

Philippians 3:12-16



Principles for Navigating the New Year

Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.

(1 Corinthians 9:24)

Principles for Navigating the New Year

I. Don't settle down; buckle up

Paul

High achiever, brilliant, spiritual

Walking with the Lord 30 years when this was written

More room to grow; not attained not perfected

Anticipate great things from a great God

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Lessons

A growing Christian is never satisfied with his spiritual state at present

Principles for Navigating the New Year

II. Don't do everything; do one thing

Become a specialist

Learn to say, "No."

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The Principle of “One Thing”

The Story of the Rich Young Ruler

Mark 10:17-21

The Interaction of Jesus with Mary and Martha

Luke 10:38-42

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The Principle of “One Thing”

"One thing I have desired of the Lord, That will I seek:
That I may dwell in the house of the Lord All the days
of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to
inquire in His temple." (Psalm 27:4)

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Live with priorities

Billy Graham declined land and money to build a Christian university on 22 occasions, stating it would be a great distraction to his preaching ministry

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New Hope's Mission

Teach the Bible

Preach the gospel

Disciple

Equip them to disciple others

Like KFC Colonel Sanders, "We do chicken right!"

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III. Don't look backward; move forward

Forget where you have been and think about the goal
ahead

People become spiritually crippled when focused on
past hurts and bitterness

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III. Don't look backward; move forward

Joseph: "But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive."

(Genesis 50:20)

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Reaching: describes a muscle being strained to the
limit

Press: put everything you have into it

Διώκω; diōkō- pursue

Same word used in verse 6 for persecute

Principles for Navigating the New Year

If you put as much effort into spiritual life as hobbies,
what would your life look like?

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IV. Don't travel alone; walk together

Don't isolate yourself

Runners do better in packs; encourage one another by
setting a pace

Church is not a spectator sport

Application to Today's Message

Think, "Progress not perfection"

Think, "Future not past"

Application to Today's Message

Think, "Together and not alone":

"A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire;
He rages against all wise judgment." (Proverbs 18:1)

Think, "Participant, not spectator"