

whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. ⁹Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you. ¹⁹But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:7-9 & 19

NOTE: Ephesians 6:10-20; Romans 1:17; I Thessalonians 5:17 & Mark 3:35

DOERS OF GOD'S WORD

VII. Implement the plan

- ∞ With no other concerns, you're ready to begin.
- ∞ Time for you to act—Stay the course.
- ∞ You've figured it out, made a decision, and are responsible for your choices.
- ∞ Monitor your progress along the way.

"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." James 1:22

NOTE: Philippians 3:12-14; II Timothy 1:7; & James 2:14 & 17-20

About the Author...

Brother Michael E. Silva is a licensed and ordained Southern Baptist Minister. He surrendered to Christ's calling in 1998. Brother Michael and his wife Tammy serve as the Mission Directors for GODTEL Ministries in Nacogdoches, Texas. As directors, they and their five children reside on the premise of the homeless mission with the residents to whom they minister. Living with those he ministers to gives Brother Michael the insight necessary to meet many of their needs. Through various, daily, counseling situations, Brother Michael has developed this useful technique for helping others to resolve their daily and life-long problems.

GODTEL Ministries

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**"Let all things be done decently and in order."
I Corinthians 14:40**

God's Open Door To Eternal Life Ministries (GODTEL Ministries) is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization based in Nacogdoches, Texas. GODTEL consists of three missions (Nacogdoches, Lufkin, and Livingston, Texas) which share "Practical Christianity" by meeting physical needs (temporary shelter, food, and clothing) while proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ; the Christian Help Center which provides clothing assistance to Nacogdoches County residents; GODTEL Productions (a recording studio specializing in Gospel music); and much more.

Brother Michael E. Silva

► Spiritually Resolving Our Differences



Problem Solving from God's Word

Perhaps this is what's missing in your plan...



Have you ever had a problem you just couldn't seem to solve? I believe we all experience this difficulty from time to time. Life with all its pressures can become so overwhelming, that we overlook our problems or simply push them to the side. Why? Because we lack the vision needed to resolve them.

Burdened with life's inevitable problems, we usually surrender to the idea of throwing our hands in the air. Wanting to give up is not necessarily a bad thing. The question remains though, in what direction are you submitting? Are you allowing your anger and frustration to get the best of you? Or, are you choosing to relinquish those desires for a Biblical solution?

As Christians we have the responsibility of allowing God to take control of the situation. We, the elect, must be guided by the Word and will of God. These general problem solving steps must be preceded, accompanied, and followed with prayer. Centered on Scripture, this basic outline will help you find solutions for your daily struggles.

NOTE: *Do not proceed without prayer!*



Faithfully serving the risen Savior,

Bro. Michael

the Plan

SIN IS THE PROBLEM

- I. Recognize the problem
 - ∞ What's wrong?
 - ∞ What caused this problem?
 - ∞ How did this occur?
 - ∞ How do you think things got this way?
 - ∞ What is the greatest source of difficulty?
 - ∞ Is this a problem for you? you and others?
 - ∞ List all your fears in order from greatest to least.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"
Romans 3:23

NOTE: Romans 3:9; James 2:10 & Galatians 5:19-21

SEARCH GOD'S WORD

- II. Collect needed data
 - ∞ What's the history of this problem?
 - ∞ Get the facts.
 - ∞ Identify the people involved.
 - ∞ What has been done about this so far?
 - ∞ Has this been effective?
 - ∞ Give an example.

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."
II Timothy 2:15

NOTE: Proverbs 25:2; Hosea 4:6; Ecclesiastes 1:13 & 7:25

PRAYER AND MORE PRAYER

- III. Form a plan of action
 - ∞ Describe your intended end result?
 - ∞ What do you hope to achieve?
 - ∞ What do you think needs to happen to achieve this?
 - ∞ What can YOU do to see that this happens?
 - ∞ Now list all possible solutions.
 - ∞ Have you forgotten anything else that may work?

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."
II Chronicles 7:14

NOTE: Philippians 4:6 & Jeremiah 29:12-13

COMPARE WITH SCRIPTURE

- IV. Examine and compare possible solutions
 - ∞ List the disadvantages of doing it this way.
 - ∞ Do your ideas directly relate to the problem?
 - ∞ Are there any drawbacks with doing it this way?
 - ∞ Why might this be a problem?
 - ∞ What would make it better?
 - ∞ Will this help you reach what you intended?
 - ∞ How will this affect everyone involved?

"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

II Thessalonians 5:21

NOTE: I Corinthians 6:12 & 10:23; Judges 6, 7, 8 & II Timothy 3:16-17

FAITHFULLY OBEY GOD'S WILL

- V. Decision time
 - ∞ Make a decision based upon your research—the facts.
 - ∞ Pick a course of action.
 - ∞ Which possible solution do you think is best?
 - ∞ Which solution is right?
 - ∞ Are you sure this is the correct decision?

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."
Hebrews 11:1

NOTE: Proverbs 3:6 & 16:9; Romans 8:5 & Matthew 26:39-41

FULLY RELY ON GOD ⇒ F.R.O.G

- VI. Make a plan
 - ∞ What are you to do next?
 - ∞ What else needs to happen?
 - ∞ How will you get this accomplished?
 - ∞ Now you need a plan.
 - ∞ Divide responsibilities. Who has to do what?
 - ∞ What could possibly go wrong?
 - ∞ What can you do to avoid this?

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure,