

Voice of Triumph



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"Jesus Christ is the same [our breach-proof model] yesterday, and today and forever." Hebrews 13:8, LB

MAINTAINING CONSISTENCY

To have the root of CONSISTENCY position yourself as a *maintainer*. Disciplined moments build up momentum. Something done one time does not constitute consistency. It is the flow of the pattern maintained. Stewardship requires discipline to keep your word, attitude, behavior, and property. This becomes the proof you need as a credible witness. Reliability makes you someone for others to watch. A role model creates a thirst for replication. The easiest way to build influence others is being consistent because you become predictable: Someone who will say what they do and then do what they say. "There is a consistency that runs through us all. For Jesus doesn't change—yesterday, today, tomorrow, he's always totally himself." Hebrews 13:8, The Message. Undisciplined moments break down momentum. To become breach-proof, carve out uninterrupted time as well as give others some boundaries with instructions. If what you do requires interruption, set your mind on repairing the breach before there is one. Here is a rule of thumb for learning something new. **1. Probe for the pattern.** Look for parts that repeat. Discovering identical and/or fraternal patterns throughout reduce your learning curve. Familiarity helps remove dread. Dread is like doing something more than once: you wear yourself out by doing it repeatedly in your mind instead of applying effort to finish it. **2. Practice the pattern.** Unpracticed things are eventually forgotten things. Scheduling regularly practice time is one way to build competence, confidence, and compliance: you have the ability to perform tasks effortlessly, the secret behind the assembly line. **3. Perfect the pattern.** Perfect practice makes perfect, not practice makes perfect. You can practice with precision, but without accuracy. Allow 30 days to create a new habit; 60 days to recreate an old habit; and 90 days to establish a lifetime rhythm. "Time has a way of welding things together. Something can rust so much over time that it becomes a part of the steel. You cannot separate it without stripping the bolt or breaking it," Robert L. Allen, Jr. This is the model for lack of maintenance. If you don't want something to become a lifestyle, check it at the point of access. Establish clear-cut boundaries. If you do something you do not want occasionally, about 25% of the time, immediately withdraw yourself from it before rhythm of it rules consumes your life and work. "The secret of your future is hidden in your daily routine," Mike Murdock.

EXPANDING FLEXIBILITY

To have the fruit of FLEXIBILITY position yourself as an *expander*. To give others what they need when they need it, you must retrain to respond rather than react to circumstances. There is a part of us that does not want to be discomfited. It desires to remain unyielding. You know what that picture looks like. You want others to hurry-up, instead they slow down. You don't want to wait in line, and that's when others go on break. Rather remain doubtlessly persistent not to give up. Compose yourself until you get to the end of each transaction. In reality, it is your performance test. A test does not necessarily strengthen you. It reveals just how strong you are. It proves the value of your existing strength. It reveals whether or not you need reinforcement. When car manufacturers crash test vehicles, it is present breach-proof claims to the potential buyer. You are only as far as what your performance test scored: **1)** verifies ability to perform under pressure; **2)** reveals level of endurance; **3)** builds stamina to stand strong during testing; **4)** exposes any resistance to change; **5)** measures elasticity and expandability; **6)** qualifies any claims made publicly. Flexibility enables you to make adjustments to bear unthinkable allowances in the midst of what's seems to be an unbearable annoyance. Discovering the power of Christ within can keep you expanding when you would rather extinguish the flame. *Outwitted* by Edwin Markham gives encouragement to face rigidity. "He drew a circle and left me out. Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout, but Love and I had wit to win. We drew a circle and took him in." With elasticity, creativity can make a doorway out of a wall to gain access. Sometimes all you have to change your approach, not your goal. If you were an ice cube, you could get through a closed door by changing forms. "The key to accessibility is adaptability when a door has been shut in your face. Although an ice cube can't break through, with its transformation to H²O it flows under the door to gain entry without opposition." There's a paradigm shift for every paradox. "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured [outlasted] the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God [crowned]. For consider him that endured [outlasted] such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds," Hebrews 12:2-3.

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Thought for Transformation

When I muse on the work of God's hands, I think of his creation of the sun that the earth evolves around. Daily, the sun rises in the east and sets in the west. The earth would burn if the sun were closer; it would freeze if it were farther away. It warms. It provides light. It gives a sense of timing. The greater light rules the day, the lesser, reflecting the sun, rules night. It shines on sunny days, as well as, cloudy days. Often covered, but never diluted. God proves continuity: "It is of his mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, saith my soul: therefore will I hope in him," Lamentations 3:22-25. Recorded in history, a day was sustained over a 24-hour period. It is often referred to as the missing day. In fact, Joshua asked the Lord for this miracle to ensure the enemy remained exposed. Read the entire account in Joshua 10:12-14. When facing any challenge, always stand firm on the unchanging Word that changes things. God always rearranges creation to bend to your request: Think big! God is working on your behalf.

Save! Disconnect the Current
Remember to unplug unused appliances to cut costs. Left plugged in an outlet, the bulk of the electrical current still flows although unused.