

This week marks the beginning of Andy's new four-part series on "Growing Through Goal Setting". In a country where 95% of us have never written down any concrete goals for ourselves, this message is a timely one. Those who have concrete goals more easily survive life situations that would otherwise overwhelm them. Without goals, it is easy to become discouraged. We need concrete goals to give us hope. Godly goals help us better focus our energy and accomplish something meaningful. In the life of the believer, goals stretch our faith and help us build Godly character.

What makes goals Godly? Goals are Godly if they are based on God's purpose for your life. In a life long process, God uses our goals to change us into the image of Christ. Since God's plan is eternal, our goals should always include the aspect of eternity. Goals are Godly if they bring glory to God. They do not have to be "religious" things; anything we do can glorify the Lord if we approach a task with that purpose in mind. Goals are Godly if they are motivated by love. What we want to accomplish should be for the blessing of other people and not merely to improve some aspect of our own earthly existence. Goals are Godly if we achieve them with the power of God. Human life is finite and so our effort on our own can only achieve a limited measure of success. If we want to have eternal results and bring about permanent change in ourselves and in the world around us, we have to use the infinite power that only God can provide. What "Godly Goal" will you boldly take on for yourself? Will you fix your attention on Jesus "the author and finisher of our faith" and put your foot on the path of His leading?