
Living the Christian Life

KSN [desire, goal / joy, deer, narrow]

1) Desire

"a longing for something that promises enjoyment or satisfaction" - Webster's Dictionary

Psalm 73:25

Psalm 16:11

Psalm 42:1

Psalm 63:1

Isaiah 26:8-9

2 Corinthians 5:1-9

A Flawed Desire - Romans 1:25

God and God alone is the final ultimate goal of our quest. All that God is for us in Jesus is the Object of our quest for joy. When I speak of fighting for joy, I mean joy in God, not joy without reference to God. When I speak of longing for happiness, I mean happiness in all that God is for us in Jesus, not happiness as physical or psychological experience apart from God.

John Piper

2) Direction

"a course along which someone moves, or which must be taken to reach a destination" - Oxford Dictionary

The narrow way - Matthew 7:14

Philippians 3:13-14

Proverbs 4:25-27

3) Discipline

"training that corrects, molds, or perfects the mental faculties or moral character" - Webster's Dictionary

1 Timothy 4:7

Means of Grace - Bible Reading/Study, Prayer, Fellowship, Service, Hearing the Word, Worship

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

4) Diligence

"careful and persistent work or effort; assiduity - personal persistent attention" - Webster's Dictionary

2 Timothy 2:15; Deuteronomy 4:9; 6:17; Joshua 23:11; Psalm 119:4; Proverbs 4:23; Hebrews 4:11, 6:11; 2 Peter 1:10; 2 Peter 3:14

Why are we not diligent?

1. Lazy - Proverbs 12:27
2. Time - Ephesians 5:16
3. Worldliness - 2 Timothy 2:4
4. Sin - Hebrews 12:1
5. Pride - 1 Corinthians 10:12
6. Complacency - 1 Thessalonians 4:1

Living the Christian Life by Grace

- Philippians 2:13
2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

The Four Ds and Jesus' Life

- Desire - Matthew 26:39
Direction - Matthew 16:21
Discipline - Luke 22:39
Diligence - John 19:30

Praxis

1. In Psalm 16:11 David speaks of fullness of joy. How does that fullness of joy differ from the "joys" offered by this world?
2. What impact does having a godly direction in one's life effect one's everyday life? If life is only lived for the moment, how does that impact one's life?
3. What is one area of your life in the biblical disciplines of Bible reading, prayer, fellowship, service, hearing the Word and worship needs the most improvement in this year of 2021? What steps can be taken to make improvement in that one area?
4. What can you plan to neglect which will lead you into greater spiritual maturity this year?