

# WORD 2018

“Lord what is a word or  
direction for 2018?”

- **Word for 2018 FOCUSED**

- **Losing Focus – becoming Unfocused**

- Frustrations, Disappointments, Distractions,

- “Let Your kingdom come and your will be done”

- In order to be focused you first have to acknowledge your present position.



- **Where do I want to go? Who do I want to become?  
What do I want?**

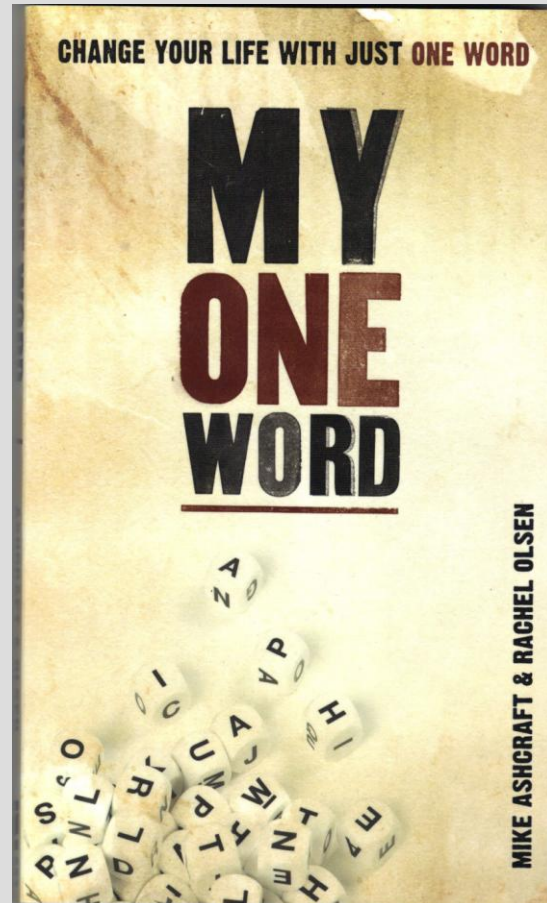
- **Vision, Not Regret**

- We want to move forward with vision, not regret. Without vision, the Bible says in Proverbs 29:18, we tend to throw off restraint. We become unfocused and undisciplined. Regret doesn't stimulate forward-moving motion like vision does. And regret doesn't sustain the formation of new character the way that vision can. (MyOneWord article)

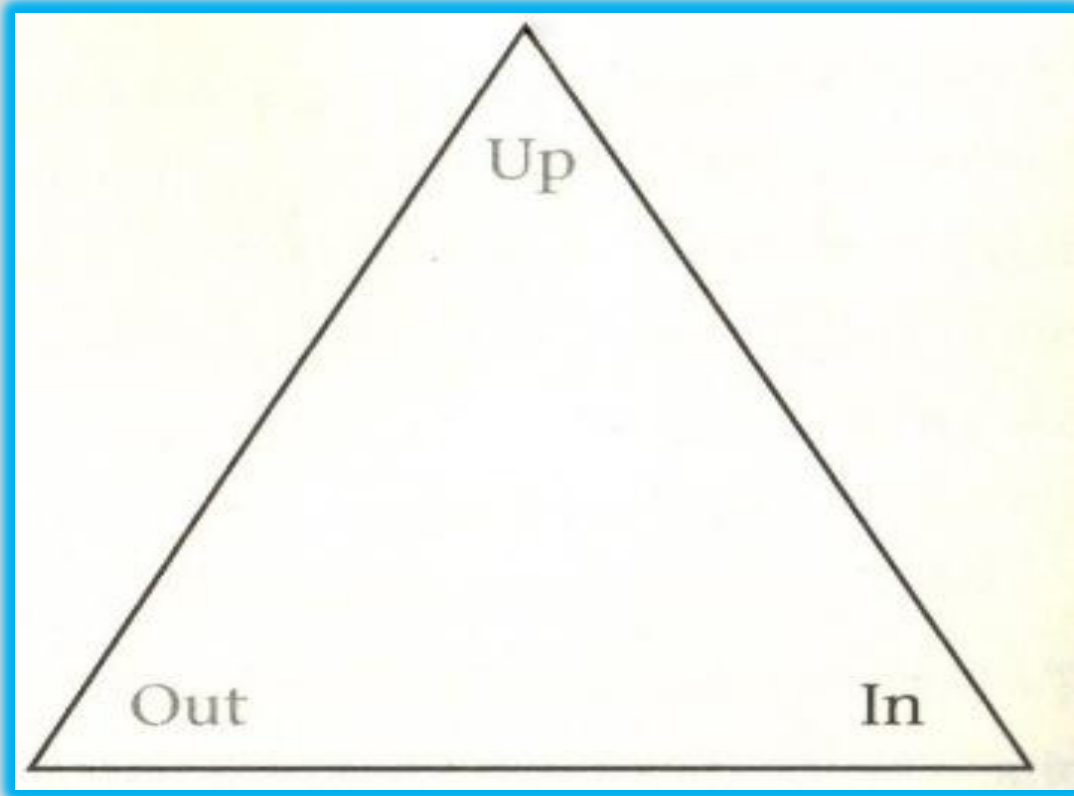
- **F**orgetting what lies behind

- Philippians 3:12-16 I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. 13 No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, **but I focus on this one thing**: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

- One Word



- Communion; (FELLOWSHIP)



- **UP (Walking with God)**

- Both Enoch and Noah ‘walked with God’ (Genesis 5:24; 6:9). They didn’t just sit, kneel or stand with God (the kind of actions we would often associate with spending time with God), but they were also in communion with God when doing something else. (BiOY)
- The Bible has a great deal to say about walking with God. It is how you were intended to live. God’s desire for you is that you walk humbly in a relationship with him (Micah 6:8). This is what Jesus has made possible – for you to walk as Jesus did (1 John 2:6). You may stumble from time to time, but one day you will walk with him, “dressed in white” (Revelation 3:4). (BiOY)

- **IN (Walking with One Another)**

- Acts 2:42-47 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved. **ESV**

- **Acts 2:42-47** They committed themselves to the teaching of the apostles, the life together, the common meal, and the prayers.
- 43 Everyone around was in awe — all those wonders and signs done through the apostles! 44 And all the believers lived in a wonderful harmony, holding everything in common. 45 They sold whatever they owned and pooled their resources so that each person's need was met.
- **46 They followed a daily discipline of worship in the Temple followed by meals at home, every meal a celebration, exuberant and joyful, 47 as they praised God. People in general liked what they saw.** Every day their number grew as God added those who were saved. **Message**

- **Fellowship**

- — (1.) With God, consisting in the knowledge of his will (Job 22:21; John 17:3); agreement with his designs (Amos 3:2); mutual affection (Rom 8:38,39); enjoyment of his presence (Ps 4:6); conformity to his image (1 John 2:6; 1:6); and participation of his felicity (1 John 1:3,4; Eph 3:14-21).
- (2.) Of saints with one another, in duties (Rom 12:5; 1 Cor 12:1; 1 Thess 5:17,18); in ordinances (Heb 10:25; Acts 2:46); in grace, love, joy, etc. (Mal 3:16; 2 Cor 8:4); mutual interest, spiritual and temporal (Rom 12:4,13; Heb 13:16); in sufferings (Rom 15:1,2; Gal 6:1,2; Rom 12:15; and in glory (Rev 7:9).
- (from Easton's Bible Dictionary, PC Study Bible formatted electronic database Copyright © 2003, 2006 Biblesoft, Inc. All rights reserved.)



- What believers share in common with God is a relationship as well as God's own holy character (1 Peter 1:15). Those who have fellowship with Christ should enjoy fellowship with other believers. This fellowship ought to illustrate the very nature of God Himself (John 13:35; Eph 5:1-2; 1 John 1:5-10). (from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Copyright © 1986, Thomas Nelson Publishers)
- Bible discussion Guide – Fellowship
- 4 Consistencies in relationship to fellowship:
  - Consistent consideration of the Word
  - Consistent fellowship together
  - Consistent meals together (especially partaking of the “Lord’s Supper”)
  - Consistent prayer together

- **Are there simple ways that we can be more effective in any one or more of these areas?**
  - BiOY Meetings ( Once a month )
  - Huddles – What is God saying to you personally? What are you doing about it?
  - Twice a month Wednesday night bible study and discussion
  - Purposed small groups around topic or study series:
    - My One Word
    - Not A Fan
    - Aha
    - Who Do You Say that I am? (God's not Dead 2)
    - Glory Days
    - Christian Atheist
  - In Home Dinner and Movie
  - Planning picnics and summer outings
- Cross Pollinating
- **Needs to be organic rather than structured. Need to make a commitment to stick with it!**

- **OUT (Walking in the World Around Us)**

- Incarnational Mission

- John 1:14 So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.  
NLT
- Matthew 9:37-38 He said to his disciples, "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. 38 So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields." NLT
- It is not the harvest that needs adjusting, it is the laborers who need to adjust how they work in the harvest.
- What does it look like to go into the harvest fields instead of thinking the harvest is going to come to us?
- What does it mean to be a mature missionary into our culture?

- **U**nity

- Unity in the Body

- Ephesians 4:1-6 Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. 2 Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. 3 Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. 4 For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. 5 There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 and one God and Father, who is over all and in all and living through all.
- Ephesians 4:12-13 Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. 13 This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ. NLT

- **Jesus Priestly Prayer**

- John 17:20-23 "I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. 21 I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.
- 22 "I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. 23 I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me. NLT

- **United in Thanksgiving and Prayer**

- **Selfless** - having no concern for self : unselfish
  - Philippians 2:3-5 Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. 4 Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. 5 You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. NLT
  - I Corinthians 13:4-5 Love never gives up.  
Love cares more for others than for self.  
Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.  
Love doesn't strut,  
Doesn't have a swelled head,  
5 Doesn't force itself on others,  
Isn't always "me first,"  
Doesn't fly off the handle,  
Doesn't keep score of the sins of others, Message
- Three greatest problems in marriage

- **E**ncourage - to inspire with courage, spirit, or hope, to spur on
  - **Proverbs 15:30-32** A cheerful look brings joy to the heart; good news makes for good health.  
31 If you listen to constructive criticism, you will be at home among the wise.  
32 If you reject discipline, you only harm yourself; but if you listen to correction, you grow in understanding. NLT
  - **Proverbs 25:25** Good news from far away is like cold water to the thirsty.
  - **1 Thessalonians 5:9-11** For God chose to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ, not to pour out his anger on us. 10 Christ died for us so that, whether we are dead or alive when he returns, we can live with him forever. 11 **So encourage each other and build each other up**, just as you are already doing. NLT

- **Hebrews 3:12-14** See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. 13 **But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today**, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. NIV
- **Hebrews 10:24-25** **Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.** 25 And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, **but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.** NLT



- **D**etermined - having reached a decision: firmly resolved
- **Acts 17:24-28** The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; 25 neither is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all life and breath and all things; 26 and He made from one, every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, **having determined their appointed times, and the boundaries of their habitation, 27 that they should seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; 28** for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His offspring. NASB
- **I Corinthians 2:1-5** And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. **2 For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.** 3 And I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. 4 And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God. NASB

**F**orgetting what lies behind

**O**ne word

**C**ommunion

**U**nity

**S**elfless

**E**ncourage

**D**etermined

