

Joy Plan

1. Create a personal mission statement: Making a plan to achieve your goals is impossible if you don't have any. Spend some time reviewing the text from this class and throwing around different ideas. Next, condense your ideas into a specific mission statement. Just like a professional mission statement, it should leave no room for misinterpretation and clearly answer the question: "How do I intend to achieve Joy and what am I committed to doing to get there?". Review it daily and commit it to memory.
2. Choose your mentors: However flawless your personal plan is, if you want to max out your potential, you're going to need the guidance of mentors, advisors, and influencers. You don't just have to rely on living people to help you; Jesus should be your main influence, Bishop Walker can certainly be another. You don't have to talk directly to these people but you should read books about them and study their lives. However it will help if you have at least one accountability partner if possible who can give you Godly advice.
3. Develop a memory: You must remember the awesome things that God has done for you. If you are going to combat despair in times of trials, you must be able to look back at how God has gotten you through the previous trials. In order to do this I recommend creating a praise journal. This is a place where you will record all the good things the Lord has done for you. Every time the Lord brings you out of a valley you record it. Every time you find yourself back in the valley you read the journal and remind yourself that if He did it before, He will do it again!
4. Generate a study plan: This cannot be the end of your study. God has been too good for you to not have a regular plan for studying His Word. Decide on a time every day, preferably in the morning when you will spend 15 to 20 minutes dedicated to the study of God's Word. This will give God a chance to give you regular revelation through His Word. This step is critical. We can never be too busy to spend time with the Lord.
5. Learn to love discipline: Every aspect of your life will be easier if you are disciplined. Doing the little things now saves us from having to spend time on a big thing later. When the small voice inside your head says leave it for tomorrow, stomp it out. Know that procrastination is not of the Lord. God works in seasons and when God says move, you need to be ready to go. There will be no time to go back and put your house in order. Discipline yourself so when the Lord calls you are ready. Remember that Jesus said, "Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God." (Luke 9:62)