



HOW TO SET YOUR YEARLY GOALS USING THE 4PRIORITIES

The goal of this document is to encourage you to take the time to prayerfully write out your goals for the upcoming year using the blueprint of *The Four Priorities* which is taken from Matthew 22:37-40:

Jesus replied, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.'"

We hope using this process will enable you to grow deeper in your faith and relationship with the Lord. Moreover, we hope you will make this an annual spiritual discipline as you pursue The Lord.

Below you will find brief instructions followed by a sample outline.

1. Begin by thoughtfully and prayerfully reading *Matthew 22:37-40* several times. Try reading it in various translations or paraphrased versions of the Bible such as the New Living Translation (NLT), New International Version (NIV), The Message (MSG), Amplified Bible (AMP) and English Standard Version (ESV). You can easily access all these translations at www.biblegateway.com. Just type in the verse at the top and select the translation from the drop-down menu to the right.
2. Pray for the Lord's assistance and direction in developing goals for 2016. What would He have you focusing on this year?
3. Be very specific in regard to what you will do, how you will do it, when you will do it, and with whom. You'll experience greater success with your goals if they are measurable.
4. Write out your goals! 92% of people fail to reach their goals every year. Harvard research shows that only 3% of their MBA students had clear, written goals and plans to accomplish them ... and did. Writing down your goals makes all the difference.
5. Share your goals with a friend and ask them to "keep your feet to the fire" when it comes to keeping the goals you set.

The following is an outline to help you develop your yearly goals using
The Four Priorities:

I. Priority #1: A Personal Progressive Commitment to Jesus Christ

- A. Your Relationship with The Lord: What is your specific plan to grow and develop in your knowledge of the Lord this year?
- B. The Bible: What is your specific plan to read, study and obey the Bible?
- C. Prayer: What is your plan to develop your prayer life? Do you keep a prayer journal or notebook where you can track God's responses to your prayers?
- D. Public Worship: What is your plan to develop your public worship? Are you regularly attending your local church?

II. Priority #2: A Personal Progressive Commitment to Loving Yourself

What are your goals in each of the following areas:

- A. Physically: Fitness, health & nutrition, regular doctor's visits.
- B. Mentally: How are you developing your mind? What books are you reading?
- C. Socially: Are you tending to your relationships? Are there relationships that are in need of your focused time & attention? Or in need of healing or forgiveness? (Also see Priority #3 below).
- D. Emotionally: What are you challenged by? Where are you stuck in your life - with hurts, regrets, insecurities, etc? What is your plan to move forward with the help of the Holy Spirit?

III. Priority #3: A Personal Progressive Commitment to Other Followers of Jesus Christ

How will you build up the relationships / people in your life?

- A. If you are married, your spouse.
- B. If you are a father or mother, your children.
- C. If you are a grandparent, your grandchildren.
- D. Your close friends who are followers of Jesus.
- E. Is there a person in your life you should consider discipling?

IV. Priority #4: A Personal Progressive Commitment to the Work of Christ in Daily Life

- A. How can you influence those around you who do not know or follow Jesus?
- B. How can you care for those around you who are hurting?
- C. What are your professional / work goals?

REMEMBER.....

IF YOU AIM AT NOTHING, YOU WILL HIT IT EVERY TIME!