

The 4th Sunday after Epiphany ~ Sunday, February 2, 2020

“2020 Vision ~ Godly Goals”

Philippians 3:3-16

How many goals have you set in your life that you failed to achieve?

We have all had the _____ to change, but for some reason or another, inertia takes over and we fail—and this year is the same as last.

One of the most important factors in a life lived to the fullest, is to have a sense of where God is _____ you and where you are _____.

Our destination is _____—He is the goal that we’re pressing towards.

“I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 3:14)

As _____ people, in a physical world, on a physical journey, we make many different _____ along the way on our journey towards God, and we need to _____ what those stops in life will be.

“Without vision, the people perish.” (Proverbs 29:18)

The Key word here is _____.

Sometimes our goals are created out of our _____ and not the spirit; sometimes they’re _____ with the values and priorities of the world and not the values and priorities of the Kingdom of God; sometimes they’re all about us and what we want or what other people think we need to be doing and not within God’s _____ and purpose for us. These kinds of ungodly goals ultimately lead us _____ from God, instead of closer to Him. Godly goals; however, are just that—godly. They begin and end with God, and ultimately bring us _____ to Him.

WHY GODLY GOALS ARE IMPORTANT

- **Godly goals are a** _____.

More than just a good _____, godly goals are like worship, prayer, fasting and Scripture reading—they’re an _____ habit that help us grow in our faith and relationship with God.

- **Godly goals give** _____.

Life is full of wonderful things; however, it’s also full of some not-so-wonderful things—trials, challenges, and tragedies. Godly goals keep us moving _____

when we feel like giving up—they give us the _____ to endure.

- **Godly goals provide** _____.

Our world is full of _____, and we can waste a lot of time in indecision and _____.

When we know what we need to do and we set a goal, the distractions are not as _____ and the decisions are _____—we can get right to it.

- **Godly goals stretch our** _____.

We’re called to live our lives by _____; to trust God, and to take risks. When we live without goals, we rarely take any risks, and simply _____ through life.

- **Godly goals build** _____.

God’s number one purpose for our life is to grow us up _____; and to transform us into the likeness of _____. As such, life is a course in _____ development—that’s why it isn’t always easy.

Becoming like Jesus isn’t _____—it’s a slow, sometimes painful process, that takes an entire life time.

Without goals, we simply coast through life—one day to the next. That’s not living, that’s _____. Without godly goals, we can fail to make the _____ of the time that God’s given us and we can miss the _____ thing that He has for us.

4 CHARACTERISTICS OF GODLY GOALS

- #1. Godly goals are based on God’s _____ for us and not our own—or anyone else’s.**

GOD’S FIVE PURPOSES FOR OUR LIVES

- **God wants us to _____ Him.**
- **God wants us to _____ In Him.**
- **God wants us to _____ Him and others.**
- **God wants us to _____ Him with others.**
- **God wants us to _____ Him in worship.**

The great thing about God’s purposes is they are _____—they are not just for the here and now.

“I run straight to the goal with purpose in every step.” (1 Corinthians 9:26)

Paul was a _____ driven man—he refused to be _____—he had God’s goals at the centre of his life.

The race we’re running isn’t a _____. It’s not a first one to the finish kind of thing. It’s more like a _____, and sometimes we’ll stumble and fall.

However, no matter what happens in the race, it's not over until the end. It's not over until we reach the finish line, and _____ is the One who determines where that finish line is and what it will be.

“The Father is the goal and the purpose of my life.” (John 14:28)

Jesus was _____, determined, and intentional—He never _____ from God's purpose for His life

“I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does.” (John 5:18)

One of the greatest enemies of God's purpose in our life is God's purpose in _____ life.

“‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ says the Lord. ‘They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.’” (Jeremiah 29:11)

God has a _____ plan and purpose for each one of us. And He uses everything we are to _____ that plan and purpose.

#2. Godly goals bring _____ to God.

“Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” (1 Corinthians 10:31)

Often, our goals are all about us and our _____ glory: I want to do this so other people will notice me.

A lot of people think they're only bringing glory to God when they're doing _____ stuff; however, this is wrong—Scripture says everything we do can be done to glorify God.

BRINGING GLORY TO GOD IN EVERYTHING WE DO

- We need the right _____.

It's an attitude of gratitude that brings glory to God.

- We need the right _____.

“No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.” (Matthew 5:15-16)

#3. Godly goals are motivated by _____.

“Let love be your highest goal.” (1 Corinthians 14:1)

God is love and He wants us to become like _____.

If our highest goal is love, when we make our To Do list, _____ and not things; _____ and not achievements, will be at the top.

Love for _____ and love for _____.

“Because of the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, I count everything else as loss.” (Philippians 3:8-11)

“No one here on this earth has ever seen God. But if we love each other God lives in us and God's love has reached its goal.” (1 John 4:12)

#4. Godly goals are achieved through God's _____.

One of the main reasons we fail to reach our goals—to we try to achieve them in our own _____. If we want to be successful in achieving our godly goals, we need to plug into the power that _____ offers us.

“...the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” (Matthew 26:41)

“Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord of hosts.” (Zechariah 4:6)

“Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?” (Galatians 3:3)

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

Godly goal setting always recognizes the _____ of God.

there's an attitude of humility in godly goal setting—a reliance on God and not our own strengths and abilities.

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:13)

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We have two choices—we can either live our lives with _____ and purpose or we can _____ through life; bouncing from one thing to the next; never satisfied and never at _____.

Have you set goals for this season of your life?

Or are you just going through the motions, drifting from one day to the next? Are they godly or worldly?