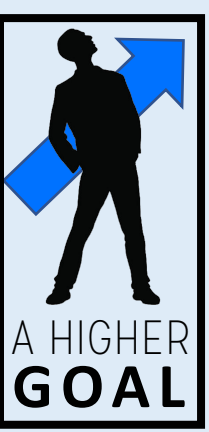


# *Higher Ground*

**KEEPING A SPIRITUAL FOCUS IN THIS MATERIAL WORLD**





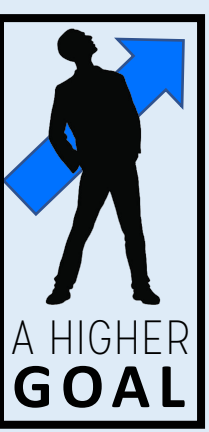
# The Importance of Having Goals

- Goals Clarify What Is Desired
  - Necessary to Begin the Effort

**MATTHEW 7:13, 14**

- Necessary Every Step of the Way

**2<sup>ND</sup> CORINTHIANS 13:5**



# The Importance of Having Goals

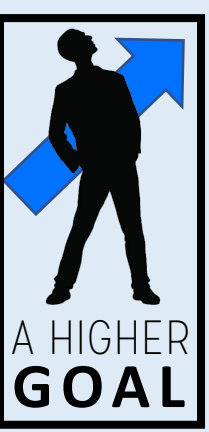
- Goals Help Us Focus

- Helps to Avoid Distractions

**PHILIPPIANS 3:12-14; HEBREWS 12:1, 2**

- Helps Us to Avoid Being Misled

**GALATIANS 1:6-9**



# The Importance of Having Goals

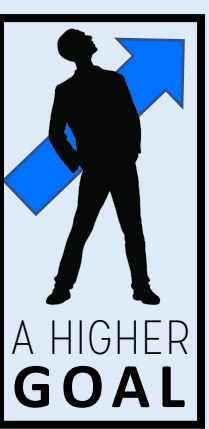
- Goals Help Motivate Us

- Gives Us Purpose

**ECCLESIASTES 12:13; 1<sup>ST</sup> COR. 12:27**

- Gives Us Hope

**ACTS 24:15, 16; ROMANS 8:25**



# The Importance of Having Goals

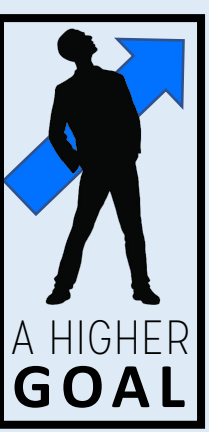
- Goals Give Us Direction & Guidance

- An Endpoint, and How to Achieve It

**1<sup>ST</sup> COR. 9:27; 2<sup>ND</sup> COR. 5:9**

- Not Left to Chance or Aimless Wandering

**ECCLESIASTES 12:13**



# Some Common Earthly Goals

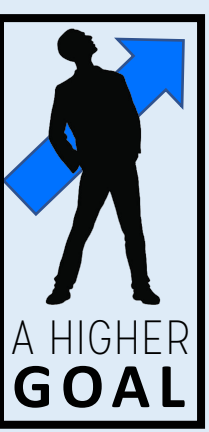
- **Wealth/Riches**

- The Pursuit

**MATTHEW 19:16-22; LUKE 16:13, 14**

- The Problem

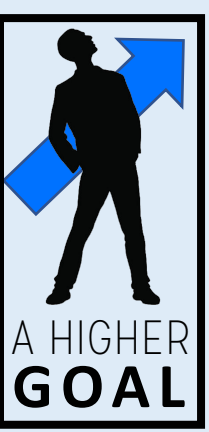
**1<sup>ST</sup> TIMOTHY 6:9, 10**



# Some Common Earthly Goals

- Good Physical Health/Fitness
  - The Pursuit
  - The Problem

**PSALM 90:10; HEBREWS 9:27**



# Some Common Earthly Goals

- A House/Home

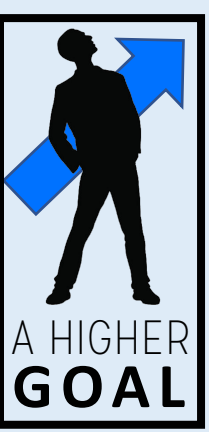
- The Pursuit

**ECCLESIASTES 2:4-6**

- The Problem

**ECCLESIASTES 2:11**

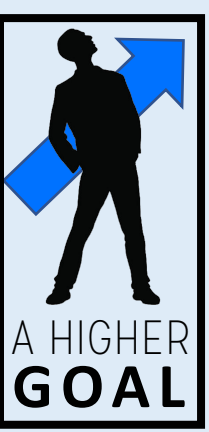




# Some Common Earthly Goals

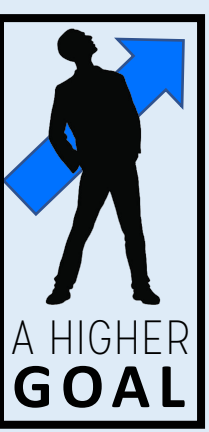
- **Begin A Family**
  - The Pursuit
  - The Problem

**MATTHEW 10:37**



# Some Common Earthly Goals

- Reduce Stress
  - The Pursuit
  - The Problem



# Some Common Earthly Goals

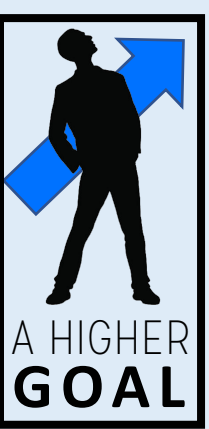
- Purpose in Life

- The Pursuit

**ECCLESIASTES 2:4-10**

- The Problem

**ECCLESIASTES 2:11, 17**



# The Higher Goals We Need

- Greater Riches

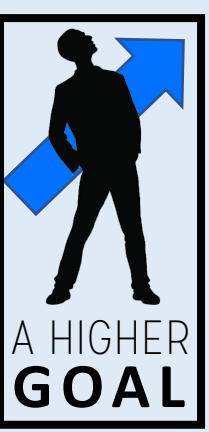
**MATT. 6:19; HEB. 11:26; 1<sup>ST</sup> PET. 1:4**

- Good Spiritual Health/Fitness

**1<sup>ST</sup> TIMOTHY 4:7, 8**

- A Heavenly House/Home

**2<sup>ND</sup> CORINTHIANS 5:1; JOHN 14:2, 3**



# The Higher Goals We Need

- Becoming Part of God's Family

**ROMANS 8:17; TITUS 3:7**

- Peace With God, Peace From God

**ROM. 3:23; COL. 1:20, 21; PHLP. 4:6, 7**

- A Truly Meaningful & Worthwhile Purpose

**ECCLESIASTES 12:13**

