

Pressing toward the Goal

What is our Attitude regarding our service to God?

I. WE NEED TO SET THE GOAL OF TOTAL SURRENDER! **Philippians 3:7-9**

1. Surrender says, "I give up and I give in!"
One of the big enemies of goal setting is we are not specific enough.
2. The goal of total surrender, though noble and right must have a plan of attack.
Every one of us needs to set the goal of surrender to God,
How we accomplish that will be different for each one of us.
3. Be specific in your goal for surrender:
Anything less is an invitation for the enemy to demoralize and defeat you.
4. We must be able to tell whether we have reached our goals or not.

II. WE NEED TO SET THE GOAL OF RIGHT BEHAVIOR! **Philippians 3:9-11**

1. Our ultimate goal is to be like Jesus. To know Him and the power of His resurrection!
 - a. We are admonished to become conformed to the image of His Son." **Romans 8:29**
 - b. We are to be renewed according to the image of Christ. **II Corinthians 3:18**
2. An essential goal of spiritual growth is to become more Christ-like,
Renewing our behavior to conform to the example of Jesus Christ.
3. Do you want to be the man or woman that God longs for you to be?
Set for yourself the goal of right behavior as a result of total surrender! **Psalms 37: 4-5**
4. Set a goal to live the way God would have us live.
 - a. What changes do you need to make in your speech, in your actions,
 - b. In your decisions in order to be Christ-like?

III. WE NEED TO SET THE GOAL OF PERSEVERANCE! **Philippians 3:12-16**

These verses remind us that though we may not be all that God wants of us right now,
we will not give up.

1. Set a goal that no matter what, or how, or when or why, you will not give up.
2. The goal of perseverance requires a diligent, concentrated, and sustained effort.
Such a goal does not come naturally.
If we are not careful, we may revert back to our former conduct and character.

Conclusion:

- Goals have the power to motivate us and to challenge us.

What is your goal as a Christian?

Is it focused, specific and able to be measured?

Are you willing to die for it - die to self and to sin?

I don't know what your spiritual goals need to be, but I know we need them.

The battle, my friends is before us.