

Life Lessons

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Set Goals, Plan and Prosper

Nelaton, the great French surgeon, once said, "If I had four minutes in which to perform an operation on which a life depended, I would take one minute to consider how best to do it." The scripture says, "**The PLANS of the diligent lead surely to plenty.**" **Proverbs 21:5.** Friend, do you have a plan to prosper in your life? And more importantly, are you putting any **action** behind those plans?

One of the keys to success is to take time to set goals (spiritual, relational, financial etc.), drawing up an action plan and pursuing the dreams we believe in. Mediocrity will keep you focused on the daily grind all your life but a man with a plan will prosper.

You may have suffered a few setbacks in life. Some of your plans may not have worked out. But don't let that keep you from pursuing the dreams God has given you. This is a new day. You have new ideas, you have fresh motivation. You can plan in confidence!

Did you know God has a plan for your life? If we want success in our lives, we must believe in the plan God has for us; a plan to prosper, a plan to give us a bright future (Jeremiah 29:11). We must believe in God's goodness and we must make some plans.

But it is not enough to just believe and set some plans. **We we must put some ACTION behind our plan.** Just like an expecting couple, we must plan and prepare for that great day of "delivery." King David said, "**The STEPS of a good man are ordered by the**

Lord." **Psalm 37:23-24.** God expects us to take some steps -- specific steps that He can bless.

For example, if we want to pay off \$5,000 in debt. Our plan can be: #1 Cut back on grocery by 10%. #2 Eat out only once a month. #3 Take lunch to work and use that saving to pay off debt. Allocate a time frame to achieve this goal; say one year. As you can see, the goal is very specific. We can measure the progress. And we also have a timeframe that motivates us to achieve the task. **Whatever goals we set, our strategy must be designed to take us in that direction. A combination of our efforts and God's favor will ignite our plans for success.**

Practical Steps You Can Take:

1. Sit with God and **take time to plan** your day, week, month and years.
2. Write down your **specific plans.** Hab. 2:2-4
3. Set a daily, weekly and monthly goal to **monitor the progress** of your plans.
4. **Share** your plans with like-minded people. They'll help you achieve your goals.
5. **Expect** God to bring super-natural favor and breakthroughs.

The plans you set today will determine the quality of your life both now and in the future.