

DILIGENTLY PERSEVERE

Design Your Best Life: Part 4

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“...I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race...” (Philippians 3:13–14, NLT)

Life Design Process:

1. **DEFINE PURPOSE**
2. **PRIORITIZE**
3. **PLAN**
4. **PROCEED**

5 WAYS TO DILIGENTLY PERSEVERE

1. **REMOVE DISTRACTIONS.**

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us...” (Hebrews 12:1, NIV)

“Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you.” (Proverbs 4:25, NIV)

“Jesus said to him, “Anyone who starts to plow and then keeps looking back is of no use for the Kingdom of God.” (Luke 9:62, GNT)

2. **REMEMBER THE REASON AND THE REWARD.**

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20, NIV)

“To win the contest you must deny yourselves many things that would keep you from doing your best. An athlete goes to all this trouble just to win a blue ribbon or a silver cup, but we do it for a heavenly reward that never disappears. So, I run straight to the goal with purpose in every step...” (1 Corinthians 9:25–26, The Living Bible)

“For we fix our attention, not on things that are seen, but on things that are unseen. What can be seen lasts only for a time, but what cannot be seen lasts forever.” (2 Corinthians 4:18, GNB)

3. **RENEW MYSELF DAILY.**

"...Even though our physical being is gradually decaying, yet our spiritual being is renewed day after day." (2 Corinthians 4:16, GNB)

"When doubts filled my mind, your comfort gave me renewed hope and cheer." (Psalm 94:19, NLT)

4. **RESIST DISCOURAGEMENT.**

"Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again— my Savior and my God!" (Psalm 42:5-6a, NLT)

"And let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't get discouraged and give up." (Galatians 6:9, The Living Bible)

"But these things I plan won't happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely, the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled. If it seems slow, do not despair, for these things will surely come to pass. Just be patient! They will not be overdue a single day!" (Habakkuk 2:3, The Living Bible)

5. **RELY ON CHRIST.**

"This I declare about the LORD: He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I trust him." (Psalm 91:2, NLT)

"That's why I work and struggle so hard, depending on Christ's mighty power that works within me." (Colossians 1:29, NLT)

"God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another...Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen." (1 Peter 4:10-11, NLT)

CHALLENGE:

I declare that by the end of the year, I will:

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful." (2 Timothy 4:7, NLT)

ACTION STEP:

Complete Your 12-Month Life Development Plan