



MONDAY, June 15, 2009: “Christ first, others second, self last; and the result JOY.” \_Warren W. Wiersbe, Be Joyful, p. 143

- ❑ Proverbs 3:27-28 (The Message)  
*Never walk away from someone who deserves help; your hand is God's hand for that person.*
- ❑ *Don't tell your neighbor "Maybe some other time" or "Try me tomorrow" when the money's right there in your pocket.*
- ❑ *Don't figure ways of taking advantage of your neighbor when he's sitting there trusting and unsuspecting.*

As we start another week, let's make a deal. Let's agree to not postpone acts of kindness. If you're like me, you're not a mean-spirited person. I'm sure we both do not wish evil on anyone.

My problem is that I get so focused on my daily tasks that I push right on by opportunities to really make a difference in someone's life. I forget that my “to do” list must always have room for the unexpected.

Are you like that? Well today let's make an agreement that we are going to “Do it now!”

When we see something that needs to be done, we will not wait until later – we'll do it now!

When our heart is prompted towards an act of kindness, we'll not put it off until we have time – we'll do it now!

When the Holy Spirit calls us to draw closer to Him, we'll not wait unto this evening or some other time – we'll do it now!

Is that a deal? Let's make the theme for this week: DO IT NOW!

**SCRIPTURE:** Luke 10:26-37

TUESDAY, June 16, 2009: “If people knew how hard I had to work to gain my mastery, it wouldn't seem wonderful at all.” \_Michelangelo

- ❑ Nehemiah 6:1-16

The background for today's Bible lesson is about Nehemiah leading the people of Israel to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, and how his enemies tried to stop him.

Here is the thought I want to leave with you today: **The quickest way to stop a worthy work is to stop the leader.**

And here is why that matters to you: You are a leader in some way. You may or may not have the title or job description that says you are a leader, but trust me, your life matters.

Leadership is all about influence and for good or bad; you are influencing something and someone. God didn't put you here on earth to be a wallflower; you have a purpose and destiny to champion!

So, since you are a leader, one of the main things you must not allow is for “enemies” to distract you from your mission. Stay focused today. Do not allow the barbs and bribes of those around to distract you. There will always be someone trying to shoot you down with words and deeds, and if that doesn't work they'll try to entice you away from your destiny with lesser things. But that is not the life for you; you were meant for great things!

**SCRIPTURE:** I Corinthians 9:24

WEDNESDAY, June 17, 2009:  
“Scientists tell us we only use 5% of our brains. But if they only used 5% of their brains to reach that conclusion, then why should we believe them?”  
\_Joseph Palm, Starbucks customer from Oshkosh, Wisconsin, “The Way I See It” #236

- ❑ Nehemiah 6:1-16

Continuing with yesterday's Bible lesson, there is another important principle that is closely connected with yesterday's lesson. Remember, yesterday I reminded you that as a leader you must not allow people to distract you from your mission and purpose in life.

Today I want to remind you of another important principle: **Problems and projects go together.**

Now I know that that is an obvious truth. However, sometimes we can be blinded by the obvious. Perhaps today you are frustrated and even angry about some problem that is sucking the life out of you. Remember, problems and projects go together. There has never been anything accomplished without problems first having to be resolved.

My dear friend, you can solve that problem. There is a way. That “knot” can be untangled and that missing piece can be found. Stay focused, stay calm and cast your cares upon the Lord; He will help you! You're not in this thing alone.

**SCRIPTURE:** I Peter 5:6-8

THURSDAY: June 18, 2009:  
“At least I know where he is sleeping tonight.”  
\_Gravestone at Key West, FL cemetery

- ❑ Nehemiah 6:1-16

Let me call your attention to Nehemiah 6:1-16 one more time.

The thing that I want to remind you today is this: **The tide turns once the project was completed.**

In other words, in spite of the opposition and problems, because Nehemiah remained focused and completed the job, it changed the entire nature of Nehemiah's world. The momentum started working for him and not against him. The fair winds of opportunity started blowing in his direction. Life began to improve and there was time for not only work, but enjoying the fruit of his work.

The point is this: Hang in there! Stay focused. Complete what you've started – better days will come. It will not always be like it is right now. There is always that time when the hard work of laying the cornerstone occurs. But there is also that special moment when you lay the capstone and the work is completed. That is when the party begins and don't you miss it!

**SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 126:6