

**Reading:** I Corinthians 9:24-27**Topic:** Total Church Growth # 3  
Goal Setting

**INTRODUCTION:** In our last lesson, we studied about \_\_\_\_\_, and how it is the will and plan of God for living things to \_\_\_\_\_ and reproduce, and today we will learn about setting growth goals.

**I. KEY PRINCIPLE:****A. Basic Understanding:**

1. Nothing is more frustrating than having no clear sense of \_\_\_\_\_, and to not know where you are going, because when you don't know where you are going, how can you \_\_\_\_\_ when you get there?
2. In order to reach a destination, you need to \_\_\_\_\_ where that destination is, and when you do know the destination, then you can make a \_\_\_\_\_ on how you will reach that place. I Cor. 9:24-26
3. The Apostle Paul pressed towards a \_\_\_\_\_ which signifies that he had a destination in mind and he was working towards getting there.

**B. Vision:**

1. The many great things that have been accomplished and \_\_\_\_\_ over the centuries have come to fruition because someone first had a \_\_\_\_\_ to get it done. Neh. 2:4,5
2. When there is no vision, there is a lack of motivation to move into \_\_\_\_\_, and without vision and then a plan of \_\_\_\_\_ to accomplish something, nothing gets done. Pr. 29:18

**II. SETTING GROWTH GOALS:****A. Number Goals:**

1. Some people are hesitant to talk about numbers because numbers do not always indicate \_\_\_\_\_, but God is interested in numbers because each number represents a living \_\_\_\_\_. Gen. 46:26.27
2. In any ministry, be it the church as a \_\_\_\_\_, or in the Sunday School ministry, Youth ministry, the Ladies' ministry, the men's ministry, home friendship groups, etc., \_\_\_\_\_ should be noted.

**B. Growth Goals:**

1. Growth goals differ from number goals in this manner, that not everyone who \_\_\_\_\_ will stay and Jesus taught that truth in one of His \_\_\_\_\_. Mt. 13:3-8
2. Growth goals are based upon \_\_\_\_\_ and not just upon the numbers who may attend and even obey the Gospel, for Jesus illustrated that in different \_\_\_\_\_ that He taught. Mt. 25:1-3
3. The ones that are \_\_\_\_\_ are the ones that will determine the \_\_\_\_\_ rate for the church and the various ministries within the church. Mt. 13:23

**III. DETERMINING MINISTRY GOALS:****A. Prayer:**

1. Inspiration and spiritual direction comes through seeking God in \_\_\_\_\_ on a consistent basis, and reading the Word of God daily, and doing those things brings us into the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ. I Cor. 2:16
2. Our need is to find not just our own wishes, but to find the \_\_\_\_\_ and will of the Lord Jesus Christ for our \_\_\_\_\_ that we are involved in so that our will, will be in harmony with His. Acts 13:2,3

**B. Realistic:**

1. The goals that are set must be realistic and in accordance with the \_\_\_\_\_ of God for where we are at presently, not just some wild dreamy \_\_\_\_\_ that we think up ourselves. Acts 16:6-10
2. The goals must also be attainable with the work \_\_\_\_\_ and materials that we have to work with at this present time.

**C. Things To Remember:**

1. True church and ministry growth needs to be \_\_\_\_\_ for, not just left to chance and hoping that things will \_\_\_\_\_ by themselves.
2. The same spiritual laws of sowing and reaping \_\_\_\_\_ to goal setting and growth, and if the plans we make are only on paper, there will be no \_\_\_\_\_ attained and no growth. 2 Cor. 9:6
3. There is an old adage that says, "If you aim at \_\_\_\_\_, then you will hit it."

**CONCLUSION:** Setting \_\_\_\_\_ and reaching for them is not just some carnal ambition, it is also part of the plan and purpose of Jesus Christ to reach the \_\_\_\_\_ with the Gospel. Mk. 16:15