

## *Donna's Devotions* *"Goals for the Christian"*

In special education, I stress that teachers need to analyze a situation to determine what needs to be done. When one knows what needs to be done, he can set goals and then establish the objectives: the steps to reach the goals. In teaching, the objectives and the goals determine what and how the teacher will teach.

In the Christian life, we analyze our situation to set our goals and then determine the steps to reach those goals.

Perhaps you are thinking that setting goals shows a lack of confidence or trust in God. Far from it. Goal setting helps us determine where to focus our energy to accomplish the tasks God has given us. When we look at the Scriptures, we see that Joseph had a God given goal to prepare for the famine by storing up food. Noah was directed by God to have a goal of building an ark. Moses obeyed the Lord and gathered the materials for the tabernacle. Paul expressed his goal in Philippians 3:10 "That I may know him, and the power of His resurrection. . . ."

We strengthen our faith as we depend upon God to guide us in setting and reaching our goals. We see God working through us and we learn that we can depend upon him. We rely upon Him to set the right goals and we trust Him to provide the strength and wisdom to meet those goals. Ephesians 6:10 "Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might."

Ephesians 3:20 "Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us."

If we are to succeed, we need to depend upon God's power and guidance, set our goals and work to meet those goals to His glory.