



Proverbs 4:25-27

LET YOUR EYES *LOOK FORWARD*; *FIX YOUR GAZE* STRAIGHT AHEAD.

CONSIDER THE PATHS OF YOUR FEET AND, *BE STEADFAST* IN ALL YOUR WAYS.

DO NOT SWERVE TO THE RIGHT OR TO THE LEFT; *TURN YOUR FEET* AWAY FROM EVIL.

A. WHERE ARE YOUR HEADING?

- i. Do you have a vision for where you are going? Are you clear about the direction and the destination?
- ii. This is firstly about who you are following and the person you are becoming.
- iii. Are you feeling stuck? FAITH is a gift that is released through God-given VISION – it moves us **from powerlessness to possibility** – invite God to renew vision in your life for 2025 and beyond.
 - . Be honest about where you are (*vulnerability*)
 - . Recognise where pain has settled (*disappointment*)
 - . Courageously believe (*confession and conviction*)

B. WHAT STEPS WILL YOU TAKE?

- i. Have you considered *the paths of your feet*? Give careful thought to where your actions or decisions (including our inaction and indecision) are taking you.
- ii. Build an intentional pathway to help you get there – again this is first and foremost about who we are following and the person we are becoming.
- iii. Do you lack motivation? FAITH is movement in response to His love for us it requires His vision for our life and the world around us – it moves us **from resignation to expectation** – invite God to renew your courage towards action for 2025 and beyond.
 - . Discern the internal and external forces working against you (name them)
 - . Have a plan for when you ‘fail’ or experience setbacks (on ramps)
 - . Develop clear convictions that hold you when resistance and difficulty come.
 - . Build roots deep into Christ’s love that remains regardless of performance (*from value not for it*)



C. WHAT WILL KEEP YOU ON COURSE?

- i. The Spirit is our helper, advocate and counsellor – being faithful to Christ is directly related to our responsiveness to the leading of the Spirit.
- ii. Four baseline practices (foundations) to keep us from evil include: (1) *the scriptures*, (2) *prayer*, (3) *community*, (4) *mission*.
- iii. Build daily, weekly, monthly practices to help you (*a rhythm for life*)
 - . A daily practice of prayer and scripture reading (start small and be consistent)
 - . A weekly rhythm of connection to others
 - . A monthly pattern of generosity towards God and others

Some scriptures to read and learn:

Hebrews 12:2 | Colossians 3:2 | Philippians 3:13-14 | Isaiah 26:3 | 2 Corinthians 4:18 |

Luke 9:62 | 1 Peter 1:13 | 2 Peter 3:17

Psalms 119:9, 133 | Isaiah 26:7 | Jeremiah 6:16 | Proverbs 3:5-6 | Hebrews 12:13

Deuteronomy 5:32 | Matthew 7:13-14 | Ephesians 5:15-16 | 2 Timothy 2:22 | Psalm 1:1-2
| Colossians 2:6 | Joshua 1:7

Some recommended reading:

Practicing the Way (John Mark Comer)

The deeply formed life (Rich Villodas)

Celebration of discipline (Richard Foster)

Invitation to a journey: a road map for spiritual formation (R Mullholland)

The spirit of the disciplines (Dallas Willard)

Some recommended listening:

Kings Cross Church (KXC) podcast – practicing the way series

Practicing the Way podcast

Unhurried living podcast

Life with God podcast - Renovaré