

department supervisor or foreman unless you are eligible for the position, have a reasonable expectation of achieving your goal, and are willing to work hard and sacrifice for it. Remember -- the higher the position, the greater the responsibility! If you can't handle the responsibility, don't seek the advancement. Remember the Peter Principle -- that employees in an organization tend to be promoted until they reach their level of incompetence!

If you own your own business, don't plan to double your sales, enlarge your display or storage facilities by 50%, and triple your staff, all in six months! Build your business soundly and steadily, planning wisely and taking the long look.

Once you have chosen realistic goals, then work toward them!

If you want to be better at whatever you are and do, find out what it takes, decide you're going to pursue and (by God's grace) achieve that goal, and then begin working toward it.

But remember -- if you let your goal consume you, and don't maintain a balance between that goal and your responsibilities to your home and church and community and occupation, you may turn out to be a success in one area and a dismal failure in others!

My sixth suggestion is this:

6. If we wish to have success, we must be faithful in our varied responsibilities and duties.

Whether these responsibilities and duties pertain to our role in our home, in our church, in our work-place, or in our society, God holds us responsible for faithfulness.

In each of these spheres of influence, God has made us stewards; and the first responsibility of a steward is faithfulness to the trust that has been committed to him or to her (1 Cor. 4:2).