

# WINNING BATTLES YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE

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*"And now these three remain: faith, HOPE and love."  
1 Corinthians 13:13 (NIV)*

## INTRODUCTION

### HOPE and Confidence Create Eleven Major Differences: YOU WILL. . .

- Be more successful
- Be more compassionate
- Be physically healthier
- Be more likely to assume leadership
- Be more productive
- Be more likely to see God as loving caring, and forgiving
- Feel more satisfied
- Be more willing to help people in need
- Have more satisfying relationships
- Hold to higher moral and ethical standards
- Less affected by stress

### Winning Battles You Can't Afford To Lose

1. \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
*"But those who hope in the LORD will RENEW their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."  
Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)*

#### THE 7 GENERATIONS

- 1960s Americans Lost Authority
- 1970s Americans Lost Love
- 1980s Americans Lost Values
- 1990s Americans Lost Faith
- 2000s Americans Lost Security
- 2010s Americans Lost Hope

- **Reconnects You With God**  
*"Come near to God and he will come near to you."  
James 4:8a (NIV)*
- **Renews Your Strength**  
*"But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."  
Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)*
- **Restores Your Perspective**  
*"When I tried to understand all this, it was oppressive to me until I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny."  
Psalm 73:16-17 (NIV)*

- **Rebuilds Your Confidence**  
*"I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears."  
Psalm 34:4 (NIV)*
- **Restores Your Joy**  
*"Nehemiah said, 'Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."  
Nehemiah 8:10 (NIV)*
- **Releases Your Anxieties**  
*"After this, the Moabites and Ammonites with some of the Meunites came to make war on Jehoshaphat . . . 'O our God, will you not judge them? For we are powerless before this great multitude who are coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are on you."  
2 Chronicles 20:1, 12 (NIV)*
- **Rekindles Your Hope**  
*"In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord. . ."  
Isaiah 6:1 (NIV)*

2. \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
*"Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead. . ."  
Philippians. 3:13 (NIV)*

*"And Jesus said to them, 'Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men."  
Mark 1:17 (ESV)*

*"Beware of spending too much time looking back at what you once were, when God wants you to become something you have never been!"  
- Oswald Chambers*

3. \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
*"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."  
Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)*

*"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."  
1 Corinthians 15:58 (NIV)*

*"This is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one: the being thoroughly worn out before you are thrown on the scrap heap, and being a force of nature instead of a feverish selfish little clod of ailments and grievances, complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy."  
- George Bernard Shaw*