The Tortoise Principle:
How To Succeed At Anything

IS YOUR LADDER LEANING ON THE RIGHT WALL?
Proverbs 17:1 Proverbs 15:16-17 Ecclesiastes 2:4-11 Matthew 16:26 Proverbs 11:4

Genuine success is lasting, satisfying, earthly and eternal.

THE TORTOISE PRINCIPLE
The Power Of A Thing Called Diligence

HOW TO PREPARE FOR SUCCESS
7 Traits Of A Wise Tortoise
(1) Spell out your goals – in pencil
   Proverbs 21:5 Acts 16:6-10

(2) Get wise counsel
   Proverbs 15:22 Proverbs 14:7

(3) Put first things first
   Proverbs 24:27 Proverbs 21:17 Proverbs 20:4

(4) Finish what you start
   Proverbs 19:15 Proverbs 12:27

(5) Stop, look and listen
   Proverbs 21:5 Proverbs 14:15 Proverbs 28:20

(6) Work hard – but don’t work too hard

(7) Do it for God’s glory
   Proverbs 16:3 & 16:9 Matthew 6:33

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1. This weekend Larry gave us “7 Traits of a Wise Tortoise.” As you go through the list again, how would you rate yourself on each trait on a 1-5 scale with 1 being “Needs Work” to 5 being “Doing Great.”

- Spell out your goals ______
- Get wise counsel ______
- Put first things first ______
- Finish what you start ______
- Stop, look and listen ______
- Work hard ______
- Do it for God’s glory ______

2. For many of us, our past failures or feelings of being unsuccessful make it hard to visualize being successful in the future. Fortunately for us, we’re not alone and can ask God for help. How could the following verses encourage someone who doubts their ability to be successful?

Philippians 1:6
6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. [NIV]

Isaiah 41:10
10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. [NIV]

Proverbs 3:5-6
5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;
6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. [NIV]

Which of the above verses is most important to you and why?

SEEKING GODLY WISDOM / Proverbs Reading Plan Reminder:

Last week we launched our new series, “PROVERBS: WISDOM FOR LIFE.” One of the suggestions on how to gain godly wisdom was to read a Proverb a day. Since Proverbs has 31 chapters, a practical way to do this is to daily read the chapter that corresponds to the day of the month and consider these questions:

- What applies to me today?
- Where have I seen this in others?
- Where have I experienced this?

As you do this from day to day, know that you will be storing up for yourself insight on how to handle life as God would want you to, as well as helping others do the same and experience the wisdom and guidance of our Creator.