

Breaking Free From Besetting Sins
Putting an End to Procrastination

I. Introduction

- A. James 4:17 (NLT) *Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.*

II. The Causes of Procrastination

- A. _____
B. _____
1. Ecclesiastes 11:4 (NAS) *He who watches the wind will not sow and he who looks at the clouds will not reap.*
C. _____
D. _____

III. The Cost of Procrastination

- A. It causes more _____
1. Procrastination takes a _____ and makes it into a _____!
2. The longer we wait to start, the _____ it becomes to begin.
B. It wastes _____
1. Proverbs 20:4 (NAS) *The sluggard does not plow after the autumn, so he begs during the harvest and has nothing.*
C. It hurts _____
1. Laziness prevents us from being _____.
a. Love requires commitment, energy and _____.
2. "Marriages oftentimes break up because the root cause is _____. Both partners knew exactly what needed to be done to make the marriage work, but they weren't willing to make the _____."

IV. The Cure for Procrastination

- A. Stop making _____!
1. Proverbs 22:13 (NAS) *The sluggard says, "There is a lion outside; I will be killed in the streets!"*
2. "One of these days I'm going to _____."
B. Start _____
1. Proverbs 27:1 (NAS) *Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth.*
2. Three life-changing words: ____ _ ____!
3. What projects in your family, your personal life, or your career have you been _____?
4. List them:
a. _____
b. _____
c. _____
5. Choose one of the above to start _____! Just starting is going to make you feel so much better.

- C. Schedule _____ for those things you've been putting off
 - 1. Ephesians 5:15-16 (NAS) ¹⁵*Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise,* ¹⁶*making the most of your time, because the days are evil.*
 - 2. You have to _____ !
- D. Focus on the _____, not the _____
 - 1. Look at the _____ rather than the temporary _____.
 - 2. Wrong question: "Do I _____ like doing this?"
 - 3. Right question: "What does _____ want me to do?"

V. Two Personal Questions

- A. What is it that needs _____ in your life that you've been putting off? (You know God wants you to do it.)
 - 1. Join the church, get baptized, find a ministry, start daily devotions, go on a diet, get in shape, begin tithing, etc.
- B. What is it going to _____ to get you in _____?
 - 1. God says, "I want to _____ in this area. Ask Me to help you!"

VI. Conclusion