

THE GROWTH CHOICE

Life's Healing Choices: The Beatitudes – Part 7

November 15, 2009

2 Peter 3:18a (TEV) “But **continue** to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...”

THE GROWTH CHOICE: Reserve a daily time with God for self-examination, Bible reading, and prayer in order to know God and His will for my life and to gain the power to follow His will.

1. _____ a daily time with God.

1 John 2:28a (NLT) “And now, dear children, **continue** to live in fellowship with Christ...”

1 John 3:6 (TEV) “So everyone who lives in union with Christ **does not continue** to sin...”

Colossians 4:2 (NCV) “**Continue** praying, keeping alert, and always *thanking God*.”

2. _____ your mind with Scripture.

James 1:25 (NCV) “...The **truly happy people** are those who **carefully study** God's perfect law that makes people free, and **they continue** to study it. They do **not forget** what they heard, but they **obey** what God's teaching says. Those who **do this** will be made **happy**.”

John 8:31-32 (HCSB) “If you **continue in My word**, you really are My disciples. ³² You will **know the truth**, and the truth will **set you free**.”

3. _____ on your goal not your habit.

Philippians 3:12 (NCV) “I do **not mean** that I am **already as God wants me to be**. I have **not yet reached that goal**, but I **continue trying to reach it** and to make it mine. **Christ wants me to do that**, which is the reason He made me His.”

Philippians 3:13-14 (TLB) “No, dear brothers, I am still not all I should be, but I am **bringing all my energies** to bear on this one thing: **Forgetting the past and looking forward** to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I **strain to reach the end** of the race and **receive the prize** for which God is calling us up to heaven...”

4. _____ and _____ your failures quickly.

Proverbs 28:13 (NLT) “People who cover over their **sins** will not prosper. But if they **confess and forsake them**, they will **receive mercy**.”

1 Corinthians 11:31 (NLT) “If we **examine ourselves**, we will not be examined by God and judged in this way.”

5. _____ temptation, but don't fear it.

Hebrews 4:15 (CEV) “**Jesus understands every weakness of ours**, because **He was tempted** in every way that we are. But **He did not sin!**”

1 Corinthians 16:13 (NCV) “**Be alert. Continue strong in the faith**. Have courage, and be strong.”

6. _____ an on-going support group.

2 Corinthians 1:10b-11 (GW) “We are confident that He (God) will **continue to rescue us**, ¹¹ since **you are also joining to help us when you pray for us**.”

Hebrews 10:25 (GW) “We **should not stop gathering together** with other believers, as some of you are doing. Instead, we **must continue to encourage each other**...”

7. _____ to the finish line.

Philippians 1:6 (NLT) “And I am sure that **God**, who began the good work within you, **will continue His work until it is finally finished** on that day when Christ Jesus comes back again.”

Galatians 6:9 (NLT) “So **don't get tired of doing what is good**. **Don't get discouraged and give up**, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time.”