

LEARNING HOW TO TRUST GOD

LEARNING HOW TO TRUST GOD Part 6 – Successful People Keep Their Eyes On The Goal Hebrews 11:13-16

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Successful people keep the goal in the crosshairs. You have to know **what** the goal is. You have to know **why** it's the goal. It has to be **worthy** of being your goal. Once you have settled on the goal, you have to keep it on center stage.

The "**goal**" worthy of selling everything in your life for, in Jesus' teaching, is the Kingdom of God. The **Kingdom** of God starts in the here and now and it ends in the hereafter. The Kingdom of God is a way of living.

I. THE "HEREAFTER" PART OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS **HEAVEN**.

A. The Bible clearly teaches that the moment our body dies our **spirit** goes to be with God in heaven.

1. Philippians 1:21-24 *"For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²² If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³ I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴ but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body."*

2. Luke 23:43 *"Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."*
3. Ecclesiastes 12:7 (NIV) *"and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it."*

B. In heaven, we will know each other.

1. Genesis 25:8 *"Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was gathered to his people."*
2. Numbers 27:12-13 *"And the Lord said unto Moses, Get thee up into this mount Abarim, and see the land which I have given unto the children of Israel. ¹³ And when thou hast seen it, thou also shall be gathered unto thy people, as Aaron thy brother was gathered."*
3. Matthew 8:11 *"And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven."*
4. We will know each other by name and will recognize family, friends, and even those we have never known.

C. When we are in heaven, we will be fully us, only perfect.

1 John 3:2 "Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when He appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."

D. In heaven, we will see and experience the presence of God.

E. Hebrews 11:10 *"For Abraham was looking forward to the city (Heaven) with foundations, whose architect and builder is God." (NIV)*

II. THE "HERE" PART OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS OUR LIFESTYLE.

A. Life Principle # 1 – Live In Confidence. (Hebrews 11:13)

1. Hebrews 11:13 *"These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them..." (KJV)*
2. No matter what life brought them, their confidence was in the God who was in control because they knew God was trustworthy. It is how they lived their lives.

B. Life Principle # 2 – Understand **who we are**.

1. Hebrews 11:13 *“...and they **confessed** that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.” (KJV)*
2. People of faith present a clear witness. While they enjoy the blessings given to them by God, they never worship the blessings, only the Blesser. People of faith have a different set of **priorities** for life with an eye on the eternal.
3. 1 Peter 2:11 *“Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.” (NIV)*
4. 1 Peter 2:11 *“Dear brothers, you are only visitors here. Since your real home is in heaven, I beg you to keep away from the evil pleasures of this world; they are not for you, for they fight against your very souls.” (TLB)*

C. Life Principle #3 – Keep our eyes on the **goal**. (Hebrews 11:14-16)

1. Hebrews 11:14 *“For they that say such things declare plainly that **they seek a country**.” (KJV)*
2. The **purpose** of life is to get us ready for eternity.
3. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 *“Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸ So we **fix our eyes** not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” (NIV)*
4. Hebrews 11:15-16 *“And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country.” (NKJV)*
5. 1 Timothy 6:17 *“...God richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.” (NIV)*
6. Malachi 2:5 *“The purpose of My laws is to give you life and peace...”*
7. Live in **balance** within the boundaries God establishes. Live with God as your guide and heaven as your ultimate destination. Live to express love and honor to God throughout your life.
8. 1 Corinthians 9:26 *“So I run straight to the goal with purpose in every step. I fight to win. I’m not just ... playing around.” (TLB)*

