

December 31, 2017

**Speaker:** Tim McCardel

**New Message Series:** Getting Real (Lifechange) in 2018

**Today's Message:** Wise Questions to Start a New Year

**Wise Goals:** to \_\_\_\_\_ where you believe God wants you to go and to \_\_\_\_\_ what God wants you to be.

#### WISE QUESTIONS TO ASK:

**#1. Ask:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Am I now?**

Genesis 24:1 "Now Abraham was old, well advanced in years. And the Lord had blessed Abraham in all things."

**Present Position:** Relationally? ... Spiritually? ... Financially? ... Emotionally?

\* What would I like to change? ... it's never too late to make a change!

**#2. Ask:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Do I Want?**

Genesis 24:3, 4 "Swear to the Lord, the God of heaven... that you will... go to my country and my kindred, and take a wife for my son Isaac."

⇒ **Important:** We must be \_\_\_\_\_ - Abraham told Eliezer exactly the kind of wife he wanted for Isaac.

**Truth:** You won't know if you reach a goal if you're not clear about specific goals.

**Ask:** What do I want to be? ... What do I want to do? ... What do I want to have? ... Why do I want it?

**Key:** Before focusing on the "How" - figure out the "Why" - and let God direct you in the "How."

**#3. Ask: What Has God Promised?**

Genesis 24:7 "The Lord, the God of heaven... who spoke to me and swore to me, "To your offspring I will give this land, He will send His angel before you."

**When Setting A Goal:** Do not focus on the problems (our tendency!) but \_\_\_\_\_ on God's promises!

Matthew 28:20 "... I am with you always, to the end of the age."

**#4. Pray: "God, Help me to get There."**

Genesis 24:12 "And he said, "O Lord, God of my master Abraham, please grant me success today and show steadfast love to my master Abraham."

\* It's okay to ask God for success this way; this honors God and shines out His Love!

**Reality:** Your prayers reveal how much you depend on God: the more you depend on God—the more you'll pray.

**#5. Ask: What's Keeping Me From My Goal?**

Genesis 24:5 "The servant said to him, "Perhaps the woman may not be willing to follow me to this land."

- \* What are the road blocks, barriers, obstacles?
- \* Am I lazy? ... Fearful? ... Negative? ... Apathetic?

**#6. Pray: "God, please give me success—for Your Kingdom Glory."**

Genesis 24:42-45

- \* Eliezer had a simple, but well thought out plan: he took 10 camels—loaded with the best stuff.

**Warning:** You will either drift thru life or be directed by God by letting God place you where He wants you to be.

**#7. Pray for Persistence and Patience.**

Genesis 24:21

- \* "Direction—not intention—determines our destination." ~Andy Stanley

**Key:** Delayed Gratification

Isaiah 30:18-22

**#8. Ask: What will it cost?**

Genesis 24:53, 48

**Truth:** The greatest use of life is to invest it in something that will outlast it!