

From Surviving to Thriving Part: V.I.M. and Vigor

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy [dying]; I have come that they may have life [surviving], and have it to the full [thriving].

V.I.M. = Vision + Intention + Means

Vigor = energy + strength

How do I live my best life?

1. **Create a Vision of a better future.** (Deuteronomy 8:7-9)

Deuteronomy 8:7-9

7 For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills; 8 a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey; 9 a land where bread will not be scarce and you will lack nothing; a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills.

Let God's promises fuel my optimism. (Deuteronomy 8:7)

Deuteronomy 8:7 For the Lord your God is bringing you into a **good** land...

Jesus is the key to our VISION. (Matthew 28:18-20)

Newbreak's Vision (Where): Developing leaders who change their world.

Matthew 28:18-20 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

2. **Resolve to change with Intention.** (Deuteronomy 30:19)

Deuteronomy 30:19 This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live

INTENTION is an act of the will – a resolute decision.

Newbreak's Intentional Mission (What): Connecting people with God through authentic relationships to serve communities.

What intentional decisions am I making this year to "choose life"?

Reject procrastination and perfectionism, the twin thieves of intentional living. (Proverbs 14:23)

Proverbs 14:23 **All** hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

As a Christ-follower, leverage God's power to reinforce my "good intentions." (Philippians 2:13)

Philippians 2:13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

3. Develop the Means to change. (Deuteronomy 6:4-9)

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

Commit to doing my part and trusting God to do His. (Deuteronomy 6:2-3; Philippians 4:13)

Deuteronomy 6:2-3 ...as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and **so that** you may enjoy long life. Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey **so that** it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly...

Philippians 4:13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

"God is working in us, but He doesn't work all by Himself in us." (Ketterling)

"Change isn't something God does to us; it's something God does through us." (Ketterling)

MEANS = Cultivating the strategy to live my best life. (Deuteronomy 30:20a)

Deuteronomy 30:20a and that you may **love the LORD** your God, **listen to his voice**, and **hold fast to him**.

Newbreak's Strategy (How):

- Begin the week in worship.
- Belong together in life groups.
- Be the church by serving.