2003... Got Goals?

By: Paul Shearstone

Inspiration without application improves nothing, benefits no one and fans the flames of mediocri ... Paul Shearstone 2002

Ask anybody on January 2nd 2003 if they have New Years Resolutions or goals and nine out of t will say, "Yes!" ...Ask the same people about their resolutions three months later and they'll look you like a small goat discovering a new fence for the first time.

All good intentions aside, exhaustive studies have shown only 3% of the population engage in sor form of goal-setting and only 1% on average, write them down.

It should be noted that there is no small coincidence in the 1% that write goals down and the higher achieving, highest income-earning men and women around the world.

Setting goals is the genesis from which things great and not so great are accomplished. Read a book on achievement or watch the Biography Channel and see the quintessential message is clear Goals = Success!

If it's that simple though, why is it then, are most people so unsuccessful in the fundamentals of ${\sf R}_{\rm i}$ goal-setting?

One legitimate answer may be our generation is busier than any generation in the past. Life today not static and our preoccupation with just trying to 'get by' runs juxtaposed to the activities need for maintaining concentrated goal achievement. Fair enough.

On the other hand, these same studies I mentioned are just as clear on the real reason most people the ones who bother to set goals - will never achieve them. They don't write them down relyi rather they be left to our memories to manage.

In my soon to be released Thought Book, I wrote: Your goals are future landmarks on paths creat by You.

Goal experts, however, will be quick to point out, "Unwritten goals are nothing more than Wishes' and we know the world is full of people with plenty of wishes. Go to any lottery office or anywhe they sell things like DotCom Stock. In one place they wish they'd bought more, in the other they we they hadn't bought any at all!

Real goal-achievement has so nothing to do with merely wishing or thinking of what we'd like accomplish and everything to do with Not Forgetting.

As the young man once said, "My memory is the thing I use to forget with". If we buy-off on t precept, we are now the busiest, most preoccupied generation, it's no stretch then to believe t experts when they say, "Goals left only to memory are destined to fade like so many wishes".

Before we look for the remedy to the goal-achievement challenge, it's important we understand t fundamental psychology of goal setting. That is to say, how it works.

Psychological studies on the highest achieving men and women demonstrate, people with cle specific goals, immediately and by default, become psychologically Goal Oriented individuals. [mystery there].

Since goals take place in the future, those with goals also by default become psychological motivationally, Future Oriented individuals.

Finally, since we can agree we go to the trouble of having goals because we want to achieve the another automatic psychological outcome is we immutably become psychologically, motivational human-behaviorally, actively, Success Oriented individuals.

[To put that into perspective, we can all think of people we know who are naturally, Failure Orient individuals].

These hallmarks are known as the Three Unique Psychological Success Orientations - the stuff the governs everything we do in the present, the moment, the now, as we go about our lives putting people, places and things together to affect positive outcomes in the future as it relates to our goals.

That is, however, if we don't forget them!

The good news is, the simple act of reviewing our goals and activities on a daily basis, serves, in a of itself, to ensure we don't forget them - thereby keeping them fresh, clear, specific and at the frc of our mind.

As mentioned and psychological studies show, unforgotten goals quite naturally engender Uniq Psychological Success Orientations that by default, impact in a positive way, our thoughts a activities as we go through our lives focused undauntedly in the moment on things we wish accomplish.

The Bottom Line:

Those without goals, more often than not, find themselves directionless relying mostly on things li luck. Goal-Setting is only the first step. Constant Goal-Review is the activity that ensures Go Achievement and Success!

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