



Victory Christian Center

A Foursquare Church

**“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday,
today, and forevermore.”**

Hebrews 13:8

Our purpose and mission: To know the heart of God through...

- Teaching/Worshipping/Giving/Serving

Our values: To reflect our love for God through the...

- Word of God/Worship of God/Work of God

Our desire is to reflect our love for people with dignity and respect,
to serve our community, to disciple individuals, and make an impact
among our youth.

Download Church App: *victory christian center wy*

Website: *Victoryworland.org*

Title: Pay attention

We are living in a time where we really need to be focused on what the Lord wants and stay strong through hard times. We are called to live a balanced life for God. To present ourselves as living sacrifices worthy of God's time and energy on us. We are not to give up in the struggles, the temptations, or the battles of life. We will face everything the enemy can throw at us but will we be the ones standing?

Other titles:

- Stay focused
- Are you out of control?
- Don't lose your composure

The word controlled in the greek is **sophroneo** and it means sound mind, self-controlled, sober minded. To live a balanced and disciplined life in thoughts and actions. To be governed by wisdom and prudence.

The word control/sober in the greek is **nepho** and it means to be sober, self-controlled, and watchful. To be free from influential areas that affect the mind, the physical body, and spiritual side of a person.

Scriptures:

"The end of all times is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray." **1 Peter 4:7**

"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings." **1 Peter 5:8-9**

Perspective:

What causes a person to not pay attention or to not be self-controlled when life hits?

- Facing discomfort

- Distractions
- Mental, emotional fatigue
- Overcoming bad habits/traits/temptations

What keeps your focus and helps you maintain your faith?

- Being clear minded and self-controlled-allows you to pray as you should.
- Through prayer it builds a strong foundation that cannot be shaken. It builds your faith and relationship with a Savior who cares and loves you.
- Prayer is the key to accessing the Lord's strength to resist the enemy. Your foundation becomes so strong that it can withstand negative influences in your life.
- Focusing on Jesus brings your life balance and He guides you on how to live a disciplined life that is healthy for your mind, your body, and your spirit.
- As your relationship grows stronger in Jesus He will guide you on how to approach difficult times.
- When you are level headed everything makes sense and is clear. When you allow your emotions to get the best of you, it can cloud your judgement.

Pressure is a privilege-If you and Jesus stay connected He will sharpen your life to be effective. Don't be afraid to go through the fire as it will only prepare you for what He has planned for you. In the fire is where Jesus teaches you how to be focused, alert, and watchful.

*Digging into your relationship with Jesus through prayer, through worship, and through His word is what sustains and secures your foundation. In His presence He is the teacher and you are the student. So pay attention, be mindful of your thoughts and actions. Never stop praying. And above all **STAND FIRM IN CHRIST!**