

HOW TO FULFILL YOUR GOALS

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Moses had a mission from God. He was to save the Israelites from their captors by leading their escape out of slavery and into the Promised Land. He had a clear goal – to get all the people from point A to point B in quick time. However, the journey that should have taken about 40 days of walking, ended up to be a 40-year trek, accompanied by grumbling, disobedience and disillusionment by the followers. What happened?

For us, life is also a journey. We have two choices. Either we become proactive - take control of what we feel is our God-given destiny – map out our course, create goals and follow them so we get to the other end with an enormous feeling of satisfaction and achievement. Or, we can be passive or reactive – go with the flow - not take control of our own destiny and see where life leads us. Hmmm! I know which road I would rather take!

It behooves us to discover and then reach our full potential. We have been given all the gifts, talents and abilities. Once we have found the secret to personal success we can teach and encourage our children to experience the same thing. All we need to do is create the opportunities. In other words, we have the ingredients to 'cook up' a marvelous life. So, where do we start?

First of all you need to dream big. Have a brainstorm! Ask yourself, "If I had no restrictions in my life what would I like to do or be?" Write it down. Then write down the circumstances you are in right now – e.g. married with small children, your financial situation, your current job situation, your free time etc. Do any of these current activities mean you will never be able to fulfill your dream at some time? Absolutely not! All it takes is to sow the seed of my dream and at least start the process?

One of my dreams started when I was about 5 years old. I decided I would become a registered nurse just like my Aunt who was my hero. I found out I would have to do well at school to get into a nursing program. That dictated my whole school effort. It gave me determination to pass exams. I even failed one major exam and had to repeat the whole year again, but I did that because of the dream. I went to nursing school and passed those exams. Then I became interested in the managerial and training jobs in nursing, but to do that I would need a University qualification, something I had never even considered an intellectual possibility for me. Once I saw others studying for Bachelors' degrees I decided I could, too. I expanded my dream into a new reality for me. By this time I had certain restrictions I had to consider. I was married with small children and could not attend University. Also, my husband was in a voluntary ministry and money was tight. How could I do it? We discussed it and he agreed to help me with the children so I could fulfill my

dream. I never lost sight of my set goal and, bolstered by encouragement from my family, I met my final goal in nursing. I became supervisor of post-graduate nursing training in a hospital in New Zealand.

I had two major achievements in sight – to become a registered nurse and then to become a successful manager in nursing. My children saw the second half of my dream and witnessed the great feeling of satisfaction it created for me. We became very interested in making sure our children knew how to set goals and achieve them – small steps and big steps. They are now also fulfilling their dreams.

So, what happened to Moses' mission and vision? He commenced the first part of the plan that God had showed him, but he did not anticipate the reaction of the people. Still, God told him to step out each day in faith, following the cloud and the pillar of fire. Even though Moses had to work with the restrictions of the people being disobedient, His vision remained true and he stuck to the goal. God also gives us guidance as we fulfill our dreams and He helps us fulfill that potential that He has placed within us.

Find out what your purpose is, dream big, set the goals and go for it. Your children are likely to follow this pattern and fulfill what God has planted in them.

If you have any comments or questions on this subject, please do not hesitate to contact us at sally@forefrontfamilies.org. We invite you to also check out our website at www.forefrontfamilies.org and our blog site at www.forefrontfamilies.blogspot.com for further assistance.