



PRINCIPLES FOR SUCCESS IN THE NEW YEAR – Pastor Alton Trimble
Sunday, January 1, 2017

Philippians 3:12-14 (NKJV)

Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. ¹³ Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

I. Develop the Spiritual Aptitude to Produce the Right Attitude

II Corinthians 11:23-28 (NKJV)

Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—I am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. ²⁴ From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; ²⁶ in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; ²⁷ in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness— ²⁸ besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches.

Romans 3:21-31 (NKJV)

But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, ²⁶ to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. ²⁹ Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, ³⁰ since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. ³¹ Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.

QUESTION: What inspired Paul to write Romans 8:1?

Romans 8:1 (NKJV)

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

ANSWER: Paul learned and mastered spiritual principles that developed in him the aptitude, enabling him to produce the attitudinal preset for successful processing and management of the events of his life.

Philippians 4:11-13 (NKJV)

Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: ¹² I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. ¹³ I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

- What were some of the spiritual principles Paul learned and mastered?

1. The Principle of Super Vision

- How I see and process my life's events is under His Authority.

Psalms 23 (NKJV)

- Everything I see is subject to change.

II Corinthians 4:18 (NKJV)

While we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

- I will not hyper focus on the challenge.

II Chronicles 20:1-29 (NKJV)

- I pray until I see the victory.

II Kings 6:17 (NKJV)

And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

2. The Principle of Establishing the Right Priority.

- God helps me order my life.

Psalms 37:23 (NKJV)

The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD, and He delights in his way.

Philippians 3:14 (NKJV)

I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

3. The Principle of Supernatural Transformation.

- When I see Jesus, I see me.

II Corinthians 3:18 (NKJV)

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

- Transforming my mind changes my life.

Romans 12:2 (NKJV)

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

- I don't have a split personality but I am becoming another person.

I Samuel 10:5-7 (NKJV)

After that you shall come to the hill of God where the Philistine garrison is. And it will happen, when you have come there to the city, that you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place with a stringed instrument, a tambourine, a flute, and a harp before them; and they will be prophesying. ⁶ Then the Spirit of the LORD will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. ⁷ And let it be, when these signs come to you, that you do as the occasion demands; for God is with you.

4. The Principle of Super Submission.

- I take His word above my own.

Luke 5:4-11 (NKJV)

When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." ⁶ And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. ⁷ So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" ⁹ For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." ¹¹ So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

- I agree with His word above my own.

Luke 1:34, 38 (NKJV)

³⁴ Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

- I lean on His and not my understanding.

Proverbs 3:5 (NKJV)

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding.

5. The Principle of Recognizing the Value of Time.

- The only time I really have is now.

James 4:14 (NIV)

Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

- The Psalmist acknowledges our insignificance to the overall scheme of things.

Psalms 8:4 (NKJV)

What is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him?

II Corinthians 6:2 (NKJV)

“In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you.” Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

Hebrews 3:15 (NKJV)

While it is said: “Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

6. The Principle of not being a Hostage to the Past.

- God gave me the ability to remember but some things He wants to forget.
- It’s a part of Paul’s “one thing I do”

Philippians 3:13 (NKJV)

...but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead

I Timothy 1:15 (NKJV)

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.