

BUILDING BLOCKS OF LIFE

By Dr. Hoyt W. Allen, Jr.

- A) Exert yourself - Proverbs 21:5 - There is no substitute for work. Worthwhile results come from hard work and careful planning.
- B) Friendship - Ecclesiastes 4:12 - Comes from mutual esteem, respect and devotion. Like marriage, it must not be taken for granted but requires a joint effort.
- C) Loyalty - 2 Thessalonians 2:15 - To yourself and to all those depending on you, but keep your self-respect.
- D) Cooperation - Ecclesiastes 4:9 - With all levels of your co-workers, listen if you want to be heard. Be interested in finding the best way, not in having your own way.
- E) Enthusiasm - Romans 12:11 Demonstrate a zeal with whom you come in contact. You must truly enjoy what you are doing.
- F) Self-Control - 2 Peter 5:6 - Practice self-discipline and keep your emotions under control. Good judgment and common sense are essential.
- G) Alertness - 1 Thessalonians 5:6 - Be observant constantly. Stay open-minded. Be eager to learn and improve.
- H) Initiative - Luke 22:44 - Cultivate the ability to make decisions and think alone. Do not be afraid of failure, but learn from it.
- I) Intentness - Matthew 9:21 - Set a realistic goal. Concentrate on its achievement by resisting all temptations and being determined and persistent.
- J) Condition - 1 Timothy 4:8 - Mental-Moral-Physical. Rest, Exercise and Diet must be considered. Moderation must be practiced. Dissipation must be eliminated.
- K) Skill - Proverbs 22:29 - A knowledge of and the ability to properly and quickly execute the fundamentals. Be prepared and cover every little detail.
- L) Team Spirit - 1 Corinthians 12:26-27 - A genuine consideration for others. An eagerness to sacrifice personal interest of glory for the welfare of all.

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- M) Poise - Leviticus 26:13 - Just being yourself. Being at ease in any situation. Never fighting yourself.
- N) Confidence - Romans 8:38-39 - Respect without fear. May come from being prepared and keeping all things in proper perspective.
- O) Competitive Greatness - 1 Samuel 17:32 - Be at your best when your best is needed. Enjoyment of a difficult challenge.
- P) Ambition - James 3:16 - For noble goals.
- Q) Adaptability - 1 Corinthians 9:22 - To any situation.
- R) Resourcefulness - Luke 11:9 - Proper judgment.
- S) Fight - Acts 4:19-20 - Determined effort.
- T) Sincerity - 1 Timothy 4:11 - Keeps friends.
- U) Honesty - Acts 4:19-20 - In thought and action.
- V) Reliability - 2 Timothy 4:11 - Creates respect.
- W) Integrity - Job 1:1 - Purity of intention.
- X) Patience - Romans 2:4 - Good things take time.
- Y) Faith - Romans 5:1 - Through prayer.
- In the end, success is the apex of the pyramid, upon which all the building blocks rest.
- Z) Assurance - 1 John 5:13 - By accepting Jesus and making Him Lord, you are saved and on your way to heaven.

The proper foundation in one's life is very important. Jesus said that building one's life on sand will get one in trouble. (See Matthew 7:24-27) Following His advice and building on a solid foundation is the best way to go in this life and it will show up in the world to come even more.

Plainly, don't get short changed. Let's be ready to meet our Maker. The Bible (in Acts) teaches that to avoid hell and gain heaven - one must:

- 1) Believe In Jesus As Savior (16:31) 2) Repent Of Sins (17:30)
 - 3) Confess Christ Audibly (8:37) 4) Be Baptized In Water (2:38)
 - 5) Live A Christian Life (14:22) 6) Be Active In the Church (2:47)
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