

Winning At The Game Of Life

#6: How To Turn A Negative Into A Positive

John 16:33 *In this world you will have trouble.*

1. View problems as _____

Hebrews 12:11 *No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.*

2. Take responsibility _____

Proverbs 20:9 *Who can say, "I have kept my heart pure; I am clean and without sin"?*

3. _____

a) Get new _____

Proverbs 24:5 *The wise are mightier than the strong, and those with knowledge grow stronger and stronger.*

b) Create a new _____

Proverbs 13:20 *Walk with the wise and become wise...*

c) _____

John 16:33 *In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.*

4. Develop _____

Acts 14: 19-20 *Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead. But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city.*

a) Take _____

b) Let God _____

Psalms 23:3 *...he restores my soul*

c) _____

What is the Reality?

What's the reality about your marriage? How is it really going? How happy is your spouse? Do they regret marrying you? Will you still be married 5 years from now? Are you working hard to keep your marriage healthy?

What's the reality about your kids? How are they really doing in school? What problems do you see in their life that you are ignoring? Do you know what you need to know about parenting to be effective? Do your friends like it when your kids come over?

What's the reality about your job? Is your boss happy with your performance? Are your employees satisfied? Do you have the skills you need to succeed in business? Are you succeeding? Why not? Is your job going to be there three years from now?

What's the reality about you? Are you happy? Are you stuffing your anger about something? Are you depressed about something? Are you afraid? Would your life improve if you learned some new relational skills? Is there a habit in your life that's hurting you that you are not addressing?

What's the reality about your financial situation? Are you living beyond your means? Are you saving enough for retirement? Are you handling God's resources the right way?

What's the reality about your spiritual life? Does God feel close to you? Do you really believe the things you say you believe? Do you have questions about God you are ignoring? Are you living as if all that's really important is the stuff you can get here on earth?

What's the reality about the people around me? Are my friends good influences? Am I a good influence on them? Should I stop trusting some of them? Am I ignoring "red flags" in my friendships?

Why aren't you seeking reality?

Is it fear? Is it pride? Is it arrogance? Is it frustration?