



WISE CHOICES

THE INSIDE RUNNING

I am not a good example of a successful goal-setter. I know this means that some opportunities are lost forever, and I really want to change this so I can achieve more. The last few years of my life have seen far greater change and transition than ever before. I know I really need to find more stability, and planning by using good goals is the way to do it.

A man in my Men's Group is one of the most strategic thinkers I know, planning 18 months to 5 years ahead. His recommendation to me is, realising God is everywhere in my life and using that as a filter, to set goals for my life in this order:

- Me
- My marriage
- My family
- My work life
- My church life
- My extended family & friends

Thinking about myself first could be controversial, but if I'm not reasonably healthy, how can I help others?

My first goal is to work through and write down some goals!

May God keep, protect and prosper us all.

Blessings

John

John Subritzky



Commit Your Plans to God

by Tom O'Neil

Five keys to reaching your goals in 2014

After Jesus Christ was raised into heaven in front of His disciples, they then travelled the known world to be beaten, imprisoned and tortured - all to share the good news of our Saviour. Despite all sorts of physical, emotional and spiritual trials, they remained steadfast in their vision and purpose. The disciples had been given a powerful mission and goal to make a real difference to their world, and they took up the challenge with everything in their being.

Proverbs 24:3-4 says, *By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures.*

The Bible makes it plain that it makes good

sense to set goals in every area of your life, including your marriage, family, finances, career and ministry. Therefore what are some ways to get started putting together some quality short, medium and long-term goals?

1. Commit your plans to God

"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." Jeremiah 29:11

Take time to firstly seek God's plans for your life through prayer and reading the Bible, asking Him to be in control and give you wisdom and understanding in every area. If this is not your first step, your plans and dreams may well be your own, and not what God is wanting for your life!

2. Get wise counsel

Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance. Proverbs 1:5

Remember to seek advice and support from those with experience and skills you may not have. This could include pastors, business people, community leaders and so on, but remember you are after godly wisdom, not just good ideas.

3. Take time to plan

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you." Psalm 32:8

It's absolutely vital to be diligent in taking ➤

TRANSFORMING MEN!



time out to plan your goals. Set an hour or two aside and really focus on what you want to achieve, the outcomes you are after, and the best way to get there. To set goals, you have to put pen to paper or fingers to keyboard and map out the short, medium and long-term life you are after.

Remember that if you are married, you will want to include your wife in the process too! Sarah and I set aside one evening late in the year to review and then renew our goals for the next 12 months. Besides being a great tool to plan ahead, setting goals in this way ensures that as a married couple you are always focused on the same things, and know where you are heading together! For so many people who don't do this, it's really easy to drift apart, then ten years later say, "I don't know who you are and we are not heading in the same direction."

4. Persevere and have follow-through

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like

eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:31

As with all success stories, it's important to have perseverance and follow-through while you chase after your goals. Life is full of obstacles and challenges that prove too much for many. However, keep chipping away and remember to trust that God is at your side, willing you on ever further to where He wants you to be!

As a man of integrity, you are only a failure if you stop trying! As Proverbs 24:16 says, *For though the righteous fall seven times, they rise again, but the wicked stumble when calamity strikes.* Get up, brush yourself off, forgive yourself if needed and move forward!

5. Focus on eternity!

"Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done." Revelation 22:12

While setting a goal to own the world's largest Porsche collection is all well and good, the things that matter most to God are not tangible. What are some practical and tangible things you can do for those in need within your community? Can you support a mission overseas financially and through prayer?

Focus on eternity and what you can do to leave a strong legacy for Christ!

Developing spiritual muscle

In line with the five points above, what are some quality short-term goals you can set in the following areas?

- Reading God's Word
- Setting a regular prayer and worship time
- Supporting and encouraging other men in your church
- Practising spiritual, moral, ethical, and sexual purity
- Building a strong marriage and family
- Supporting your church and ministry

God wants us to have a firm vision, plan and purpose, rooted deeply in His will. Take the time today to seek His will for your life, then move forward as a man of God, pursuing the vision and dreams He has for you!

Plan to get more of God's power in your life at Pure Power 2014

How to Face Your Future

by Ian Buckley

No matter what the pollsters, pundits and prognosticators claim, no one can accurately predict all that is going to happen in the next six months. Our best forecasts are just educated guesses. Changes in our society have not only increased in speed and intensity, but also in their unpredictability. Doing business in this environment is what Michael Annison calls "managing the whirlwind." How can anyone succeed when the future is so uncertain?

The Bible suggests three timeless principles for facing your future:

1. INCLUDE GOD IN YOUR GOAL-SETTING

Frankly, it's dumb to make plans without consulting God first. He's the only one who DOES know the future - and He's eager to...
Read more - full article on WiseChoices Feb DVD

PROMISE

#7

A Promise Keeper is committed to influencing his world being obedient to the Great Commandment (Mark 12:30-31) and the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20).

**Next Issue:
OVERCOMING
CRISES**

**pure
POWER**

The thunder of His power who can understand? Job 26:14

Men's Events 2014 - REGISTER NOW!

CHRISTCHURCH 22-23 August
WELLINGTON 12-13 September
AUCKLAND 3-4 October

Reach your goals in God's power

