

Living Our Life with Purpose Requires

Heart Felt Desire

Joshua 1:8 “ This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have **good success.**”

Success - The achievement of something desired, planned, or attempted: TRUE Success,

- It's members MUST increase in strength, and grow spiritually - **Eph.4:15,16** “.....speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head Christ,from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.”
- **This is accomplished when - The truth is taught, heard, believed, and obeyed - Christ authority is respected - The body is united - Each member fulfills their respective duties - Every member that does their part, is a cog in the wheel of success!!!**

I. Desire Spiritual Things:

- A. Our spiritual life must have priority over our physical life.
 1. Our goals, ambitions, and affections, ought to be spiritual - not carnal. Col. 3:1,2, Mark 12:29-31
 2. Romans 8:6
- B. Too many find pleasure in worldly things: {We do what we want}!
 1. 1 John 2:15-17...
 2. James 4:4
- C. We must have our priorities right if we are to succeed.
 1. Matthew 6:33
 2. Luke 12:15
- D. This isn't all just going to accidentally happen, we have to “desire” it, it begins in our heart our mind!!!!

II. Discipline of self:

- A. This dicipline involves the whole person. (1 Cor. 9:24-27)
 1. The whole person envolves every thought: 2 Cor.10:5
 2. Who you are and who you will become begins with your thoughts -
 - Sow a thought reap an action
 - Sow an action reap a habit -
 - Sow a habit reap a character -
 - Sow a character reap a destiny -
 3. Proverbs 23:7 “ For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.”
- B. Beware of what you set your mind on for that you will surely become. Emerson
- C. The whole person envolves every motive: which includes, love, work.
 1. Hebrews 6:10
 2. Loving God with ALL your heart! (Mark 12:29-31)
 3. The whole person envolves every act: Colossians 3:23, 1 John 3:18
- D. Self Discipline includes controlling our attitudes!! (Eph. 4:2,3, Phil. 2:2-5)

III. Devotion To God, Our Creator:

- A. Indicating continued action -
 1. A difference between dedication and devotion - Joshua 24:15
 2. Devotion is made of:
 - a. A deep steady affection; Mt. 22:36-40
 - b. John 14:23,24
- B. Loyalty, (Col. 1:13, Rom. 2:1,2)
- C. BY these things - we express our “Devotion” unto God - (Col. 1:23, 1 Cor. 15:58)

IV. Determination To Do Right:

(Firmness of purpose; resolve)

- A. The ability to make up one's mind and carry out one's intentions.
 1. As seen in Joshua - 24:15 “ And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”