

February 2, 2014

GOD'S SECRET TO A SUCCESSFUL LIFE

Fulfilling God's Plan For Our Lives

Romans 12:3-16

Our lives are a precious gift from God. We have been given the responsibility of being a steward, or caretaker of His creation. It begins by taking a hard look at our lives and examining our lives and actions through the eyes of the Lord. Success in God's eyes begins by following His prescription for a healthy and holy life. This means that we must be committed living in God's plan of holy community in Christ.

1. God calls us to walk together through life.

"Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." **Romans 12:4-5 (NIV)**

"As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude." **Colossians 2:6-7 (NASB)**

"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching." **Hebrews 10:25 (NIV)**

2. God calls us to work together for Him.

"And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let each exercise them accordingly..." **Romans 12:6 (NASB)**

"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

"Therefore, every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all, starting with the people closest to us in the community of faith." **Galatians 6:10 (The Message)**

3. God calls us to watch out for each other.

"Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord." **Romans 12:9-11 (NIV)**

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." **Eccles. 4:9-10, 12 (NIV)**

"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." **Philippians 2:4 (NIV)**

"Be helpful to all who may have doubts. Rescue any who need to be saved, as you would rescue someone from a fire. Then with fear in your own hearts, have mercy on everyone who needs it. But hate even the clothes of those who have been made dirty by their filthy deeds." **Jude 1:22-23 (CEV)**

4. God calls us to weep and pray with each other.

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality... Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn."

Romans 12:12-13, 15 (NIV)

“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” **1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV)**

“Finally, all of you should be of one mind, full of sympathy toward each other, loving one another with tender hearts and humble minds.” **1 Peter 3:8 (NLT)**

5. God calls us to be His witness together.

“Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.”
Romans 12:14-16 (NIV)

“Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are My disciples.” **John 13:35 (NLT)**

“For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord...” **2 Timothy 1:7-8 (NIV)**

“Blessed are those who reject the advice of evil people, who do not follow the example of sinners or join those who have no use for God. Instead, they find joy in obeying the Law of the Lord, and they study it day and night. They are like trees that grow beside a

stream, that bear fruit at the right time, and whose leaves do not dry up. They succeed in everything they do.” **Psalm 1:1-3 (TEV)**