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Publishing Information and Other Books by Michael Bianchi

Who is this Book for?

Regardless of Where You are In Your Life

No Matter What Your Age

Regardless of What You Look Like

No Matter Where You Live

Regardless of How Much Money You Have, or Don't Have

No Matter What Your Ethnicity Is

Regardless of Whether You are Male or Female

No Matter Who Your Parents Are

Regardless of Your Past

No Matter Who Your Favorite Sports Team Is (Go Houston Cougars!)

Regardless of What Others May Say

If You Can Read

This Book can Help You be GREATER THAN ME

Self-Improvement: The Truth

The global self-improvement industry is estimated at \$41 billion (2024) and expected to double in the next 10 years. We want to save our marriages and have better family relationships. We want to save our jobs and move up the corporate ladder. We want to be better students and have high profile entrances into the work place. We want to be better ministers and grow big churches. We want to contribute to society and get re-elected. We want to live in nice homes in nice subdivisions. We want to be free of debt and retire comfortably. We want to have better health and become world-class athletes. There is nothing wrong with desiring to be better people.

We are told and hope that if we read this book or take this class or listen to this audio, we can become better and maybe even achieve our dreams. Such activities can be helpful but, in reality, self-improvement is a process and takes time and dedication and it normally involves many books, classes, audios, experiences, and more.

The self-improvement process also requires balance in our lives. If we sacrifice or compromise one area of our lives to the benefit of another, we are often left with a sense of emptiness or insignificance, even if we are “successful”.

An article in Psychology Today stated, *“Self-help fails because we are not approaching change in the correct way for our current circumstances and underlying personality. We're not doing what works, and we're not in a place to be able to, have other priorities and/or are not ready to hunker down and sort it out. We may be in a state of constant crisis, for instance, or we may be working on a higher-order problem than we need to be, like working toward a promotion when we don't know if we are on a career path that is a good fit, or trying to get serious in a relationship when we don't even know who the person is.”*

The above paragraph is telling us (without saying so) that self-improvement does require balance in our lives, plans, smart decisions, and commitment. The goal of this book is to give you a foundation from which you can become “Greater Than Me” in key areas of your life.

“Success without fulfillment is failure.” ~ Anthony Robbins

Spiritual Health

I understand that not everyone will share my faith. Some will come from a different faith perspective and some will come without any faith perspective. Your faith perspective is respected in this book.

I will be sharing from the perspective of Christian faith, which is the faith I'm most familiar with and practice. I encourage you to take what I share and apply it to your faith. If you don't practice a faith, I encourage to consider the Christian faith as you move forward in your life.

Regardless, having good spiritual health has been proven to be a key component of being emotionally and mentally healthy and is actually an important part of a balanced life.

John Maxwell said, *“Through Him (Jesus) we have a model to follow for our attitudes, our lifestyles, our conversations, our worldview, and our relationships.”*¹

If you have questions about my Christian faith please feel free to contact me.

Are You Spiritually Fit?³

<https://godencouragesme.com/mp3/44%20chapt%201%20dev%2015.mp3>

What Are We Talking About?

We're talking about life, the stages of life, making good decisions and becoming "Greater Than Me".

We're talking about avoiding and overcoming the challenges and struggles we all will face in our lives.

We're talking about avoiding and overcoming the dumb decisions we all tend to make in our lives.

We're talking about being proactive and preemptive in the most important areas and decisions in our lives.

We're talking about finding our own levels of success in the most important areas of our lives.

Life doesn't have to be a perpetual struggle to survive.

Life doesn't have to be a miserable experience moving from one crisis to another.

Life can be satisfying.

Life can be joyful.

Life can be rewarding.

Life can have meaning and purpose.

You can be "Greater Than Me" in your life.

In this book we will discuss the decisions we make (or need to make) in the most important areas of our lives at different stages in our lives. Zig Ziglar said that we are where we are at in our lives as a result of the decisions we have made up to that point. I believe he is 100% correct except, of course, there may be some extenuating circumstances that have helped shape parts of our lives.

For general purposes, I have divided the different stages of our lives into 3 major age groups. These age groups are not exclusive of each other or rigid in their definition. In fact, they will often intersect and overlap and they should build upon each other.

I hope you will not skip any part of this book because your age doesn't fall into that "stage" of life. By reading through the entire book you will find suggestions, advice, and inspiration you can use in your life. Further, you can take that wisdom and share it with others, which is an awesome purpose in all our lives.

I encourage you to go forward and become "Greater Than Me".

Introduction

You May Not Know What You Don't Know?

Isn't this so true of life? As we mature and get older and look back on our lives we realize there was much we didn't know or understand when we were younger. Had we had this knowledge earlier in our lives, perhaps we would have made better decisions along the way. We could have been Greater Than Me!

Metacognition? If you're like me, you will ask 'meta what'? Come to find out (as in learning what I didn't know) metacognition plays an extremely valuable role in our lives, especially as we move through life making everyday and life changing decisions. It is interesting that as I type this Introduction that the spell check doesn't even recognize the word.

The Cambridge online dictionary defines metacognition as "knowledge and understanding of your own thinking" and then the dictionary says that "Metacognition is considered one of humans' most sophisticated cognitive capacities. "Most sophisticated cognitive capacities?" That right there probably explains why I didn't know what I didn't know about metacognition as I've never thought of myself as possessing "sophisticated cognitive capacities."

In a blog post titled "What is Metacognition?" innerdrive.co.uk/blog/ (Innerdrive) asks the following question, "*Have you ever thought about what you're thinking?*" For me, the answer to that question would be, "Well no, not really." That would be especially true in my teenage and early adult life.

The Innerdrive blog went on to say, "*Derived from the Greek root word "meta" (beyond) and the Latin "cognoscere" (getting to know), Metacognition refers to a learner's ability to reflect on their thought process and choose an effective strategy. It's about an individual's capability to:*

Analyse their thinking patterns

Have heightened self-awareness and manage their thoughts

Select a suitable and advantageous approach for a task at hand

Research indicates that harnessing Metacognitive strategies can improve students' academic performance. Its impact is broad ...”

For this chapter the part of metacognition we are discussing is knowledge or information we are not aware of and therefore do not know that we do not know. For example, a person unaware of the concept of metacognition will not even consider their lack of knowledge about it.

Becoming more aware that there may be information and knowledge about a subject, situation, or person that we do not know about can lead to more cautious and thorough decision-making processes. This happens every single day as we go about our lives and we make judgments or decisions about people, situations, and things that we probably don't have full knowledge of or information about.

I know when I was young I didn't have enough knowledge of or information about my education options and opportunities to make good decisions that would be beneficial for my long-term future. My metacognition was not very well developed in this area.

Chapter 1: **It's All About Me**

In his mega-best-selling and great book, *The Purpose Driven Life*, one of the first thoughts Rick Warren shares is “It’s not about you” and he’s 100% correct. But wait a minute! If it’s All About Me, how can Rick Warren’s statement be true ... or is it not really All About Me? They both can’t be right ... can they?

When Rick Warren says “It’s not about you” he is saying that our lives and the focus of our lives should not be self-centered, but Christ centered. However, we can’t take the focus off our lives and place it on Jesus Christ unless we look at ourselves and make intentional decisions to create our lives around Him. It’s All About Me in that it is up to me to become intentional about centering my life around Jesus. That’s why both statements are correct.

Fruits of the Spirit: Galatians 5:22-23

Chapter 2: Starting Well: Ages ~ 13-25

“Integrity, Love, Humility, Courage: We’ve built our company around these core values because that’s the way we want to live our lives, and people who share those values are the kind of people we want to be around.”² As you’re starting the rest of your life, whether you are 13 or 25 (or 60) these are core values you should incorporate into everything you do. Interestingly, you will also find them prominently in the Bible. If you truly want to start your future life well, you will study these four core values and seek to embody them into all you do no matter what your age is and no matter what your circumstances entail. You will find that people are attracted to you if you live them out in your daily life whether at home, at school, at work, in the church, or in the community.

“Change your thinking and you change your life; every success in life is based on right thinking (right decisions) and every failure is based on wrong thinking and wrong actions (wrong decisions).”⁵

“We aim to be amazing in all we do.”²

If you are 23 and just starting this process, it’s absolutely okay! It’s never too late to start well.

EDUCATION

People in this age group (13-25) gave themselves an average rating of _____. Following are some of the information and advice they shared:

At this time in our lives, ages 13-25, is when the most emphasis is placed on our education by society in general and rightfully so. While society is placing so much importance on our education during these years, the key is whether we as individuals understand the significance of this time and make education a high priority in our lives. In some cultures great emphasis is placed on education during these years, often to the negligence of other important areas of the student’s life. While the intention may be good, this can lead to an unhealthy imbalance in the life of the student.

Having a balanced life is important throughout our lives, but may be most important for this age group. That being said, much focus should be on education at this time. A person’s career may not play a significant part of their lives at this time and energies that

could be directed towards careers can instead be directed towards education while maintaining a good balanced lifestyle in the other four life experiences. Education should be viewed as preparation for the student's career and for the decades of life experiences to come.

Throughout our lives we should always be seeking to learn.

13-25:

Formative and foundational years. During this time we should have great emphasis on our education as that is the Starting Point or springboard for our careers and we want to Start Well. That being said, university isn't for everyone.

At this time in my life (56+) I give myself an Education rating of _____. When I look back at when I was in this age group (13-25) I would give myself an Education rating of _____.

Right out of high school, I was confused and unprepared for university. I was a slightly above average student although I never really focused on my studies and I knew that I was not adequately prepared for university. My high school had school counselors, but I never had any interaction with them. I assumed they were for disciplinary problems and, being the saint that I was (not!), I never had any use for them. The counselors certainly never reached out to me. I don't remember my uncle and aunt and my brothers ever counseling me on my education and future plans. Perhaps they felt that I would not listen to them and they may have been right ... I was a tad rebellious and independent at the time (to my own detriment). I may not have had ears to listen and that's on me.

I took a bookkeeping class in high school and enjoyed it and when a friend of mine enrolled in the accounting course at Massey Business College it appealed to me and so I also enrolled. What appealed to me was that I could get an accounting diploma without taking all the other classes such as math and English, etc.

HEALTH/PHYSICAL

People in this age group (13-25) gave themselves an average rating of _____. Following are some of the information and advice they shared:

At this time in my life (56+) I give myself a Health/Physical rating of _____. When I look back at when I was in this age group (13-25) I would give myself a Health/Physical rating of ____.

CAREER

People in this age group (13-25) gave themselves an average rating of _____. Following are some of the information and advice they shared:

At this time in my life (56+) I give myself a Career rating of _____. When I look back at when I was in this age group (13-25) I would give myself a Career rating of ____.

FINANCES

People in this age group (13-25) gave themselves an average rating of _____. Following are some of the information and advice they shared:

At this time in my life (56+) I give myself a Finances rating of _____. When I look back at when I was in this age group (13-25) I would give myself a Finances rating of ____.

RELATIONSHIPS

People in this age group (13-25) gave themselves an average rating of _____. Following are some of the information and advice they shared:

At this time in my life (56+) I give myself a Relationships rating of _____. When I look back at when I was in this age group (13-25) I would give myself a Relationships rating of ____.

Psychological Science reports that many young adults are lonely. Perhaps this is due to imbalance in their lives and a lack of quality relationships.

“Jesus never felt bound by human opinion or approval. He didn’t judge by externals. He treated individuals based on their future potential, not present status.”¹

Personally, I recall feeling lonely as a young adult and my life was definitely out of balance; my education was a mess, I was ignoring my physical health, I was unprepared for a career, my finances were a disaster, most of my relationships were just surface level, and I really had no spiritual life. So, just what *was* I doing? That’s a good question. I was flying by the seat of my pants, living day to day, with no real plans or direction or purpose to my life. Its not hard to figure out that having meaningful relationships under those circumstances would be difficult, at best.

EMOTIONAL & SPIRITUAL HEALTH

People in this age group (13-25) gave themselves an average rating of _____. Following are some of the information and advice they shared:

At this time in my life (56+) I give myself an Emotional & Spiritual Health rating of _____. When I look back at when I was in this age group (13-25) I would give myself an Emotional & Spiritual Health rating of _____.

“O people, the LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.” ~ Micah 6:8

“Sinner on Saturday, saved on Sunday, Confused on Monday ... now what do I do?”⁵

“Young people are increasingly unhappy and mentally unwell while coming of age in a nihilistic zeitgeist (a value-less and moral-less society where evil prevails over good). They have a lack of purpose, confusion about their identity, anxiety, and stress about the future all the while being constantly bombarded with messages of doom and gloom.” By Rebecca Velo, Op-ed contributor, May 28, 2024, ChristianPost.com.

Chapter 3: **STARTING Well:** Ages ~ 26-55

“Prepared leaders stand ready to meet the future. They don’t react and are not easily surprised. This gives them power when it’s time to move.”¹

Chapter 5: **Executing Well:** Ages ~ 13-25

RELATIONSHIPS

In Matthew 15:10-11 Jesus gives us a fundamental lesson about relationships, ***“Listen,” he said, “and try to understand. It’s not what goes into your mouth that defiles you; you are defiled by the words that come out of your mouth.”***

Chapter 6: **Executing Well**: Ages ~ 26-55

People who are balanced and healthy in the 6 major areas of life experience are not only winners themselves, but enable and encourage others to be life winners as well. This includes their family and co-workers.

“Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won’t collapse because it is built on bedrock. But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn’t obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash.” ~ Jesus Christ in Matthew 7:24-27

“Change your thinking and you change your life; every success in life is based on right thinking (right decisions) and every failure is based on wrong thinking and wrong actions (wrong decisions).”⁵

During this time in our lives (26-55) we are normally most productive at work, at home, at church, and in society. Mark Struczewski (Mister Productivity) lists 3 major areas to focus on for our personal productivity:

- 1. Health & Wellness. Healthy people are productive people! Taking care of your mental, physical, and spiritual well-being is crucial for peak performance. If stress, pain, or other health issues are holding you back, it’s time to prioritize your wellness.*
- 2. Purpose & Priorities. You have a unique purpose – your personal “why” that drives and motivates you. When you discover and align with this purpose, productivity comes naturally. Stop winging it and start living with intention!*
- 3. Planning & Organization. Don’t let life just happen to you. Take control by planning your days, managing your time, and staying organized. With the right systems in place, you’ll be amazed at how much more you can accomplish.”*

HEALTH/PHYSICAL

Chauncey Crandall, M.D. reported in Newsmax.com on May 28, 2024:

“To improve health, Crandall says exercise works and so does entering a cardiac rehabilitation program, if needed. And he adds, we can do other things. “We can read the word of God. We can focus on a higher power.” “If we do that,” says

Crandall, "We will live a longer life." Read Newsmax: Dr. Crandall: Improve Heart Health With Prayer | Newsmax.com

CAREER

"Success without fulfillment is failure." ~ Anthony Robbins

Daily Prayer Before Starting Work & Ministry

My Heavenly Father, as I enter this day of work & ministry,
I bring Your presence with me.

I speak Your peace, Your grace, Your mercy, and
Your perfect order into this day.

I acknowledge Your power over all that will be spoken, thought,
decided, and done in this day.

Lord, I thank You for all the gifts You have blessed me with.

I commit to using them responsibly in Your honor.

Give me a fresh supply of strength to do my best for You.

Anoint my projects, ideas and energy, so that even my smallest
accomplishment may bring You glory.

Lord, when I am confused, guide me, when I am weary, energize me,
when I am burned out, infuse me with the light of the Holy Spirit.

May the work that I do and the way that I do it bring faith, joy,
and a smile to all that I come in contact with today.

And, oh Lord, when my day is done, give me traveling mercy.

Bless my family and home to be in order when I return.

Lord, I thank You for everything You've done, everything You're doing,
and everything You're going to do.

In the name of Jesus I pray, with much love and thanksgiving. AMEN!

Don Eckles, co-founder of Scooter's Coffee says, *"I've found over the years that if you like what you do, and you like who you do it with, and you make a good living, that's as good as it gets. We try very hard to be the kind of company that's hard to leave."*²

"We uphold the highest moral and ethical principles. Everything we do is built on a foundation of honesty and trust. We say what we mean and we mean what we say. We require integrity of everyone we work with – each other, employees, franchisees, vendors, leaders,

*everyone. Trust is the basis of any good relationship, and if you don't have integrity, you'll never have trust. If you lack integrity, you can't stay here. That's just the way it is."*²

FINANCES

The Inter-Galactic Businessman

There was a wealthy businessman in the 23rd century who made his fortune trading precious metals between different galaxies. He had 3 grown children whom he loved and the children each had different talents and experience, but all helped in the family business.

The businessman was leaving on a trip to a far galaxy and so he called his 3 children together and told them he would be away for several years but they could always communicate with him. He instructed his children to continue to trade and take care of the family business while he was on his trip. To one child he gave responsibility for part of the company valued at \$1 billion, and to another child he gave responsibility for part of the company valued at \$3 billion, and to the last child he gave responsibility for part of the company valued at \$5 billion.

When the father returned after 10 years in space he found that the child with the \$5 billion responsibility had doubled it to \$10 billion. The father was pleased and gave this child a promotion in the family business. The father was also pleased with the child who had the \$3 billion responsibility, as that child doubled their business to \$6 billion. The father promoted this child with additional responsibility in the family business.

The 3rd child who was left with the \$1 billion responsibility was a different story. When the father returned from his trip, this child was pleased to tell the father that the business was exactly as he had left it, no bigger and no smaller. It was still a \$1 billion part of the family assets and the child explained to the father that they knew he was a wise and tough businessman and so they had preserved this part of the business as it was when the father had left. However, the father was not pleased with this child because they had not continued to trade and grow the business in the father's absence. So, the father took this part of the family business away from the 3rd child and gave it the first. The father reprimanded this 3rd child as being lazy and not a good business person.

The lesson from this parable is that we must take initiative, and some risk, to invest wisely and grow our net worth in order to have a comfortable lifestyle and retirement. Inactivity and aversion to risk will not end well for us. During these years of our lives it is paramount that we execute a wise financial strategy that will carry us through life's challenges and prepare us for a comfortable retirement. (Matthew 25:14-30)

Keep the following in mind when you are purchasing material things:

- * Do you want to buy a \$300 or \$3000 or \$20000 watch?
You can buy a very nice \$150 - \$200 watch.
They both tell time equally.
- * Don't spend \$300 - \$3000 or more for a purse.
Instead you can buy a quality and stylish purse for under \$150.
- * Luxury cars, SUV's, and trucks are nice, but at \$70,000 plus they really aren't any better than a nice used vehicle at \$30,000 - \$40,000.
- * Do you really need a \$600,000 or \$1 million house or multiple homes?
A \$300,000 or \$500,000 home can be more than you really need and it's a lot less expensive to rent a 2nd home or hotel for the short time you may use it.
- * True happiness will never come from the material things you own (or are in debt for). In fact, you will most likely be left unfulfilled and unhappy if your focus in life is pursuit of more and more expensive material possessions. True happiness comes from your relationship with God and with other people.

Okay, those are nice thoughts, but aren't they naive in today's world? Here's the point: Who really cares and what benefit do you really receive from how the 'world' thinks about your material possessions?

Let's look at what you can do with the money you save by not over-indulging in material things:

1. You can pay down or off your debt and invest more into your future retirement and a legacy for your family's next generation.
2. Feed My Starving Children reports that \$80 will feed a child for a year. You do the math.
3. Living Water Wells reports that a well in a poor nation can cost from \$3,000 to \$15,000 and can provide water for a community for 20 years or more. You do the math.

4. A wood and concrete school with 6 classrooms will cost \$5000+ in poor countries. You do the math.
5. A nice small home in poor countries can cost as low as \$5000. You do the math.

You don't have to send your money to foreign countries. There are plenty of worthy charitable projects all around you. Hopefully you understand that there is much more fulfillment and happiness in helping other people rather than over-indulging in yourself.

RELATIONSHIPS

In Matthew 15:10-11 Jesus gives us a fundamental lesson about relationships, ***“Listen,” he said, “and try to understand. It’s not what goes into your mouth that defiles you; you are defiled by the words that come out of your mouth.”***⁶

Psychological Science reports that fewer people report being lonely during these “mid-life” years and part of the reason for that is being in a marriage relationship.

“O people, the LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.” ~ Micah 6:8. In discussing this verse, my study Bible asks the following: *“Are you fair in your dealings with people? Do you show mercy to those who wrong you? Are you learning humility?”*⁶

*“Mark teaches us that the Master considers relationships to be paramount.”*¹

John Maxwell, in a comment regarding Mark 12:28-34 said, *“Jesus declared that the entire Law could be reduced to loving God with all our hearts and loving our neighbor as we love ourselves. This is the genius behind core values. Jesus summarized His vast kingdom using two simple phrases. Can you do that with your life and work?”*¹

SPIRITUAL/EMOTIONAL

“Problems and happiness have no linkage.” ~ Anthony Robbins

Gary Selman in his book, *Walking in the Finished Works of Christ – The Life of a Kingdom of God “Trust Fund Baby”*⁵ talks about what life is like when we are strong in our faith: What do we have? What did He give us? Our Spirit Man is fully equipped. We read in John 1:16

“For out of His fullness (abundance) we have all received [all had a share and we were all supplied

with] one grace after another and spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing and even favor upon

favor and gift [heaped] upon gift.” Eph 1:3 “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus

Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.” Col 2:9-

10 says, “we have the fullness of the Godhead-- made full and having come to fullness of life [in

Christ you too are filled with the Godhead--Father, Son and Holy Spirit--and reach full spiritual

stature].” 2 Peter 1:3-4... “bestowed upon us all things that [are requisite and suited] to life and

godliness, through the [full, personal] knowledge of Him Who called us by and to His own glory and

excellence (virtue).”

10. We Have the Mind of Christ: 1Co 2:16 “For who has known or understood the mind (the counsels

and purposes) of the Lord so as to guide and instruct Him and give Him knowledge? But we have

the mind of Christ (the Messiah) and do hold the thoughts (feelings and purposes) of His heart.”

11. We Have the Love / Heart of Christ: 1Jn 4:6-7 “We are from God, and whoever knows God listens

to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of

truth and the spirit of falsehood. Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.

Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Rom 5:5 “And hope does not disappoint

us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.”

12. What else did God give us? Answer comes in 2Ti 1:7 “For God did not give us a spirit of timidity (of

cowardice, of craven and cringing and fawning fear), but [He has given us a spirit] of power and of love and of calm and well-balanced mind and discipline and self-control.” This speaks to: Body (Grace, Power, Anointing, Ability); Love (Heart/Soul); Wisdom and Discernment (Mind of God)

“Father, I know that the blood of Jesus has defeated Satan and all the powers of darkness for eternity and because of His blood I believe that I win in every situation all the time. As a Child of God, I believe that I have received through the blood of Jesus on the Cross full reconciliation, redemption, restoration, healing and forgiveness for my sins. Jesus died to redeem me from all poverty, lack and insufficiency. His hands were pierced on the Cross that my hands may be blessed. In the name of Jesus, I repent for not taking full advantage of His blood. Right now in the name of Jesus, I reject all poverty, lack and insufficiency in my life. Today, I change my thinking and my actions for the better. I renew my mind regarding all that the blood of Jesus has already purchased for me. I know His blood paid the price for abundance in every area of my life. Father, in the name of Jesus, I believe that I receive abundance, completeness, wholeness and prosperity upon my hands and all the work of my hands. Father, your Word says, “And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.” I stand on the truth of your Word that says, “The Lord will open for you His good storehouse, the heavens, to give rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hand...” Father, I pray the prayer of Moses’, “Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us; And confirm for us the work of our hands...” Father, release upon my hands all of the covenant blessings of Abraham, cause me to be fruitful and bless those who bless me that I may eat the good of the land and the fruit of my hands. I believe that it is your will that I am blessed to be a blessing to others. I confess in the name of Jesus, everything I touch with my hands will be blessed according to your Word. Like Joseph, others will see that you my God are with me and that you cause all that I do to prosper. Jesus, I believe that you live within me and because of you there is nothing missing, nothing broken and nothing needed in my life for your blood has spoken. Father, I thank you that your Word is alive and that it is Spirit, truth and light and that it is at work accomplishing your perfect will for my life.

GREATER THAN ME, I AM It's All About Me

Through the blood of Jesus and in the name of Jesus I pray, AMEN.” ~ Gary Selman

Chapter 7: **Executing Well:** Ages ~ 56+

RELATIONSHIPS

In Matthew 15:10-11 Jesus gives us a fundamental lesson about relationships, “Listen,” he said, “and try to understand. It’s not what goes into your mouth that defiles you; you are defiled by the words that come out of your mouth.”

Psychological Science reports that this age group is the time when people feel the most lonely.

Chapter 8: **Finishing Great:** Ages ~ 13-25

RELATIONSHIPS

“If you want to change the world, go home and love your family.” ~ Mother Teresa

Chapter 9: **Finishing Great:** Ages ~ 26-55

RELATIONSHIPS

“If you want to change the world, go home and love your family.” ~ Mother Teresa

Chapter 10: **Finishing Great:** Ages ~ 56+

“Change your thinking and you change your life; every success in life is based on right thinking (right decisions) and every failure is based on wrong thinking and wrong actions (wrong decisions).”⁵

John Maxwell, in his comments on Matthew said, *“Effective leadership begins with an emotionally and spiritually healthy leader.”* Maxwell then went on to say *“Inward strength provides the only hope of finishing well (or great).”¹*

RELATIONSHIPS

“If you want to change the world, go home and love your family.” ~ Mother Teresa

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Other Books by Michael Bianchi:

Defeating Satan's Stronghold on our Lives: Five Tools of Victory for Men and Women

Effective & Enduring Leadership: Salvation is Important, But There's More to the Story
(an eight volume series of short books on Christian Leadership and Discipleship)

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