

THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED

(Godly Wisdom – Our Compass at the Crossroads of Life)

Part 10 – Taking Decisive Action

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Philippians 2:13 (NLT), “For God is working in you, **giving you the desire and the power** to do what **pleases him**.”

Proverbs 24:27 (NLT), “Do your **planning** and **prepare** your fields **before building** your house.”

1. There is _____ in immediate _____.

1 Peter 1:13a (NLT), “So, **prepare** your **minds for action** and **exercise self-control**.”

1 Samuel 17:41-51 (NLT), “⁴¹Goliath walked out **toward David** with his shield bearer ahead of him, ⁴²sneering in contempt at this ruddy-faced boy. ⁴³“Am I a **dog**,” he roared at David, “that you come at me with a **stick**?” And he **cursed** David by the names of his gods. ⁴⁴“**Come over here**, and I’ll give your flesh to the birds and wild animals!” Goliath yelled.

⁴⁵David replied to the Philistine, “You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but **I come to you in the name of the LORD** of Heaven’s Armies—the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. ⁴⁶**Today** the LORD will **conquer you**, and **I will kill you and cut off your head**. And then I will give the dead bodies of your men to the birds and wild animals, and **the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel!** ⁴⁷And everyone assembled here will know that the LORD rescues his people, but not with sword and spear. This is the LORD’s battle, and he will give you to us!”

⁴⁸As Goliath moved closer to attack, **David quickly ran out to meet him**. ⁴⁹Reaching into his shepherd’s bag and taking out a stone, he hurled it with his sling and hit the Philistine in the forehead. The stone sank in, and **Goliath stumbled and fell face down** on the ground.

⁵⁰So David **triumphed** over the Philistine with only a sling and a stone, for he had no sword. ⁵¹Then David ran over and pulled **Goliath’s sword** from its sheath. David used it to kill him and **cut off his head**.”

Proverbs 16:3 (NLT), “Commit your **actions** to the **Lord**, and your **plans** will **succeed**.”

2. Start where you _____, not where you _____ you were.

Ecclesiastes 11:4 (NLT), “Farmers who **wait** for **perfect** weather **never plant**. If they watch **every** cloud, they **never harvest**.”

Ecclesiastes 11:4 (TLB), “If you **wait** for **perfect conditions**, you will **never** get anything **done**.”

Proverbs 21:5 (NLT), “**Good planning** and **hard work** lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty.”

Esther 4:14 (NLT), “If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. Who knows if perhaps you were made queen **for just such a time as this**? ¹⁵Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: ¹⁶“Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. **And if I perish, I perish**.”

James 4:17 (NLT), “Remember, it is sin to **know what you ought to do** and then **not do it**.”

3. _____ action creates _____.

Proverbs 10:4 (NIV), “Lazy hands make for poverty, but **diligent hands bring wealth**.”

Proverbs 14:23, (NLT), “**Work brings profit**, but mere **talk leads to poverty!**”

James 2:17 (NIV), “In the same way, **faith by itself**, if it is not **accompanied by action**, is dead.”
