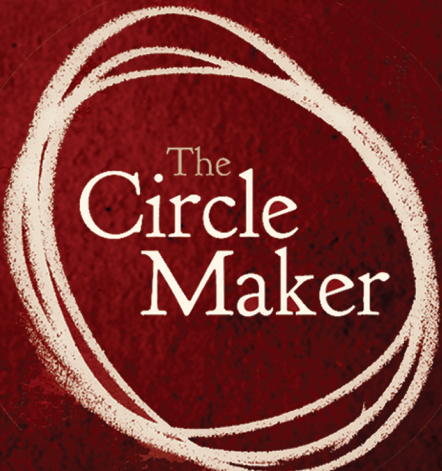


10 Steps to Setting Life Goals

Adapted from Mark Batterson, *The Circle Maker* (Zondervan, Grand Rapids, 2011)

Goals are Dreams with Deadlines

1. **Start with Prayer** | Dreaming is a form of praying and praying is a form of dreaming.
2. **Check your Motives** | Make sure you're going after these goals for the right reasons.
3. **Think in Categories** | It is hard to pull life goals out of thin air. Looking at other people's goals can help spark ideas. So does thinking in categories.
4. **Be Specific** | If a goal isn't measurable, you have no way of knowing whether you've accomplished it or not.
5. **Write it Down** | *"The shortest pencil is longer than the longest memory!"* Verbalizing your goals holds you accountable.
6. **Include Others** | Don't just accomplish lots of goals and not bring anybody else along for the ride. It is about shared experiences. It is about creating memories.
7. **Celebrate along the Way** | When you accomplish a goal, celebrate it. When God answers a prayer, throw a party. Celebrate with the same intensity with which you pray. Setting goals is the way you turn imaginations into memories, and once you do, you need to celebrate them.
8. **Dream Big** | Michelangelo said, *"The greater danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it; but that it is too low and we reach it."* Go for it!
9. **Think Long** | We tend to overestimate what we can accomplish in two years and underestimate what we can accomplish in ten years.
10. **Pray Hard** | Goal setting begins and ends with prayer. God-ordained goals are conceived in the context of prayer, and prayer is what brings them to full term.



The
Circle
Maker