roles of your life.
4. When was the last time my service was a sacrifice? Cost me something?
5. How am I using the unique talents God's given me for the benefit of others?
6. Am I following Galatians 6:710 (even when weary; priority of the Body)?
7. Does my schedule prove that I have a Life Purpose and Plan to love others?
8. Do my activities move me in the direction of my Ministry Objective?
9. What would make my service a lavish demonstration of loyal love?
10. Is my love reflected in doing what makes me feel good or what's in the best interest of others?
11. Can I name something that would be in the best interest of each person I talk with today?
12. What people are more like Disciples of Jesus Christ as a result of my influence in their ives?

OTHER TIME TOOLS

1. Use the size binder that is appropriate for your needs. Use a smaller one to carry current items with you and a bigger one, for home or office.
2. Keep past and future pages and information in a binder so you can find it easily.
3. If you're in sales, keep a notebook of your clients using a people page to log your contact with clients and index the paperwork which relates to them.
4. Invest in a hole punch which matches the size of your notebooks.
5. Punch holes in some pre-stamped post cards and keep them in your binder/notebook to jot quick follow-up notes when your memory is clearest.
6. Punch holes in a couple of envelopes and slip into the back of your binder for holding monthly receipts. Use otherwise wasted minutes to list, on the outside of the envelope, the date, category and amount for each slip inside. Then when budget or tax time comes you just add up the appropriate columns for each month. You'll already have a record of what each expense relates to by looking at the appropriate day on your monthly or weekly sheet. If you're the type who wears a belt and suspenders, jot down the expenditure on the Daily time log as well. If you have trouble remembering your phone number, keep a daily expense log.
7. You can also use punched envelope for rebates, stamps, emergency money, paper clips, or anything else that can regularly save you time if you have it handy.
8. Develop a sheet to use as a check register (or buy one pre-made)
9. Keep an Inventory Sheet. For example, list the meal items you put in your freezer (and the date). Cross off items when you use them. Use the inventory to plan out a weekly menu, or when you go shopping.
10. Keep a shopping list of items that need to be replaced (by store)
11. Keep a list/notebook of your apartment/room/house dimensions

Download the Monthly and Weekly template from Truthbase.net under TOYL

	S M T W T F S	<i>Truths to Transform:</i>
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	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>
<i>Work</i>			
<i>Relationships</i>			
<i>Personal Growth</i>			
<i>Spiritual Growth</i>			
<i>Ministry</i>			

Affirmation:

<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>

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TOYL Accelerator: How to Eat an Elephant One Bite at a Time

For those who eat an elephant one nibble at a time here's a bite-by-bite guide that incorporates one TOYL Task/week until you're cleaning your teeth with the tusks.

Week 1. Monthly calendar- enter each new appointment as it comes in. Jot down tasks in the margin. of the ToDo list you become aware of them. Transfer all your appointments into the appropriate month.

Week 2. Daily ToDo List- Write the three major things you have to do each day on the appropriate priority section. Number them in order of importance. Add other tasks as the day progresses. If necessary, go back and add items so that you have at least three things listed on each sheet

Since you've probable saved some time already, use it to check off any of the Daily disciplines you do, when you do them.

Week 3. Weekly ToDo List- Well you listed 21 last week, not bad! Now try to list (on your Weekly list) five items that you have to do next week, and one that you want to do. For extra credit, figure out (before Monday morning) which day you'll do each task.

Week 4. Plan each day- Try writing all the major tasks you plan to do every day. Use the Classification and(Prioritization Sheet (Quadrant: I, II, III, IV; A= Act & Achieve, B = Begin action this week, C = Can be safely neglected) to prioritize your tasks. Deposit an idea in an Idea Bank.

Week 5. Plan & Prioritize a dozen weekly tasks by Sunday night, listing at least two top tasks for each day in the priority section. Try Using a People Page Follow-Up Sheet for one task.

Week 6. Do a Project Planner on incorporating One Daily Discipline into your life. Enter the Discipline on the Life Goals section of each Day, and trust God for help in doing it.

Week 7. Write out your personal standards (incl. the amount of time) for each Daily, Weekly, or Monthly Discipline. you're currently doing. See the Instruction Sheet for ideas. Start using a Scorekeeper for one area.

Week 8. Develop Standards for any areas in which you're lacking. Incorporate one more TOYL activity of your own choosing.

Week 9. Write out a SMART Goal for one of your Objectives. Refine one of your Objectives and Life Plans until you and God are satisfied. You might want to study one of the five areas in your QT and read a book in each area. Do a Goal Galvanizer for that Objective Goal and the first steps under your Life Goals for the week. (Repeat this procedure monthly until you've developed action steps toward each of your Objectives).

Week 10. Review your TOYL Organizer and Notebook. Use a page from your Journal and list the Daily, Weekly, and Monthly Disciplines or parts that you're currently following (or use a Highlighter.) Which have been most helpful to you? Let me know. Now list those disciplines you wish to incorporate in the order that is most important to you. Develop a schedule to add a discipline monthly or at whatever pace you can incorporate them. Start using your Goal Tracker.

TOYL INERTIA AND CHANGE

A body at rest or in motion will remain so unless acted upon by a “disruptive” outside force, a decision/eMotion, or the Holy Spirit

If you do what you've always done, you'll get what you've always gotten (if you want strawberries, but plant radishes, you'll be disappointed).

We do what we've always done because we value the easy safety of the status quo rather than a vital relationship with the living God.

Signs of a defective value system: comfort, security, laziness, escapism; actions w/o purpose; no intentional God glorifying, other-centered objectives

We need something to “upset our equilibrium” so we develop a new Biblical balance (pleasing to God...but in process – *Col 1; Rm 12*)

I. PURPOSE - Plan - Organize – Supervise - Evaluate; SELL yourself on Change (*self-leadership*) Daily Weekly Monthly

Visualize negative and positive consequences of present and future course of actions; Visualize objectives and goals and steps until you do them (focus on end result as well as obstacles- reframe into opportunities). Evaluate traps and Plan alternate strategies, support

Meditate on these things...then do them. *Phil 4:8-9* cf *Js 1:14-15* (see *Yearly Evaluation: Agony to Ecstasy; Ain't Gonna Reign No More in TOYL*)

II. Panic (addicted to adrenaline) vs **Pneuma** (HS power)

Phil 2:13 God works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure

Rm 6:21 What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed?

For the end of those things is death. *AGRNM in TOYL*

1Pt 4:1 since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, 2 that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God. 3 For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles...5 They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. *1Cor 10:13* (plan) way of escape

III. Pleasure/Pain as motivators

(Ps 1 *Blessed tree vs Perishing chaff*);

Motivation and Momentum - carrot/stick – buy/pay;

Either way you pay

IV. Phear of Phailure; Phixed Phocus *Lk 9:51; Num 13 Focus*

Problems→Fear/Failure; Focus Promises→ Promised land; SEALS

We do what we dwell on (alternative focus)

V. Phixed Habits -fix habits to make them helpful.

Scrape away, repair-[reframe]-relink, test, [practice], shine.

Rm 12:2 do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove/demonstrate (manifest/experience) what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Eph 4:at you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt acc to the deceitful lusts, 23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and that you put on the new man which was created acc to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

VI. Perfectionism vs Performance – our worth and value come from what others think of the product rather than what God thinks of the process.

Perfectionism is deriving our worth/value from accomplishments in the temporal rather than the eternal spiritual realm...[selectively and overly obeying cur choice of commands to the exclusion (disobedience) of other weightier commands ...to impress ourselves, others and even God (doing temporal and even spiritual activities for looking good in the sight of men); ...that results in paralysis, obsessiveness, hypocrisy, discontent, frustration and failure.

VII. Procrastination and the will of God

Heb 13:20 may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, thru the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 equip/make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, thru Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:

1. What motivates you to change? How have you developed a new habit or changed an old one? What makes change difficult?
2. Is it harder to start or finish something? What gets you over the hump? When have you been really motivated to complete a goal? Why?
3. How do you charge yourself up to do something that you've repeatedly failed in? Is it better to take a break or keep plugging away?
4. Do your habits help or hinder the attainment of your goals? How did you develop bad habits? How can you develop goal gaining habits?
5. How does your thinking need to be transformed to embrace Biblical values and actions? What help do you need? How will you get it?

TOYL Rewarding Verses to Consider

Justification/Forgiveness is a Free gift: Rom 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Jesus Christ:

Gal 6:7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. 8 sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. 9 not weary while doing good...reap if we do not lose heart.

I. What is the context of Mt 5:12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so they persecuted the prophets

Are there degrees of greatness/blessing? Mt 5:19 breaks one of the least commandments, teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; whoever does and teaches them, shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 1Co 15:41 There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory. 42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. 58 my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

What's the point of the parable? Lk 19:1 He spoke another parable, because He was near Jerusalem and because they thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately. 17 'Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.'

How to get reward? Mt 6:20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven,t 5:46 For if you love them who love you, what reward have you?

With what is reward equated? Col 3:23 And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not to men; 24 Knowing that from the Lord you shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for you serve the Lord Christ. OT parallel (1Cor 10)?

II. Can one lose reward? 2Jn 1:8 Look to yourselves, that you lose not those things which we have worked for, but that you/we may receive a full reward. Mt 6:1 Take heed that you do not your alms before men, to be seen by them: otherwise you have no reward from your Father who is in heaven 1Cor 3:14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. 15 If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

What happens when Christ is revealed? key chapter!! 1Pt 1:4 (born again) to an inheritance...reserved in heaven for you, 7 That the trial of your faith...might be found to result in praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: 13 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sound-minded, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

III. Why did Christ take hold of Paul? Php 3:12 Not...attained, or already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ laid hold of me. 14 I press toward

the mark for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. 15 as many as are mature, have this mindset

What motivated Paul? 1Cor 9:24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. 25 everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. 26 Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. 27 But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified. 1Cor 15:32 If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantage/profit is it to me, if the dead rise not? let us eat and drink; for to morrow we die. *See comments on DailyTruthbase.Blog on 2Cor 4-5; Rev 2-3 Eph 3:10*

For what were the ancients commended? Heb 11:2 For by it the elders were commended

What motivated Abraham? Heb 11:8 By faith Abraham obeyed...to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance.

What motivated Moses? 11:26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

What motivated early martyrs? 11:35 Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection10:34 For you had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the plundering of your goods, knowing in yourselves that you have in heaven a better and an enduring substance 35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which has great payback of reward.36 For you have need of patience, that, after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise.

What motivated Jesus? Heb 12:2 Looking to Jesus the author and finisher of [our] faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. (context of joy Heb 1:9 you hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even your God, has anointed you with the oil of joy above you companions)

IV. What about those who don't overcome? Rev 3:21 To him that overcomes will I grant to sit with me on my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father on his throne.

What about those who don't suffer? Rom 8:17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and/BUT joint-heirs with Christ; if we co-suffer with [him], that we may be co-glorified together.

What about those who don't follow? Mt 19:27...behold, we have forsaken all, and followed you; what shall we have therefore? 29 And every one that has forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. Mt 16:25 For whoever will save his life shall lose it: and whoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

What about those who don't labor? 2Cor 5:9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body,

according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 2Cor 4:17 For our momentary light affliction, works out for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

What about those who don't seek? Rom 2:6 who "will render to each one according to his deeds": 7 eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; 8 but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness - indignation and wrath, 9 tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; 10 but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

What about those who don't believe in reward for service? Heb 11:6 without faith it is impossible to please him: he that comes to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him

Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response: What motivates people who don't diligently pursue God? What motivates you?

REWARDS AND JUDGMENTS

Context determines which meaning of a word the author intended, and consequently, our understanding. Frequently misunderstood words:

Salvation: reversal of the effects of the Fall: in justification/forgiveness, sanctification/holiness, glorification/restoration to glory.

Soul (life): the complex of mind/will/emotions, which we must lose to save Lk 9:24 Life & Death; Dominion-rulership & loss of dominion-rule.

Aion/Age (world/eternal) Classically used of a definite period of time (exception Plato 2x); most frequently the Messianic Age. *Rm 16:25*

Apollumi (destruction); Lost sheep Spilt wine; Unquenchable, not capable of being overcome. How are OT Jews "saved"?

What's the issue in the lives of the NT audience (forgiveness/justification=Day of Atonement)? What and why is the parallel between OT/NT (*see 1Cor 10*)

1. Judgment in Matthew Mt 3:7 wrath to come? 8 Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance 10 even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 11 I indeed baptize you with water eis repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 12 His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff (*Ps 1*) with unquenchable fire." (Isa 30:33; 66:15-24; Mt 13:42 1Cor 3:11-15; Rev 14:9-13)

2. Sermon on Rewards in the Kingdom Mt 5:22 But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You

fool! shall be in danger of hell/Gehenna fire. 29 If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into Gehenna. 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into Gehenna. Mt 7:13 "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. 21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

3. Weep & Gnash Mt 8:12 the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Mt 13:42&50 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. (*lawless vs shining righteous*)

Mt 22:13 Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness (22:13; 25:30); there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' 14 "For many are called/invited, but few are chosen/choice/select."

Mt 24:44 be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. 46 Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. 48 But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' 49 and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards 51 and will cut him off and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<http://dailytruthbase.blogspot.com/2012/05/matthew-23-25-end-time-parables.html>

Mt 25:23 His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' 26 "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant...28 So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. 29 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. 30 And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' (*Mt 25:32 sheep-goats=how respond to Israel during the Tribulation*)

Lk 13:23 Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" And He said to them, 24 "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able. 25 When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from,' 26 then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.'

27 But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.' 28 There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out.

4. Servant Faithful Lk 12:40 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." 41 Then Peter said to Him, "Lord, do You speak this parable only to us, or to all people?" 42 And the Lord said, "Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his master will make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of food in due season? 43 Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. 44 Truly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all that he has.

Same Servant Unfaithful 45 But if that servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and be drunk, 46 the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him off and appoint him his portion with the unfaithful. 47 And that servant who knew his master's will, and did not prepare himself or do according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. 48 But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few. For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more

5. Sequential Revelation Sequence

A. Wedding of the Lamb 19:1 After this I heard...5 Then a voice came from the throne, saying: "Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, both great and small!" 6 "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. 7 For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. 8 Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God's holy people.) 9 Then the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!" And he added, "These are the true words of God."

B. War; Beast into Lake of Fire 19:11 Then I saw...16 On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: king of kings and lord of lords. 17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, who cried in a loud voice to all the birds flying in midair, "Come, gather together for the great supper of God, 18 so that you may eat the flesh of kings, generals, and the mighty, of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, great and small." 19 Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to wage war against the rider on the horse and his army. 20 But the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who had performed the signs on its behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped its image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur. 21 The rest were killed with the sword coming out of the mouth of the rider on the horse, and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh.

C. Satan Bound Saints Rule 1000 Years 20:1 Then I saw an angel coming down out of

heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. 2 He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. 3 He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time. 4 Then I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years. 5 (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy are those who have a share/portion (21:8; 22:19) in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

Satan into Fire 20:7 Now when the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and will go out to deceive the nations 9 They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. 10 And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

D. Great White Throne Judgment, Works/Book of Life 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. 13 The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done. 14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. 15 Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

E. New Heaven and New Earth 21:1 Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.'" (cf Isa 25:8; Rev 7:17)

F. Free water to thirsty; Overcomers/Unfaithful 21:5 He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." 6 He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. 7 Those who are overcomers (cf Rev 2-3) will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children. 8 But the cowardly, the unfaithful, the vile, the murderers,

the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—their part/portion will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur, which is the second death.”

G. Nations & New Jerusalem Discrimination 21:9 “Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.” 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. 11 It shone with the glory of God...12 It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. 14 The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. 22 I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. 23 The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. 24 The nations (saved-variant) will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. 26 The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. 27 Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

H. Healing Nations; Servants Serve 22:1 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. 3 No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. 4 They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 5 And they will reign for ever and ever.

I. Blessed Obeyers; Lying Outsiders 22:7 “Look, I am coming soon! **Blessed** is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll.” 12 “Look, I am coming soon! **My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done.** 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. 14 “**Blessed** are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. 15 Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.”

J. Thirsty Wishers Get Free Drinks; Adders get Plagues; Subcontractors lose Portion 22:16 “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.” 17 The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let the one who hears say, “Come!” Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life. 18 I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this scroll: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to that person the plagues described in this scroll. 19 And if anyone takes words away from this scroll of prophecy, God will take away from that person his share/portion in the tree of life and in the Holy City, which are described in this scroll. 20 “Yes, I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. 21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God’s people. Amen.

Question for Discussion/Reflection/Response: Will you be positively rewarded when your Lord and Savior returns or negatively judged? Why?

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