



Pressing Toward the Goal

A marksman keeps his target in his sights; is not easily distracted

“Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, **I press toward the goal** for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 3:12-14

Have Faith in the Unseen

- Unbelief is often why we fall short of our goals
 - **Hebrews 3:18-19**
- Christian life and service is a walk of “faith”
 - **2 Corinthians 5:7**
- Promises are “real” to us already
 - **Romans 4:16-22**
- Our ultimate goal
 - **Hebrews 11:8-10, 16**



Exhibit Courage

❑ Lack of courage can cost us our souls

■ **Revelation 21:8**

❑ Cowardliness is the fruit of failure

■ **Numbers 13:30-33**



Reaching the end of our journey requires having courage to forge ahead – regardless of the dangers that have to be faced

Gain Will Power

- Keep going when it would be easy to quit

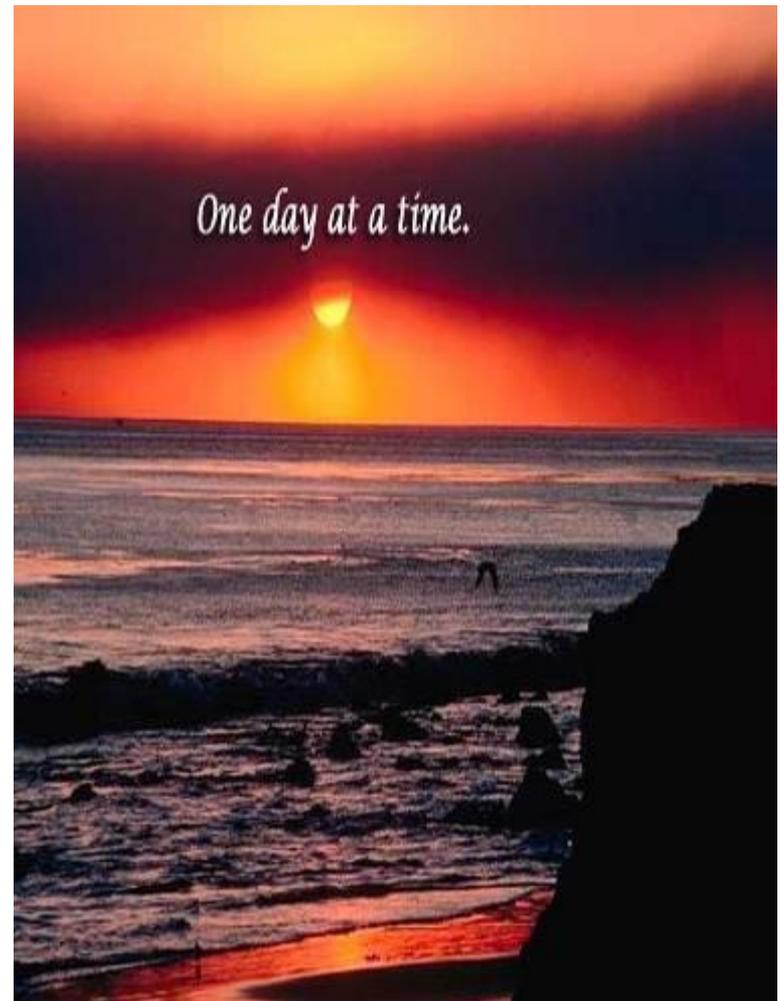
Will is the whole man active. I cannot give up my will; I must exercise it. I must will to obey. When God gives a command or a vision of truth, it is never a question of what He will do, but what we will do. To be successful in God's work is to fall in line with His will and to do it His way. All that is pleasing to Him is a success.

---- Henrietta Mears

- We need determination and strength
 - **Acts 20:22-24; 21:12-14**

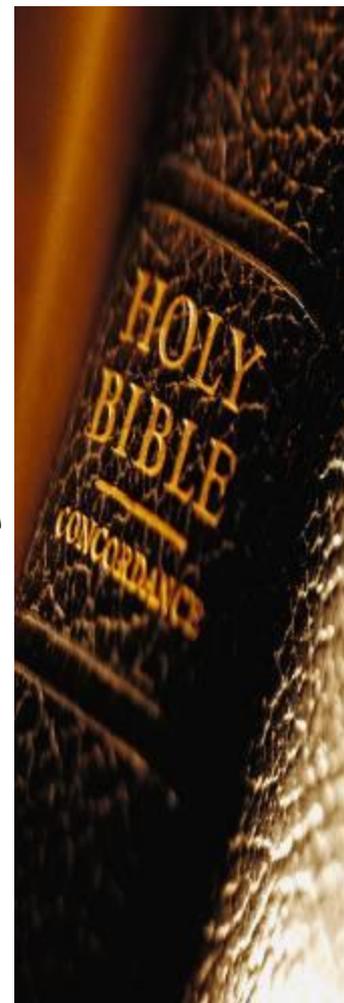
Shoulder One Day's Burden

- ❑ Don't worry about tomorrow's problems
 - **Matthew 6:34**
- ❑ God took care of the Israelites
 - **“one day at a time”**
 - **Deuteronomy 8:3**
- ❑ We don't know what will happen tomorrow



Learn to Have Self-Respect

- ❑ Upon our confession we made a promise to be faithful to Him
 - **Should be a sincere commitment**
 - **We should feel hurt when we are faithless**
- ❑ Faithfulness meant much to the apostle Paul
 - **2 Timothy 4:7**
- ❑ There is great joy in knowing that we have kept our commitments!



Conclusion

- We are exhorted to learn from the Israelites
 - Hebrews 4:11

“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”**

Hebrews 12:1-2