

HOW TO MAKE A FRESH START PART 3

Preparing for the New Year "2009"

"The Lord says, 'Forget about what has happened before. Do not think about the past. [Instead] look at the new thing I am going to do.'" Isaiah 43:18-19 (NCV)

HOW TO MAKE A FRESH S.T.A.R.T.

STOP _____

In this life, in this world we live - other people can hurt you, without a doubt. Other people can harm you, without a doubt.

Other people can scar you, without a doubt.

But nobody can ruin your life except you.

Nobody can ruin your life without your permission.

You have the choice in life that you can choose how you're going to respond to those hurts.

"A man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. But if he confesses and forsakes them, he gets another chance." Proverbs 28:13 (LB)

3- Common Causes of Failure

- WE DON'T PLAN
"A sensible man watches for problems and prepares to meet them. The fool never looks ahead and suffers the consequences." Proverbs 27:12 (LB)
- WE DON'T LISTEN TO GOOD ADVICE
"Plans fail without good advice." Proverbs 15:22 (NCV)
"Pride always leads to destruction." Proverbs 16:18.
- WE GIVE UP TO SOON
"If you give up when trouble comes, it shows that you are weak." Proverbs 24:10 (NCV)

TAKE _____

That means you need to evaluate all your experiences, all of your relationships. You need to set down and do an evaluation

of your life. Write it out... God wants you to learn from them and capitalize on them.

"You have experienced many things. Were all those experiences wasted? I hope not!" Galatians 3:4 (ICB)

ASK QUESTIONS

What have I learned? What are my assets? Who can help me?

ACT _____

The Bible says that the key to **changing** anything is faith. If you want to change your circumstance, it takes faith. If you want to change your personality, it takes faith. If you want to change your wife or husband or child, it takes faith. If you want to change anything in your life, you have to have faith.

"According to your faith will it be done to you." Matthew 9:29

"We should make plans – counting on God to direct us."

Proverbs 16:9 (LB)

"Being afraid of people can get you into trouble..."

Proverbs 29:25 (NCV)

REFOCUS _____

"Be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thoughts."

Proverbs 4:23 (GN)

"Happy are those who... are always meditating on God's Word... They are like trees along a river... that do not dry up. They succeed in everything they do." Psalms 1:1-3 (GN)

TRUST _____

"'You will not succeed by your own strength or power, but by My Spirit,' says the Lord." Zechariah 4:6 (NCV)

"When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same any more. A new life has begun!" 2 Corinthians. 5:17 (LB)