REDEEMING PRODUCTIVITY

ACADEMY

STAGE 3: Navigating

Goal Setting & The Glory of God

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REDEEMING PRODUCTIVITY ACADEMY

> ***Q. 1. What is the chief end of man?***
> ***A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him for ever.***
>
> THE WESTMINISTER SHORTER CATECHISM

We all set goals: goals for our careers, health, finances, spiritual condition, and more.

But few of us have taken the time to consider how we effectively create the goals and systems that will allow us to actually achieve the results we want. And more importantly, too few of us consider how we should think about our goals as Christians.

In this course, we will look at how to set God-honoring goals that you'll actually stick with.

Setting goals is an essential part of a productive life. In these lessons, we will dispel some common myths about goal setting, we'll work on establishing a **biblical mindset** for goals, and we'll define a repeatable process for setting and achieving your goals.

Use this workbook to follow along with the video lectures and put what you're learning into practice.

Let's get started!

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Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand.

PROVERBS 19:21

PART 1

Are Goals Pointless?

Some people hate goals.

It's a common objection, maybe you've heard it, or maybe you've said it yourself:

Goals are pointless.

Everywhere you look there seems to be a campaign against goal-setting. And they actually have some good arguments for why you shouldn't be setting goals. Here are just a few of the most common arguments against setting goals.

- When you set goals you're trying to control what you can't control
- Goals are often disconnected from your larger purpose in life
- Having goals will just stress you out
- Chasing goals makes you unhappy while you're chasing them and unhappy even once you reach them.

Some of these can be true!

But our issue with goals is a problem of *how* not *what*. Most of us just don't know how to set good goals.

Goal setting can be incredibly effective, but only if we think about goals correctly.

> **"Disappointment is the gap between expectation and reality."**
>
> JOHN C. MAXWELL

Goals only become a problem when we put our faith in our goals instead of in God.

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"Disappointment is the gap between expectation and reality."

JOHN C. MAXWELL

PART 2

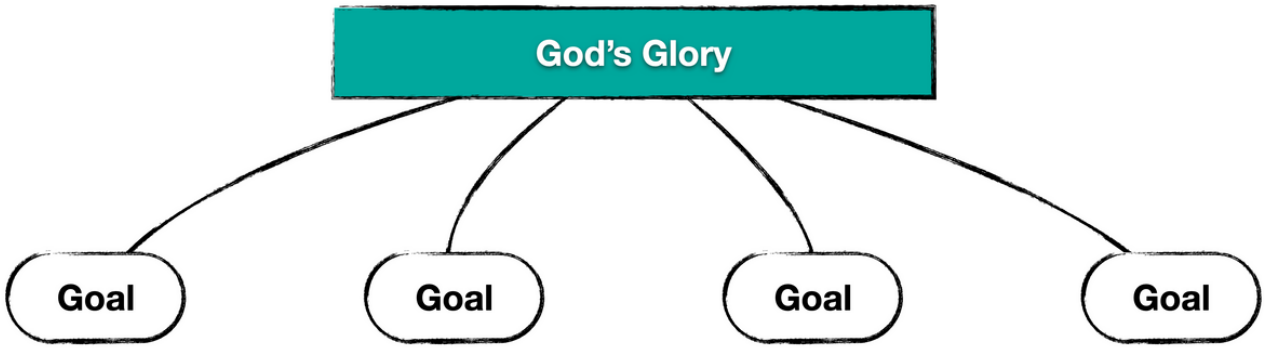
Thinking Biblically About Goals

The Goal of Goals

If we want to get goals right, we need to remember why we are here in the first place. **The goal of all of our goals is to glorify God.**

- We must deliberately aim our individual goals at glorifying God.
- Every goal we make should be subordinate to this chief goal.
- Success in our sub-goals should be evaluated based on whether they contributed to that goal of goals.

As we saw in *The 5 Pillars of Christian Productivity,* **the PURPOSE of our productivity is the glory of God.**



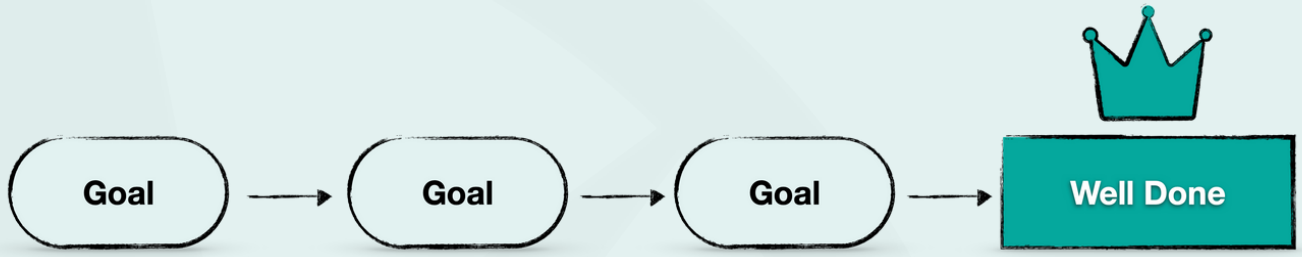
When God's glory is our chief aim, every goal we set serves that higher purpose.

Or here's another way to think about it...

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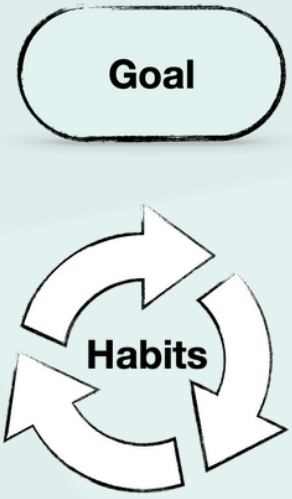
God’s Glory is your **Destination**

It determines the direction of your productive efforts.



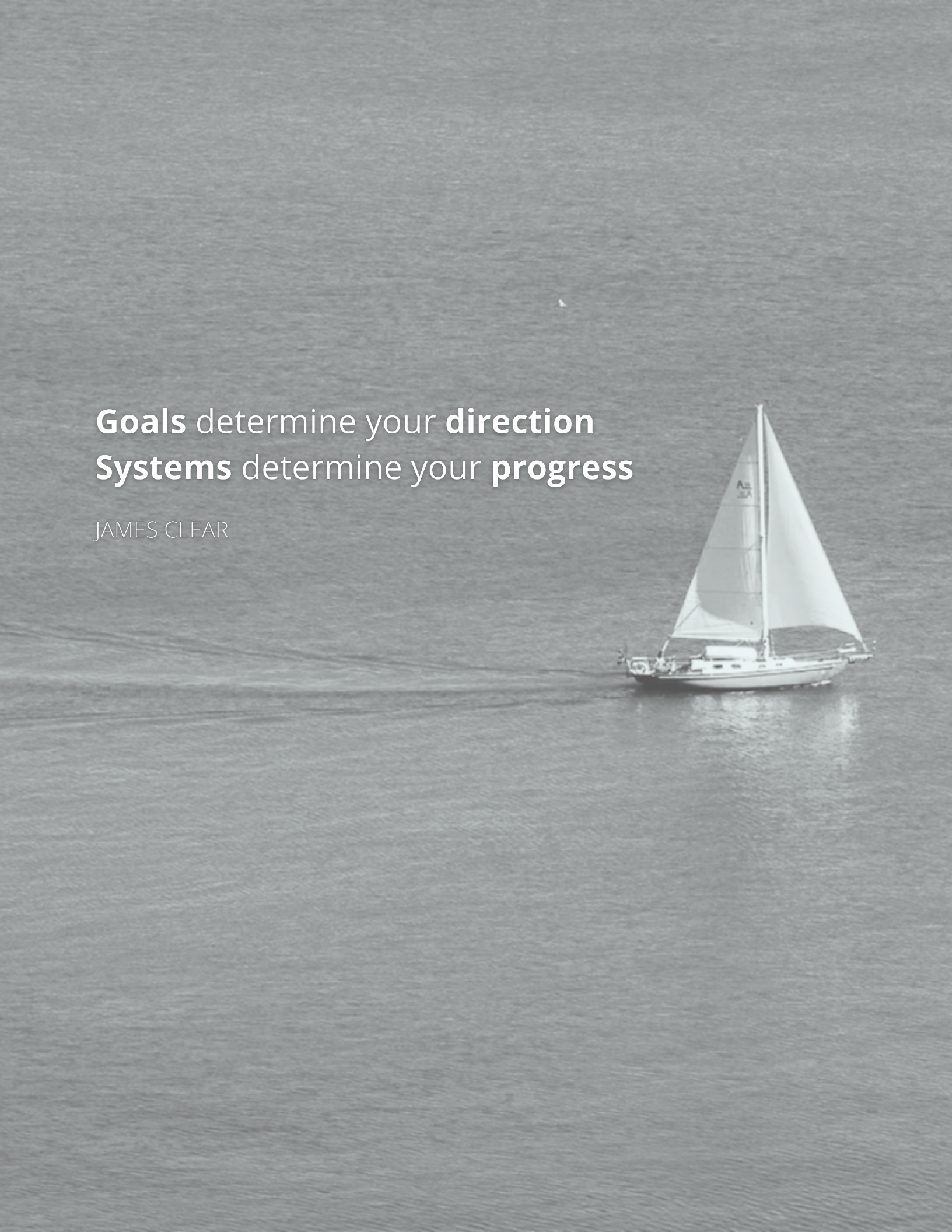
Your Goals are **Waypoints**

They help you chart a course toward God's glory.



Your Habits are Your **Oars**

They propel you toward your goals.


Goals determine your **direction**
Systems determine your **progress**
JAMES CLEAR



PART 3

How to Set Good Goals

1. Evaluate Your Goals

Before you start chasing after a goal, make sure to evaluate it first.

- Ask, “does this goal line up with Scripture?”
- Pray over your goal
- Ask, “How will I bring God glory through this goal?”

Some goals are unworthy of a Christian's pursuit, evaluation saves you from pursuing goals that aren't worth your time.

2. Make It a S.M.A.R.T. Goal

The best goals all share the following features:

- **Specific** - Make it clear
- **Measurable** - Make it quantifiable
- **Achievable** - Make it realistic
- **Relevant** - Make it matter
- **Time-Bound** - Make it stop

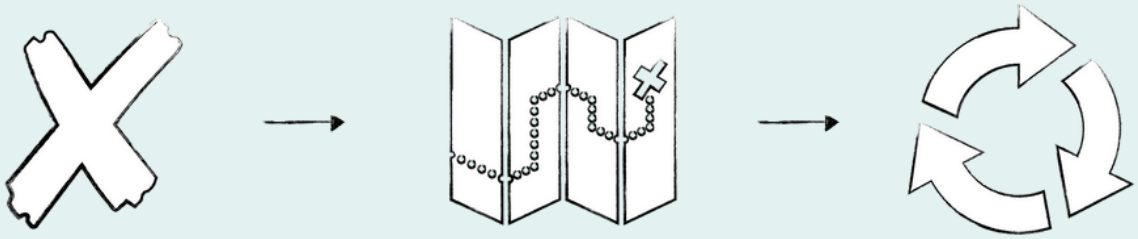
Ask: What state do I want to achieve?
Ask: How will I quantify progress?
Ask: What resources do I need?
Ask: How does it contribute to my calling?
Ask: When will I complete this goal?

3. Plan the Projects & Habits that Will Advance Your Goal

Motivation and willpower are great when you have them, but they are fickle. For your goals to succeed they need to be transformed into a plan.

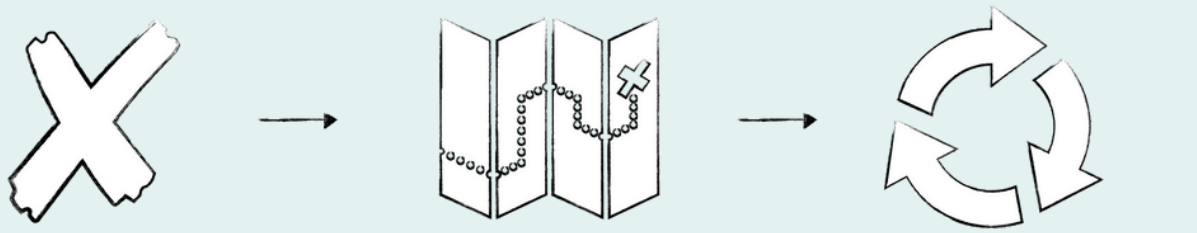
And plans need to be mapped to PROJECTS & HABITS.

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Goal **Plan** **Habits**

Turn your goals into a **plan**
with specific steps for *when* and *where*.



Lose 30lbs

BY JULY 1

Gym & Schedule

WHICH DAYS? WHAT TIME? WHAT EQUIPMENT DO YOU NEED?

Your Exact Routine

WHAT TIME WILL YOU WAKE UP?
WHO WILL YOU GO WITH?
WHERE WILL YOU KEEP YOUR GYM CLOTHES?

PART 4

Where to Set Goals

Domains of Stewardship

Our lives are composed of many different areas of responsibility. These are our domains of stewardship. Most people's look something like this:

- Walk with the Lord
- Relationships
- Career / Calling
- Health
- Finances
- Recreation

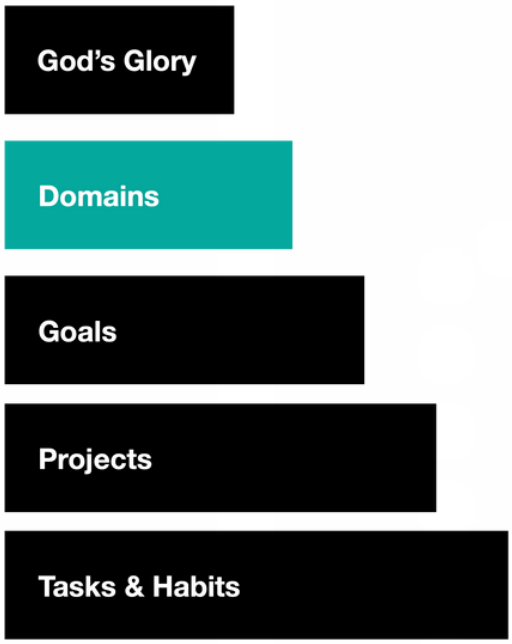
We need to be growing in all of these areas. Being aware of these domains as we set our goals ensures that we don't only set goals in one or two areas.

Domains are not goals, projects, or tasks, they are ongoing areas of responsibility which God has charged us to steward for His glory.

Our tasks and habits feed into the projects which we have set for ourselves.

These projects should be helping us to get closer to our goals, and our goals help us to be faithful in stewarding our domains.

All of these work together to ensure we are living productive lives that are truly dedicated to bringing God glory.



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The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.

PROVERBS 21:5

PART 5

Putting It All Together

Now It's Your Turn

Use the worksheet on the next page to plan your top goal. Follow the prompts to clarify how your goal will glorify God, when you'll do it by, and the next steps to get things in motion.

For an example of how to use the worksheet see the video lectures.

Make a new copy of the worksheet for every goal you set.

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Goal Name: _____

Target Completion Date: _____ **First Review Date:** _____

Domain of Stewardship: _____

How will I know I've reached this goal?

How does this goal glorify God?

What resources do I need to reach this goal?

Do I have them? If not, how will I procure them?

How will I quantify my progress?

What projects or habits will help me reach this goal?

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