

SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF
Big Purpose, Small Steps

Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin... **Zechariah 4:10**

Small Steps to a Big Purpose:

I. Change my _____.

⁷For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. **Proverbs 23:7a (NKJV)**

²Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12:2

A. Capture _____.

³For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. ⁴The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. **2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (NIV)**

B. Fix your Thoughts on _____.

⁸And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. ⁹Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me— everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you. **Philippians 4:8-9**

II. CHANGE MY _____.

²¹The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences. **Proverbs 18:21**

A. If you Can't Say Something Helpful _____.

²⁹Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. **Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)**

B. If you think something good _____.

²⁴Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. **Proverbs 16:24 (NIV)**

III. Change my _____.

A. Through _____

²⁴Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! ²⁵**All athletes are disciplined in their training.** They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. ²⁶So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. ²⁷**I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should.** Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified. **1 Corinthians 9:24-27**

Additional Notes:

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Small Steps to a Big Purpose:

I. Change my Thoughts.

⁷For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. **Proverbs 23:7a (NKJV)**

²Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12:2

A. Capture Destructive Thoughts.

³For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. ⁴The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. **2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (NIV)**

B. Fix your Thoughts on Spiritual Things.

⁸And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. ⁹Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me— everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you. **Philippians 4:8-9**

II. CHANGE MY WORDS.

²¹The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences. **Proverbs 18:21**

A. If you Can't Say Something Helpful SKIP IT.

²⁹Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. **Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)**

B. If you think something good SAY IT.

²⁴Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. **Proverbs 16:24 (NIV)**

III. Change my Habits.

A. Through DISCIPLINE

²⁴Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! ²⁵**All athletes are disciplined in their training.** They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. ²⁶So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. ²⁷**I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should.** Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified. **1 Corinthians 9:24-27**

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