

DEVELOPING A LIFE VISION OF FAITH

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Pastor Steve

When You Need A Fresh START

I'll put muscle in the people of Judah; I'll save the people of Joseph. I know their pain and will make them good as new. They'll get a fresh start, as if nothing had ever happened. And why? Because I am their very own GOD, I'll do what needs to be done for them. Zechariah 10:6 (MSG)

I will make a fresh start with Israel. He'll burst into bloom like a crocus in the spring. He'll put down deep oak tree roots, he'll become a forest of oaks! He'll become splendid—like a giant sequoia, his fragrance like a grove of cedars! Hosea 14:5-6

GOD gives a hand to those down on their luck, gives a fresh start to those ready to quit. Psalm 145:14 (MSG)

For a Fresh S.T.A.R.T. I:

- I) _____ making excuses for not starting.
 - A) The biggest barriers to my success are my own _____.
 - B) Common Excuses:
 - 1) I don't have _____.

Gideon said to him, "Me, my master? How and with what could I ever save Israel? Look at me. My clan's the weakest in Manasseh and I'm the runt of the litter." GOD said to him, "I'll be with you. Believe me, you'll defeat Midian as one man." Judges 6:15-16 (MSG)
 - 2) I have _____ in the past.
 - (a) "But forget all that— it is nothing compared to what I am going to do. ¹⁹ For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland. Isaiah 43:18-19
 - (b) A man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. But if he confesses and forsakes them, he gets another chance. Proverbs 28:13 (TLB)
 - 3) There are things I _____.

If you fail under pressure, your strength is too small. Proverbs 24:10
 - 4) I don't know what the _____.

If you wait for perfect conditions, you will never get anything done. Ecclesiastes 11:4 (TLB)
- II) _____ stock of what I have.
 - A) To take stock of what I have I ask:

1) What are my _____?

So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority. Colossians 2:10

2) What have I _____?

(a) Have you experienced so much for nothing? Surely it was not in vain, was it? Galatians 3:4

(b) But you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true, for you know you can trust those who taught you. 2 Timothy 3:14

3) Who could _____?

Refuse good advice and watch your plans fail; take good counsel and watch them succeed. Proverbs 15:22 (MSG)

4) First pride, then the crash— the bigger the ego, the harder the fall. Proverbs 16:18 (MSG)

5) The LORD mocks the mockers but is gracious to the humble. Proverbs 3:34

III) _____ in faith.

A) Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith will it be done to you"; Matthew 9:29 (NIV)

B) We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps. Proverbs 16:9

C) And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him. Hebrews 11:6

IV) _____ my mind.

A) And be continually renewed in the spirit of your mind [having a fresh, untarnished mental and spiritual attitude], Ephesians 4:23 Amplified

B) To refocus my mind, I:

1) _____ more to God's word than the world.

Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. But they delight in the law of the LORD, meditating on it day & night. They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither & they prosper in all they do. Psalm 1:1-3

2) _____ about what I _____ about.

Be careful what you think, because your thoughts run your life. Proverbs 4:23 (NCV)

V) _____ that God knows what He's doing.

A) But the jar he was making did not turn out as he had hoped, so he crushed it into a lump of clay again and started over. Jeremiah 18:4

B) Jeremiah notices:

1) Sometimes things don't _____ the way you intended.

2) When that happens the potter just _____ again.

3) But he uses the _____. He doesn't throw it out.

C) Then the LORD gave me this message: ⁶ "O Israel, can I not do to you as this potter has done to his clay? As the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand. Jeremiah 18:5-6

D) For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. Ephesians 2:10

E) This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! 2 Corinthians 5:17

God, make a fresh start in me, shape a Genesis week from the chaos of my life. Psalm 51:10 (MSG)