

Success in College... *God's Way*

PERSEVERANCE*

PHILIPPIANS 3:12 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.

EXAMPLE 1: ABRAHAM LINCOLN

- ELECTED 1834 TO ILLINOIS STATE LEGISLATURE
- ELECTED 1846 TO US CONGRESS
- DEFEATED 1848 US CONGRESS
- DEFEATED 1855 US SENATE
- DEFEATED 1856 US VICE PRESIDENT
- DEFEATED 1858 US SENATE
- ELECTED 1860 US PRESIDENT

GOALS: ABOLISH SLAVERY, PERSERVE THE UNION – ACCOMPLISHED BOTH; DIED TRYING

EXAMPLE 2: GENTILE WOMAN IN MARK 7

SITUATION: DAUGHTER IS DEMON POSSESSED

CHALLENGES: 1) GENTILE IN A JEWISH CULTURE; 2) FEMALE IN MALE DOMINATED CULTURE; 3) DISCIPLES MOST LIKELY KEEPING HER AND REST OF CROWD AT A DISTANCE; 4) SATAN HAD HIS DEMON TORMENTING HER FAMILY

EXAMPLE 3: HENRIETTA MEARS

EXAMPLE 4: RUDY RUETTIGER

EXAMPLE 5: PAUL

- WHAT WERE HIS GOALS?
- WHAT OBSTACLES DID HE FACE?
- WHAT WAS THE OUTCOME OF HIS PERSEVERANCE?

EXAMPLE 6: NOAH

- WHAT WERE HIS GOALS?
- WHAT OBSTACLES DID HE FACE?
- WHAT WAS THE OUTCOME OF HIS PERSEVERANCE?

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- JESUS CHRIST IS MY SOVEREIGN SOURCE OF STRENGTH.
- HE HAS A PLAN FOR MY LIFE.
- HE NEVER GIVES UP ON ME.
- HE NEVER WAIVERS IN HIS LOVE FOR ME.
- WHATEVER HE CALLS ME TO DO, HE WILL GIVE ME THE TOOLS AND THE ABILITY TO DO THE JOB.
- PATIENCE IS A VIRTUE.

MORE THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- FAILING ISN'T THE SAME AS BEING A FAILURE.
- A TEST DOES NOT MEAN YOU SHOULD STOP PURSUING A GOAL. (DEUT. 8:2)
- THERE ARE USUALLY MANY MISTAKES ON THE ROAD TO SUCCESS.
- BURY FAILURES AND MOVE ON.
- DON'T BLAME OTHERS.
- GODLY CHARACTER IS THE BY-PRODUCT OF PERSISTENCE.

THINGS TO DO:

- SET GOALS THAT REQUIRE YOUR BEST.
- DEVELOP A BURNING DESIRE TO REACH YOUR GOALS.
- KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE GOAL.
- REFUSE TO LISTEN TO CRITICISM – HEED GODLY COUNSEL.
- SURROUND YOURSELF WITH PEOPLE WHO ENCOURAGING YOU TO BE ALL THAT GOD HAS CALLED YOU TO BE.
- ALWAYS LOOK FOR A PERSONAL LESSON IN EVERY DEFEAT.
- PRACTICE SELF-CONTROL.
- BELIEVE YOU CAN REACH YOUR GOALS.
- RELY ON GOD TO ENABLE YOU TO PERSIST.

Wait with
... a grateful heart.
... an obedient heart.
... a patient heart.
... a faithful heart.

* Adapted from *Success God's Way* by Charles Stanley