

The Tortoise Principle: How To Succeed At Anything

IS YOUR LADDER LEANING ON THE RIGHT WALL?

Matthew 7:24-27 Proverbs 24:10 Proverbs 16:8, 19:22, 20:17, 12:3, 24:19-20, 13:7, 12:9
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*

Proverbs 21:5, 13:4, 12:24 Proverbs 21:30-31

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**
Proverbs 22:29 Proverbs 22:13 Proverbs 14:23 Proverbs 12:11 Proverbs 23:4-5
- (7) Do it for **God's glory**
Proverbs 16:3 & 16:9 Matthew 6:33

Food for Thought

for the week of July 5, 2015

(Questions and Scriptures for further personal study)

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.”

	<u>Rating</u>
➤ 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.