

SETTING GOALS AND ACHIEVING THEM

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- Goal setting is targeted living.
- Goal setting is organized living.
- Goal setting is programming oneself for success.
- Goal setting enables constructive living.
- Goal setting helps one to be focused, and focus creates momentum, and momentum enhances productivity and achievement.
- All achievers are goal setters.
- Goal setting helps one to bite only what he can chew at a time. It helps one to do one thing at a time.
- Goal setting helps one to prioritize his or her activities and needs.
- Goal setting helps one not to spend precious time and resources on non-essentials.
- Goal setting is planning your life.
- Your goals in life determine the kind of people you associate with.
- Your goals in life determine the kind of special education you need.
- Your future is tied to what you do repeatedly daily. Therefore, daily goal setting will determine the achievement of your long-term goals.
- Your dream is your goal.

Mark 9:23

23 "If you can'?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for him who believes."

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Phil 4:13

13 I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

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Ps 37:4-6

4 Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: 6 He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.

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- With the help of God, your goals will be achieved.

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS?

To be a successful person or an achiever, you must learn to set goals and pursue them. Write down your goals and refer to it regularly.

1. What is your goal or dream for your life?

Heb 2:2

2 For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment,
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2. What are your goals for 2008?
3. What are your goals for January?
4. What are your goals for today?

Write them down.

TYPES OF GOALS

There are long-term goals and short-term goals. In achieving your long-term goals or dream, there is a need for you to set smaller goals that you can conveniently achieve with hard work and God's help. Using smaller goals helps to achieve the long-term goal or dream in a gradual, progressive and tactical method.

1. Set yearly goals
2. Set monthly goals
3. Set weekly goals
4. Set daily goals.

BENEFITS OF DAILY GOALS

1. Goal setting helps you to monitor your progress towards your life's dream or goal.
2. Daily goals will help you live for something daily.
3. Daily goals plan your day – it organizes your day.
4. It makes your daily work to be targeted work.
5. It makes you at the end of each day, a fulfilled man - the joy of knowing that you have accomplished for the day what you set out to accomplish.
6. It avoids waste of time. It makes every second and minute of the day count.
7. It helps to make one a manager of time.
8. It makes a man not to have time for non-essentials. You will be so busy with your life goals that you will not have time for gossips or to fool around.

TIT-BITS ON GOAL SETTING

1. Be sure your goals or dream is God's will for your life. Everyone is born to fulfill a purpose. Success, fulfillment and prosperity await you at your place of assignment.
2. Be sure your goal is achievable. Don't set goals you cannot achieve. Be sure you have what it takes to achieve it before setting that goal.
3. Determine the kind of assistance you will need to make your goals come true.
4. You need wisdom to attain your goals. Buy books related to your goal and consume them. Identify the kind of wisdom you need, and go for it. What is lacking in you is in another. Someone has passed through the road you are about to pass now, and has experience you can draw from.
5. Ask yourself as you set goals, "who will benefit from the achievement of my goals?" You are created to affect someone positively. If your goals will not benefit someone, then, it is not worth pursuing.

6. You need counselors to advise you as you pursue your dream. Someone with relevant knowledge and experience about your goals should be your counselor. You need counselors in every area of your life to remain balanced. You need a spiritual counselor, professional or career counselor.
7. You need a mentor. A mentor is not someone who advises you, but someone whose advice you follow. Stay close to your mentor, observe and learn from him. Read his books and listen to his tapes.
8. You need a cheerer (encourager). Someone has to cheer you to success. It gives encouragement and energy especially in times of difficulty and challenges. Your spouse should be your first and most important cheerer.
9. Let your goals be detailed. It requires information to make goals detailed. Faith operates on information. It will be difficult to have enough faith to make your goals come through if you don't have enough information to convince you that it is achievable. Gather information on how to achieve your goals, it will boost your faith. Information will give you confidence.
10. Your goal must be measurable to know where you are, and how much more is required for accomplishment. Fix time limit for your goals. You need deadlines to measure goals.
11. Invest time, money, and energy to make your goals a reality. The proof of seriousness is the investment of time.
12. Inform others about your goal, they may have some assistance to render. You need people to succeed. Jesus knew he needed people, so he chose some apostles and disciples, and he is still doing so till date. Until people know what you are doing, they cannot render support.
13. Define your likely obstacles and fashion out ways of overcoming them when they do come up. And when an obstacle you did not envisage do come up, don't panic, but face it confidently with the help of the Holy Spirit and the word of God, and you will surely overcome.
14. State clearly on paper what the rewards for achieving your goals will be. Also state what the reward of those who help you achieve your goals will be. Everyone is motivated by reward. Those who will want to help you achieve your goals will want to know what their reward will be.
15. In the pursuit of your dream, you need to make workable plans in order to achieve it. Prayerfully, creatively and wisely prepare a workable plan.
16. Change plans and methods if it is not yielding the desired result. Don't be ashamed to change an unproductive plan or method. Assess your progress from time to time.
17. Never be discouraged by challenges and obstacles that confront you. Be strong and courageous.

Josh 1:6-9

6 "Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them. 7 Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. 8 Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

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SET GOALS FOR SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

As a Christian who desires to please his God, it is important that you develop yourself. You will discover that without an adequate plan of action, this desire will remain a mirage. Set goals for your spiritual development. Set goals in these areas.

1. YOUR PRAYER LIFE: How many hours you want to pray daily, weekly and monthly.
2. RETREATS: How many retreats you want to have in a month, quarter and year, the duration of the retreats.
3. FASTING: How many times you want to fast in a week or a month, and the nature of the fast.
4. BOOKS TO READ: How many books you want to read in a week and in a month. What topic you want to cover within a certain period of time.
5. TAPES TO LISTEN TO: How often you want to listen to tapes. What subjects you want to cover and which speaker you want to listen to. How many tapes you want to listen to per day, per week and per month.
6. Books and Tapes to buy per month or year.
7. Chapter of the Bible to read daily, weekly, and monthly.
8. Souls to win daily, weekly, and
9. How many brethren (old and new) to visit daily, weekly and monthly.

Spiritual goals are helpful because, they motivate and challenge you to grow. In the coming year, determine to grow by setting not only career goals but spiritual goals to attain. Work towards it with all your heart and you will make it.

HOW TO ACHIEVE GOALS

1. Always image yourself as succeeding.
 - What you imagine, you create.
 - What you think, you become with time.
 - What you think you can do, you can.

Prov 23:7

7 For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.

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2. Maintain a strong desire for the actualization of your goals.
 - Desire is the lubricating oil in the engine of success.
 - What you desire, you will be motivated to pursue.
 - Desire creates enthusiasm, and without enthusiasm, there will be no pursuit.
 - The proof of desire is the investment of time.
3. Work hard towards the accomplishment of your goals.
 - Lazy and slothful people are life and time wasters.
 - Procrastination is manifestation of laziness.
 - Procrastination is the thief of time that makes one to miss golden opportunities.
 - Laziness breeds failure and poverty, while labor brings success.

Prov 10:4

4 Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent hands bring wealth.

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Prov 24:33-34

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.

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Prov 14:23

23 All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

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Luke 10:6-7

7 Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

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- Hard workers become achievers and celebrities. Develop and polish your skills and gifts that will enable you achieve your life goals.

4. Lean not on your own understanding; depend on God and His Spirit.

Prov 3:5-7

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. 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil.

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Zech 4:6

6 So he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty.

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5. Believe in yourself that you have all it takes to make your dream come true.

2 Peter 1:3

3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

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Phil 4:13

13 I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

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6. Be a positive thinker.

- Believe you can and you can. Practice “as if” principle. See yourself as if you are already at your destination. Think it, speak it, act it, and you will soon be there. When a negative thought enters your mind, immediately cancel it out with a positive thought.
7. Mentally minimize difficulties.
 - Maximize your strength.
 8. Attempt new heights.
 - Attempt great things. After conquering one goal, set a higher one.
 9. Conquer your fear with your faith.
 - There is no height you cannot scale. There is no goal you cannot reach. Whatever the mind can conceive, can be achieved. There is no problem without a solution. You are destined in Christ an achiever. You are born again with the seed of greatness to become great, and you shall be great.
 10. Prepare for the disappointment of not meeting your goals for it does come.
 - That you didn’t attain a goal does not make you a failure. That your plans failed does not mean you failed as a person. Don’t become defeated because your plans failed. When one plans fails, try another. If you failed to reach a set goal this year, does not mean that you will not achieve that same goal next year. Never allow a temporary set back to become the end of the road for you.
 - As you begin to live your life by goal setting, bear in mind that sometimes you may not achieve what you set out to achieve at the time you planned to achieve it. Never be discouraged by setbacks.
 11. Believe you can do better next time when you fail to reach a goal. Don’t give up!
 12. Develop a fighting spirit.
 - Never accept defeat. See yourself as a success always. You are better than those who didn’t attempt anything.
 13. Build a ladder to your dreams.
 - Determination (Persistence)
 - Dedication (Commitment)
 - Discipline (Hard work and prudential spending)
 - Attitude (winning attitude and faith). Attitude is the way a man thinks.
 14. Every day, practice the greatest of all positive confessions.

Phil 4:13

13 I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

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CONCLUSION

Have a dream or goal. Have a big one. You will never go any higher than you can dream. But you can go as high as you can dream if you work at it, believe it, and stick to it.

Be a goal setter and achiever. If you start living your life today by this principle of goal setting, you will achieve more than you have ever achieved in your life, and your life will be full of excitement and fulfillment.

Now is the time to begin setting your goals for the New Year. God bless you in Jesus name.

SUCCESS TIT-BITS

1. **Procrastination is the thief of time. It is an enemy of progress. Kill it, before it kills your opportunity to make it.**
2. **Always act now!**
3. **Success is not by chance but by choice.**
4. **Tithing secures open heavens, and open heavens guarantees rain.**
5. **As rain is for fruitfulness so are ideas.**
6. **Every great achievement started as an idea. Every invention is a manifestation of an idea.**
7. **What the mind of man can conceive, it can achieve.**
8. **There is more hope for the open- minded than for the narrow minded.**
9. **Wisdom is for those who seek it.**
10. **You can if you believe you can.**
11. **Nothing is impossible for him that believes.**
12. **Faith is the antidote for failure.**
13. **Courage always overpowers discouragement. Have courage and challenge every challenge. And victory will be yours.**
14. **Confidence gives strength. Fear destroys and weakens.**
15. **Greatness is the heritage of the sons of God.**
16. **Hope never fails. It is a burden lifter, and an antidote to discouragement.**
17. **Money answers to good ideas.**
18. **You can achieve anything if you will believe.**
19. **Don't procrastinate! Get started! And don't quit!**
20. **Winning starts with beginning.**
21. **Every tough time is a phase which must pass away.**
22. **No problem is a dead - end.**
23. **Failure is a set back and not defeat.**
24. **You only become defeated when you throw in the towel.**
25. **Create a powerful relationship with your customers at all the connecting points.**
26. **Learn to exceed customer's expectations.**
27. **Evaluation is a key to improvement.**

WISDOM FOR ASSOCIATION

- 1. God gives you men to keep you focused. The devil sends men to distract you from your focus. Identify the source of the actions and words of the people in your life to know how to relate with each man.**
- 2. Anyone who feeds your weakness is not a worthy friend. Avoid such.**
- 3. Those who help you to kill time are not interested in your future. Keep away from loafers.**
- 4. Unbroken soul-ties are responsible for infidelity in many marriages.**
- 5. Sex outside of marriage is dangerous because sex ties the two souls involved together. And breaking it is not easy. 1 Cor. 6:15-16.**
- 6. The just hates evil and evil men. They don't keep company with the ungodly.**
- 7. Anyone you will not be proud to introduce as your friend is not worthy of a close relationship.**
- 8. Inferiority complex is an enemy of sincerity in relationships.**
- 9. Secrecy destroys trust. Where there is no trust, there can be no true friendship.**
- 10. Friends that you cannot vouch for should be avoided completely.**
- 11. Don't surround yourself with "yes" men only. You need people to tell you the truth, rebuke and correct you when necessary.**

RENEWING THE MIND

- 1. What you think, how you think and the intensity of the particular thought that dominate your mind determine how you respond or react to your spouse as events unfold in your marriage.**
- 2. Faith is the power that accomplishes victory and protects from all the attacks of the enemies. Keep your faith strong and remain focused and your dreams will come to pass.**
- 3. The picture you have in your head determines what you pursue daily. Be focused in faith towards your dream and believe against all odds that you will make it with God's help. Always remember, that when one door closes, another opens. Forget the closed door and go for the open door.**
- 4. Your mind is your work station. What you think continually determine your focus, and your focus determines the amount of energy you release and channel towards its accomplishment. Watch your thoughts.**
- 5. What you think, how you think and the intensity of the particular thoughts that dominate your mind determine how you respond or react to people and situations around you.**
- 6. The mind of man is the center of activity in man. It influences and dominates our emotions, will and body.**
- 7. Your life is a reflection of your thoughts.**

8. **The gateway to your future is your mind – what you see is what you get; what you imagine is what you create; what you think is what you are and what you will become.**