Mountain Of The Lord Church & Ministries February 19, 2000 The Goal Is Love

(1 Tim 1:5) "But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith."

GOAL: G5056. telos, tel'-os; from a prim. tello (to set out for a definite point or goal); prop. the point aimed at as a limit, i.e. (by impl.) the conclusion of an act or state (termination [lit., fig. or indef.], result [immed., ultimate or prophetic], purpose); spec. an impost or levy (as paid):--+ continual,

custom, end (-ing), finally, uttermost. Comp. G5411.

The word for goal in the Greek is telos which comes from the root word tello. Tello means to set out for a definite point or goal; properly the point aimed at as a limit, i.e. (by implication) the conclusion of an act or state (termination, result, purpose); specifically, an impost or levy (as paid).

In business we say that a goal needs to have three requirements: It needs to be 1) specific 2) achievable and 3) measureable.

1) Specific. Our goals need to be specific. That falls within the Greek definition of being a definite or specific point. There was a man named Howard Hill that was well known for many years because of his skill in archery. Some say that he was the greatest archer to ever live. He was so accurate he killed a bull elephant, a Bengal tiger, and a Cape buffalo with a bow and arrow. There are films of Howard Hill repeatedly hitting targets in the dead center. After sending the first arrow to the center of the bull's eye, he would then literally split the arrow with his next shot.

You and I can hit the bull's eye far more often than Howard if we made one provision: he had to be blindfolded. We wouldn't hit it very often, but he would never hit a target that he couldn't see. Our goals need to be specific and we need to be able to see them. Our vision is so important. People perish for lack of vision. They go through life aimlessly. They live carelessly and without restraint. We need vision. We need to see a definite point or target that we are going towards. It must be a specific point.

When Scott flies to Cleveland every week and boards his plane on Monday morning, the pilot comes on the intercom and welcomes the passengers to flight # 123 and says that flying time to Cleveland will be 1 hour and 43 minutes. He lets them know where they are going and how long it is going to take to get there. There is a specific point on the map called Cleveland that is his goal, destination or end.

Zig Ziglar says in his book <u>See You At The Top</u>, "Unless you have a definite, precise, clearly set goals, you are not going to realize the maximum potential that lies within you. You'll never make it as a 'wandering generality.' You must be a 'meaningful specific." My question for us are we wandering generalities or meaningful specifics?

2) Attainable. It needs to be achievable. This also falls within the Greek definition. It is understood that the point is the limit or the conclusion. You would not set out for a point that was not obtainable, that you couldn't terminate or bring to a conclusion.

If Scott did not think that the plane could get him to Cleveland, then he would not board that plane. He would be foolish to get aboard a plane that was not going to reach the destination. We want to establish goals that are attainable, that we can bring to a conclusion.

The Lord works in that way. In Philippians 1:6, Paul states that he was confident that God who began a good work in them was going to perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus. The word for perfect in the Greek is epiteleo. That same root word of tello is used. In other words, God was going to bring to a conclusion or fulfill or accomplish that goal that He had set in your life. He began working towards that goal and was going to accomplish it. His goals for your life and for my life are attainable.

(Phil 1:6) "For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus."

G2005. epiteleo, ep-ee-tel-eh'-o; from G1909 and G5055; to fulfill further (or completely), i.e. execute; by impl. to terminate, undergo:--accomplish, do, finish, (make) (perfect), perform (X -ance).

3) Measureable. Our goals need to be measureable. This also falls within the Scriptural definition of tello. If you can't measure it, how do you know that you have reached the conclusion or the goal. How do you know where you are in regard to reaching the conclusion.

Right now our children are in the basketball playoffs. They want to win. It is single elimination and scoring more points than the other team is how they can continue on in the playoffs. If we went out on the courts right before the game and took down both goals, how would the teams measure who was ahead? They would go up and down the courts, throw the ball up to the board, rebound and go down the other side of the court. Back and forth, but the score would remain the same 0-0. There would be no way to measure how they stood. In the same ways, our goals need to be measureable. They need to help us determine whether we're hitting the mark and where we are in relationship to the goal.

There are a great many goals that we can have. We can have goals in business, in family, in health, in our spiritual lives, etc. I had a goal a number of years ago when I was playing golf of gaining 30 pounds. I wanted to get up to 180 pounds and I was 150 at the time. I was going to do this by running, lifting weights and eating healthy, (healthy quantities and qualities). Whoever said that I eat like a cricket? I wanted to maintain my low body fat % while increasing my overall weight. That goal was specific. It was attainable and it was measureable. I did eventually get up to 180 pounds and hovered right there for a number of years, until I went on my fast. Not only was the goal specific and attainable, it was measureable. I could get on the scale at any time and determine where I was in relationship to my goal.

You might have some goals about being debt free. I encourage you to do that. You might have goals about getting your college degree. Great. A good education is a tremendous asset in life. You may have a goal of reading your Bible all the way through this year. Excellent. I would encourage you to do that. You may have a goal to pray an hour a day. That is specific. It is measureable and it is attainable. And it will deepen your spiritual roots, shake the kingdom of darkness, unleash the powers of God around you and avail much. Go for it.

We can have church goals. We might have a goal to reach a membership of 100 by the end of 2000. This is specific. This is attainable. This is measureable. This is a good goal. But if our goal is strictly numerical, we could become a numbers game. The goal needs to be more than just a numeric goal. Our goals need to line up with God given commands.

Another goal might be to have 80% of our members actively involved in some ministry in the church, where they have identified their gifting, calling and are actively involved in the work of ministry. Ephesians 4 says that when the whole body works together, the result is that the body will be built up. You will have the 100 members when there is equipping going on, when there is unity, when the body is functioning properly. People will come. Numbers are a result from setting and accomplishing the proper goals. David Hawkes had this to say this week about goals and numbers: "If the people will preach Jesus and the Kingdom, the numbers will come."

I have a desire to see the fathers in the church be the spiritual leaders in the home. It is not just a desire, it is a goal that I have. I bring instruction, counseling, articles, etc. regularly to help accomplish this goal.

I have a goal to see healthy marriages. I encourage husbands and wives to work hard at their marriages. I am willing to meet with couples that want help. I share messages on communication so help with marriages. I have done men's seminars. Karen has shared things with the women. I bring in people like Dwight to speak to our marriages. We had a marriage seminar with Gary Kivelowitz to encourage the marriages. I am motivated and

stirred to make this a church where there are strong marriages.

I have a goal to see everyone in the body be involved in some sort of evangelism. It is not just the work of evangelists. Everyone of us in the body come in contact with people who don't know Jesus. Everyone of us come in touch with people who are dying and going to hell because they don't know Jesus. You and I are their only hope. We have been sent with a message to proclaim. How can they believe in whom they have not heard. We must be the light set on the mountain, the Mountain Of The Lord.

Researchers say that only 3% of people write down their goals. Very few people with unwritten goal reach them. It is important that we take time to think about our goals, write them down and then go for it. In the book of Habakkuk, we find that the Lord tells Habakkuk to write down the vision and goal. He says in verse three that though it tarries, wait for it. The goal will not fail. It will hasten toward the goal. It will certainly come, it will not delay. It will come at the appointed time.

(Hab 2:1-3) "I will stand on my guard post And station myself on the rampart; And I will keep watch to see what He will speak to me, And how I may reply when I am reproved. {2} Then the LORD answered me and said, "Record the vision And inscribe it on tablets, That the one who reads it may run. {3} "For the vision is yet for the appointed time; It hastens toward the goal, and it will not fail. Though it tarries, wait for it; For it will certainly come, it will not delay."

A couple of weeks ago, John Sonia shared about how God is telling our church that NOW is the time. Now may be the time, but where are we going? What is God doing? What is He going to accomplish? What is the vision? What are the goals? We need to know where we are going and we need to have our goals written down so that we can run with it.

One of the reasons for writing down the goal is so that we can run with it. We need to be able to do specific activities that will help bring about the goal. When I was trying to gain weight, there were activities that I was doing. I was lifting weights three times a week. I was running 5 days a week. I was eating 7 days a week. What activities are we willing to do to bring about the goal.

There is a management acronym called OATS. How many of you have heard of it. OATS stands for Objectives (goals), Activities, Timetable, Schedule. We need a goal or objective. We must figure out what activities are necessary to reach that goal. Then we must determine a timetable for those activities. Finally, we must schedule those activities.

When I was playing golf, I knew that putting was 43% of a golfer's ability to score. I spent the majority of time practicing my putting. I wanted to get my putts down to 28 putts per round. To do this, I would practice my putting a minimum of one hour per day. I

would practice doing speed control drills as well as doing short putts. I would become an excellent putter at 20 feet, the most common length of putt in golf. These were activities that I determined would help me reach my goal. The timetable was daily. Every day I would do these activities. The schedule involved my planner. I would look at my schedule and then determine what time would be best to do those drills and then schedule it.

Back to our text in 1 Tim 1:5. There are 149 verses in the N.T. alone that use the root word tello in it. There are a number of words that derive their meaning from tello. Understanding these will help us get a better understanding of the word goal.

Death: as in the conclusion of life.

G5054. teleute, tel-yoo-tay'; from G5053; decease:--death. G5053. teleutao, tel-yoo-tah'-o; from a presumed der. of G5055; to finish life (by impl. of G979), i.e. expire (demise):--be dead, decease, die.

(Mat 2:19) "But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared^ in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying,"

Perfect or complete: to complete or come to a conclusion in mental or moral character.

G5046. teleios, tel'-i-os; from G5056; complete (in various applications of labor, growth, mental and moral character, etc.); neut. (as noun, with G3588) completeness:--of full age, man, perfect. G5056. telos, tel'-os; from a prim. tello (to set out for a definite point or goal); prop. the point aimed at as a limit, i.e. (by impl.) the conclusion of an act or state (termination [lit., fig. or indef.], result [immed., ultimate or prophetic], purpose); spec. an impost or levy (as paid):--+ continual, custom, end (-ing), finally, uttermost. Comp. G5411.

(Mat 5:48) ""Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

(Mat 19:21) "Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be complete, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.""

Gone: to come to an end, to finish.

G5055. teleo, tel-eh'-o; from G5056; to end, i.e. complete, execute, conclude, discharge (a debt):--accomplish, make an end, expire, fill up, finish, go over, pay, perform.

(Mat 10:23) "But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come."

Finished (End KJV):

G5055. teleo, tel-eh'-o; from G5056; to end, i.e. complete, execute, conclude, discharge (a debt):--accomplish, make an end, expire, fill up, finish, go over, pay, perform.

(Mat 11:1) "And it came about that when Jesus had finished giving instructions to His twelve disciples, He departed from there to teach and preach in their cities."

Pay: to pay or perform. The word was often used in accounting.

G5055. teleo, tel-eh'-o; from G5056; to end, i.e. complete, execute, conclude, discharge (a debt):--accomplish, make an end, expire, fill up, finish, go over, pay, perform.

(Mat 17:24) "And when they had come to Capernaum, those who collected the two-drachma tax came to Peter, and said, "Does your teacher not pay the two-drachma tax?""

Fulfillment (Performance KJV):

G5050. teleiosis, tel-i'-o-sis; from G5448; (the act) completion, i.e. (of prophecy) verification, or (of expiation) absolution:--perfection, performance.

(Luke 1:45) ""And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord.""

Performed:

G5055. teleo, tel-eh'-o; from G5056; to end, i.e. complete, execute, conclude, discharge (a debt):--accomplish, make an end, expire, fill up, finish, go over, pay, perform.

(Luke 2:39) "And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth."

Full (fulfilled KJV):

G5048. teleioo, tel-i-o'-o; from G5046; to complete, i.e. (lit.) accomplish, or (fig.)

consummate (in character):--consecrate, finish, fulfil, (make) perfect.

(Luke 2:43) "and as they were returning, after spending the full number of days, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. And His parents were unaware of it,"

Bring:

G5052. telesphoreo, tel-es-for-eh'-o; from a comp. of G5056 and G5342; to be a bearer to completion (maturity), i.e. to ripen fruit (fig.):--bring fruit to perfection.

(Luke 8:14) ""And the seed which fell among the thorns, these are the ones who have heard, and as they go on their way they are choked with worries and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to maturity."

Continually:

G5056. telos, tel'-os; from a prim. tello (to set out for a definite point or goal); prop. the point aimed at as a limit, i.e. (by impl.) the conclusion of an act or state (termination [lit., fig. or indef.], result [immed., ultimate or prophetic], purpose); spec. an impost or levy (as paid):--+ continual, custom, end (-ing), finally, uttermost. Comp. G5411.

(Luke 18:5) "yet because this widow bothers me, I will give her legal protection, lest by continually coming she wear me out."""

Paul says that the goal of the command or instruction is love. Let's take a look at some Scriptures that use the word tello and revolve around Christ. Let's go to Luke 12:50 first. Here we see the word used is accomplished. Jesus says that He has a baptism to undergo and how distressed He was until is was accomplished, or until He reached the conclusion or the end or the goal. What was the goal or the specific point or mark or goal that Jesus set. We find the answer in Mark 10:45. He came to give His life as a ransom for many.

(Luke 12:50) ""But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is accomplished!" G5055. teleo, tel-eh'-o; from G5056; to end, i.e. complete, execute, conclude, discharge (a debt):--accomplish, make an end, expire, fill up, finish, go over, pay, perform.

(Mark 10:45) ""For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.""

Another verse that tells about Jesus' goal was in Luke 13:32. He tells the Pharisees to tell Herod that He was casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, but the

third day He would reach His goal. What was His goal. His goal was death and resurrection. He came to die for our sins and to be raised up in newness of life that just as we are buried with Him in baptism, so we too can be raised up with Him in resurrection life and power. Jesus had a clearly defined goal to accomplish.

(Luke 13:32) "And He said to them, "Go and tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I reach My goal." G5048. teleioo, tel-i-o'-o; from G5046; to complete, i.e. (lit.) accomplish, or (fig.) consummate (in character):--consecrate, finish, fulfil, (make) perfect.

A final Scripture that helps us understand Jesus and His goal is found in John 19:30. We find that after Jesus had been given the sour wine, He said, "It is finished." The word finished is the word teleo from tello. In other words, Jesus had accomplished the goal. He had reached the point. He had brought to conclusion His mission. He had paid the price in full. His goal was accomplished.

G5055. teleo, tel-eh'-o; from G5056; to end, i.e. complete, execute, conclude, discharge (a debt):--accomplish, make an end, expire, fill up, finish, go over, pay, perform.

(John 19:30) "When Jesus therefore had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And He bowed His head, and gave up His spirit."

What was the motivation behind Jesus' goal? We see that motivation posted at football games, bumper stickers, everywhere. It is found in John 3:16 and Romans 5:8. The motivation that God had in the goal that He set was love. He loved us and demonstrated His love to us through laying down His life for us.

(John 3:16) ""For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."

(Rom 5:8) "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Paul's motivation in everything that he did and taught was to love. Paul's disciples, the men that Paul brought up in apostolic ministry also had their motivation and goal to promote love.

In Acts 20:24, we find Paul says that he does not take his own life into account so that he can finish or teleo the ministry that God gave him of testifying of the gospel of the grace of God. Paul had a goal of sharing the gospel with Jews and Gentiles. He had a goal of going where no one had already gone. He was willing to have his life spent any way

necessary, at any cost or price that he might finish the goal given to him by God.

(Acts 20:24) ""But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, in order that I may finish my course, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God."

Paul realized that he was not at the goal. He was not perfect (teleo), but he pressed on in order to lay hold of that which lies ahead, the goal of the upward call in Christ Jesus.

(Phil 3:12-14) "Not that I have already obtained it, or have already become perfect, but I press on in order that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. {13} Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, {14} I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

We find in Colossians 1:28-29 that Paul gives a more detailed look at what that goal was that he wanted to see happen in every man. He wanted to see every man complete or reach their destination, accomplish the purpose of God in their life, reach the goal. It was going to take proclaiming him—evangelism, admonishing and teaching every man—discipleship to bring this about. It was going to take God's wisdom and His power working through us to bring this about.

(Col 1:28-29) "And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ. {29} And for this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me."

If God's motivation was to love and Paul's motivation was to love, what do you think should be the motivation in all that we do and say? It is to love. Let's take a look at Hebrews 10:24-25. This says that we need to consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking the assembling together of the saints, as the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more, as you see the day drawing near. Let's take a closer look at what that Scripture is telling us to do.

(Heb 10:24-25 KJV) "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: {25} Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

(Heb 10:24-25 NASB) "and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, {25} not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near."

CONSIDER: G2657. katanoeo, kat-an-o-eh'-o; from G2596 and G3539; to observe fully:--behold, consider, discover, perceive. G3539. noieo, noy-eh'-o; from G3563; to exercise the mind (observe), i.e. (fig.) to comprehend, heed:--consider, perceive, think, understand.

RANDOM HOUSE: To think carefully about, contemplate, reflect on.

PROVOKE: {STIMULATE (NASB)} G3948. paroxusmos, par-ox-oos-mos'; from G3947 ("paroxysm"); incitement (to good), or dispute (in anger):--contention, provoke unto. G3947. paroxuno, par-ox-oo'-no; from G3844 and a der. of G3691; to sharpen alongside, i.e. (fig.) to exasperate:--easily provoke, stir.

RANDOM HOUSE: 1) To anger, exasperate, or vex. 2) To stir up, arouse, or call forth. 3) To incite or stimulate to action.

LOVE: G3947. paroxuno, par-ox-oo'-no; from G3844 and a der. of G3691; to sharpen alongside, i.e. (fig.) to exasperate:--easily provoke, stir. G25. agapao, ag-ap-ah'-o; perh. from agan (much) [or comp. H5689]; to love (in a social or moral sense):--(be-) love (-ed). Comp. G5368.

GOOD: G2570. kalos, kal-os'; of uncert. affin.; prop. beautiful, but chiefly (fig.) good (lit. or mor.), i.e. valuable or virtuous (for appearance or use, and thus distinguished from G18, which is prop. intrinsic):--X better, fair, good (-ly), honest, meet, well, worthy.

WORKS: {DEEDS (NASB)} G2041. ergon, er'-gon; from a prim. (but obsol.) ergo (to work); toil (as an effort or occupation); by impl. an act:--deed, doing, labour, work.

We also need to have as our goal to love. We need to try and love our spouses. We need to love our children. We especially need to love the brethren in the body. We need to love our neighbors. We need to love not just in word, but in deed and in word. We need to do what Hebrews 10:24-25 tells us to do and that is consider how to stimulate one another to love.

When we come here for church, our heart needs to be, "How can I stimulate others today to love God more?" How can I provoke them to love their spouses more? How can I encourage them to love their neighbor more. What can I share to encourage them and to build them up? What are they going through and how can I strengthen them? What needs do they have that I can lay my life down and demonstrate the love of Jesus to them? Lord, give me wisdom and strength so that I can see every man, woman and child complete in

Christ.

The worship team needs to come here to help people express their love to Jesus. They are here to lead and facilitate our body expressing love to Jesus. They are not here to perform, but to stimulate and provoke us in our love. Worship (proskuneo) means to kiss towards. It is an intimate act of love towards God.

The children's ministry needs to be here to help these little ones know the love of God. They are not here just to baby sit. They are here to show love, care and compassion to them. They are to demonstrate the love of Christ in their deeds and words and attitudes.

Whatever ministry you do inside or outside the church services should have as its primary goal and motivation to love. It should love and provoke others to love. The Lord gave us a command that we should love one another. He said that we would be known for our love for one another.

(John 13:34-35) ""A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. {35} "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.""

When asked what the most important commandment was, Jesus replied to love the Lord your God with all your heart and the second is like unto it, to love your neighbor as yourself. Everything we do needs to be summed up in fulfilling these two commands. This needs to be our motivation and goal.

(Mat 22:35-40) "And one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, {36} "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" {37} And He said to him, ""YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' {38} "This is the great and foremost commandment. {39} "The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' {40} "On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.""

When the Lord gave the vision for the house is was birthed out of three passages;

- Ephesians 4 and five fold ministry equipping the church for the work of service.
- Matt 22 and the two greatest commands
- Matthew 28 and the great commission

ORIGINAL VISION STATEMENT: The vision of MOL is to be a multi-cultural, apostolic church that is committed to carrying out both the great commandment (Matthew 22:35-40) and the great commission (Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8).

MODIFIED VISION STATEMENT: The vision of MOL is to be a full expression of God's people, God's leadership, God's giftings and God's love so that we can passionately love Him and genuinely love one another and effectively reach out to those who don't know Christ.

As we conclude today, let me ask you to ask yourself some questions.

- 1) Who have I stimulated, provoked, or encouraged today?
- 2) Who am I suppose to encourage today?
- 3) Lord, what should I do to encourage that person? How am I to encourage or stimulate them?
- 4) Have I demonstrated my love and affection to the Lord Jesus Christ today?
- 5) Have I demonstrated my love to those in the body of Christ?
- 6) Have I demonstrated my love to those outside the body of Christ today.

Let's purpose in our hearts to come to church with the goal of love.

AMEN.

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I. Understanding The Word Goal.		
The word goal comes from the Greek word which means to set out for		et out for a
definite point or goal, properly the point aime	ed at as a limit, i.e. (by implication) the	he conclusion of
an act or state (termination, result, purpose);	specifically, an impost or levy (as pa	id).
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Goals needs to be: 1)	; 2)	Phil 1:6
(G2005 epiteleo); 3)		
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with them. The acronym	OATS helps us to accomplish our go	oals.
with them. The acronym O (or goals)		
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S		
II. The Goal In Jesus' Life		
Jesus's goal was to and to giv	ve His life as a	for many. Mark
10:45, Luke 12:50, Luke 13:32 Just before Je	esus bowed His head and gave up Hi	is spirit, He said
it is, i.e. He had acc	complished the goal set before Him.	He had paid the
full price for our sins. John 19:30 God's mot	civation was	. John 3:16,
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IV. The Goal In Our Life		
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