

EMBRACING THE FUTURE

We can embrace our future with restful and joyful confidence.

1. End Harmful Friendships

(Psalm 1:1) How happy is the man who does not follow the advice of the wicked or take the path of sinners or join a group of mockers!

- A. Who is being the most influenced by this friendship?
- B. Being too close to the wrong people can be damaging.

2. Stop Bad Habits

(Hebrews 12:1) Since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every weight and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us.

- A. The list of bad habits is long.
- B. Distraction maneuvers don't work.
- C. The answer is to stop the bad habits.

3. Get In God's Will

(Romans 12:1-2) Brothers, by the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

(Psalms 25:1-5) Lord, I turn to You. My God, I trust in You. Do not let me be disgraced; do not let my enemies gloat over me. No one who waits for You will be disgraced. Make Your ways known to me, Lord; teach me Your paths. Guide me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; I wait for You all day long.

(Proverb 3:5-6) I trust You Lord with all my heart. I'll not lean on my own understandings. In all my ways, I'll acknowledge You, and I'll depend on You to direct my paths.

4. Trust God For Tomorrow

(Hebrews 13:5-6) He Himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." Therefore, we may boldly say: "The Lord is my Helper; I will not be afraid..."

(Luke 22-25) One day [Jesus] and His disciples got into a boat, and He told them, "Let's cross over to the other side of the lake." So they went out, and as they were sailing He fell asleep. Then a fierce windstorm came down on the lake; they were being swamped and were in danger. They came and woke Him up, saying, "Master, Master, we're going to die!" Then He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves. So they ceased and there was a calm. He said to them, "Where is your faith?"

(Philippians 4:6-7) Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses every thought, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.