

• **Word for 2018 FOCUSED**

- **Losing Focus – becoming Unfocused**
- Frustrations, Disappointments, Distractions, Apathy
- “Let Your kingdom come and your will be done”
 - Matthew 6 – Teach us to Pray
 - Matthew 26 – Not my will, but your will be done

Forgetting what lies behind

One word

Communion

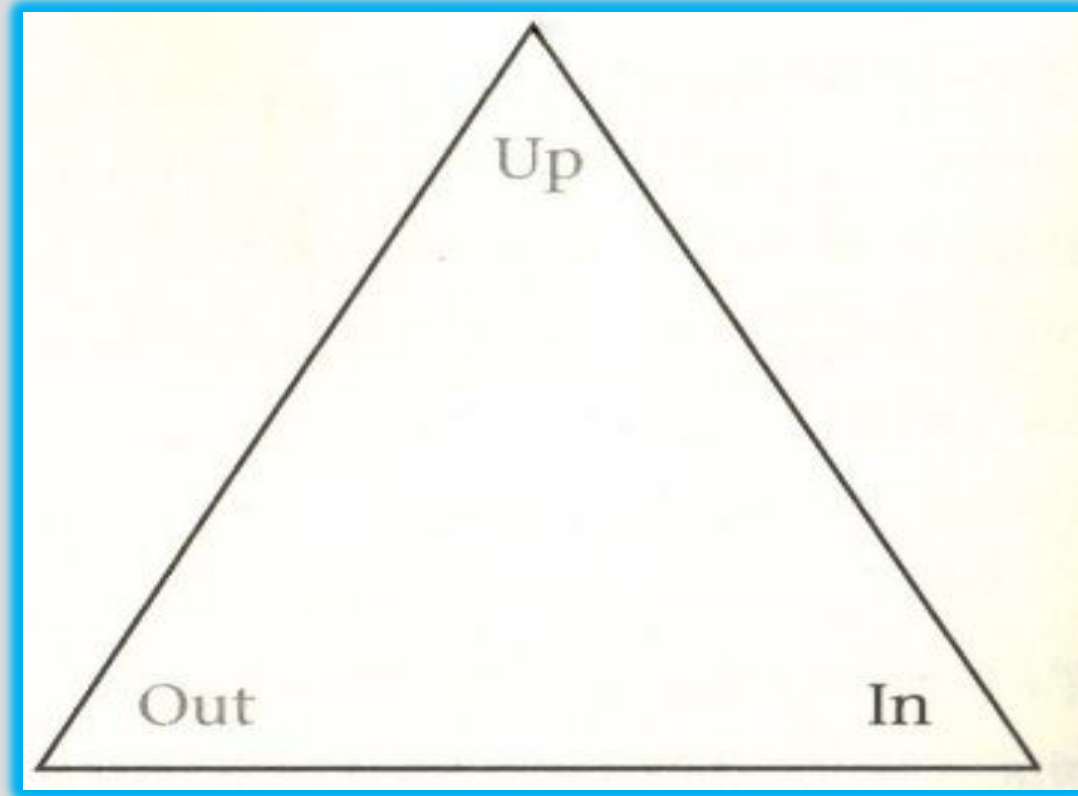
Unity

Selfless

Encourage

Determined

Living Life



Each of these areas is about relationship

- **UP** – My Relationship with the Lord
- **IN** – My Relationship with:
 - Wife
 - Children now also grandchildren
 - Family
 - Church Family
 - Close Friends
- **Out** – Friends, Neighbors, Co-Workers, Acquaintances, etc....

- Five Languages of Love
 1. Quality Time
 2. Words Of Affirmation – Proverbs 18:21
 3. Gifts - heart of love is the spirit of giving
 4. Sacrifice – acts of serving
 5. Physical Touch

Dr. Gary Chapman

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

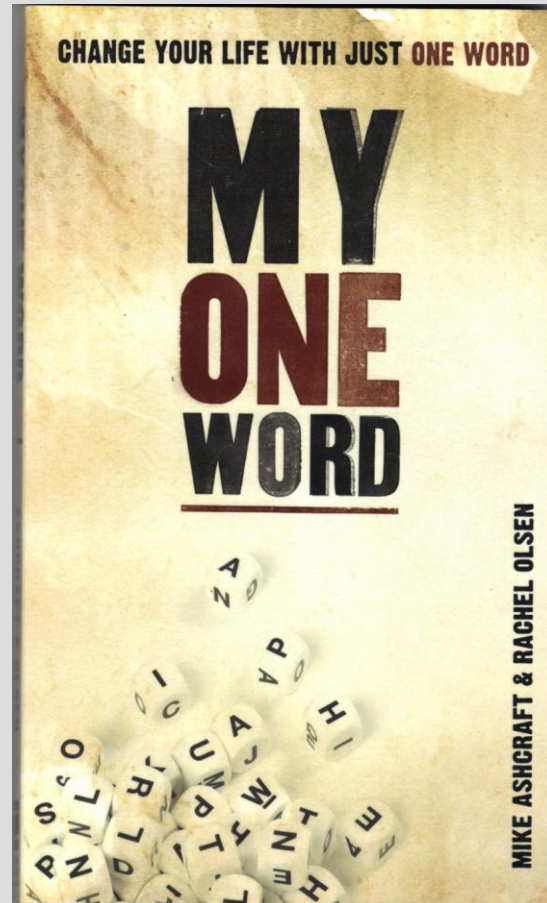


If you don't know, you might want to stop and ask !

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

- **Insanity – Continuing to do the same thing expecting different results!**
 - **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)

- One Word



One Word to help be FOCUSED

Change

Fellowship

Trust

Serve

Listen, Obey

Obedience

Compassion

Commitment, Dream

Abide

Wait

Explosion

Holy

Hope

Begin

Proverbs 24:5
(Wise)

Focused

Fearful and Wonderfully Made

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- ***Hearing requires consistency in my walk.***
- The more disconnected I become from God, my spouse my kids. Etc..., the harder it is for me to hear.
- The first thing I look at is how consistent I've been lately.
- I believe God speaks to me not just to give me orders but out of love. He is not a genie or a tour guide, but my Father. Therefore, I talk with him regularly, not simply when I need directions or help. If you spend time with God daily, you will learn to recognize his voice and stay attuned to his lead.
- Ask yourself, "How consistent have I been lately in seeking God and abiding with him?"

- ***Hearing requires clarity of purpose.***
- God's "directions for me always line up with his purposes. And his purposes always involve forming me into his image.
 - Husband, wife, father, mother, child, friend, employee
- The greater clarity you have regarding his purposes, the easier it will be to understand his voice and follow.
- Ask yourself, "Does this line up with what I understand of God's purposes for me?"

- ***Hearing requires confirmation in the Word***
- Study the Scriptures daily with a submissive heart and a will-ingness to obey what is there, not to just find a verse to back up what I want to do.
- God will never direct us to do something that contradicts the teaching of the Bible.
- His Word will speak to you, either to confirm what you are sensing or to redirect you.
- Pay close attention to what you hear when you read it.
- Ask yourself, "Does this line up with what the whole of Scripture teaches?"

- ***Hearing requires counsel from wise friends.***
- God's direction is frequently affirmed by those around me who know and love me.
- Notice, “wise friends”, we all have people who will tell us what we want to hear.
- Wise counsel helps me see what I can't see from my own per-spective.
- Surround yourself with wise friends who love God and you enough to tell you the truth.
- Ask yourself, "What have my friends and mentors advised?"

