

2 PETER



God Rocks Fun day celebrations



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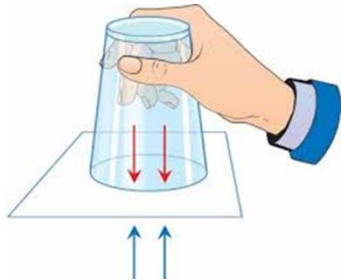


God Rocks Fun day celebrations



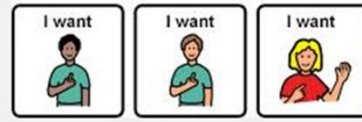
Last gathering –Steps to Success

We looked at **Self control** as the next step up from **Knowledge**

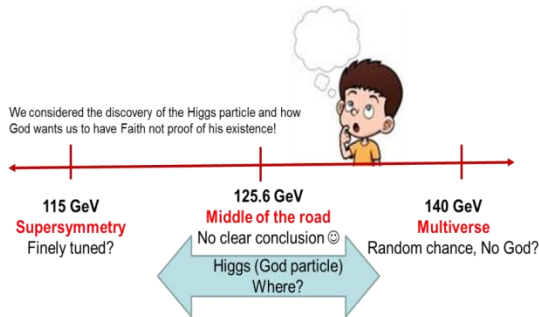


We considered we have to think hard, pray hard and do years of investigation to understand something...

We should be searching for truth continually.



We decided self-control is not controlling self, but deciding to let Holy Spirit control self



God wants a decision by Faith, not fact!

We considered John 14:6 (NIV) ⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. and decided there is no other way like Buddha, or any other religion that gets us to God the Father.

Steps to Success



Have you ever hear of Nick Vujcic?

A guy without arms or legs!

Born that way.

<http://www.cbn.com/tv/1430455394001>

Nick Vujcic

What an incredible painful way to have to face life many would say wouldn't they?

John 9

9 As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

3 “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. 4 As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. 5 While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

6 After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes. 7 “Go,” he told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam” (this word means “Sent”). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

8 His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, “Isn’t this the same man who used to sit and beg?” 9 Some claimed that he was.

Others said, “No, he only looks like him.”

But he himself insisted, “I am the man.”

10 “How then were your eyes opened?” they asked.

11 He replied, “The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.”

12 “Where is this man?” they asked him.

“I don’t know,” he said.

What role did perseverance have in Nick's life?

"In life if you don't know the truth, then you can't be free, because then you'll believe the lies are the truth."

Nick Vujic

"I'm forgiven of my sins. I'm an ambassador of the King of Kings."

Nick Vujic

"If God does not give you a miracle, you are a miracle for someone else's salvation."

Nick Vujic

"Don't give up on God, because God will not give up on you!"

Nick Vujic

"I'm not a man without arms and legs, I am a child of God."

Nick Vujic

"This is not about Nick."

Nick Vujic



Life gives us what it gives us...it's what we do and decide to let God do that counts...

How willing are we to pick ourselves up when everything seems against us, how willing are we to give God glory, and push on?

Isaiah 40:31

“Don’t give up on God, because God will not give up on you!”
Nick Vujic

but those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint

I am sure some mornings Nic wakes up and the day is hard.

He has difficulty even standing up as he has one small stump at the base of his body *and it has to be difficult to just balance.*

He has **faith** in God.

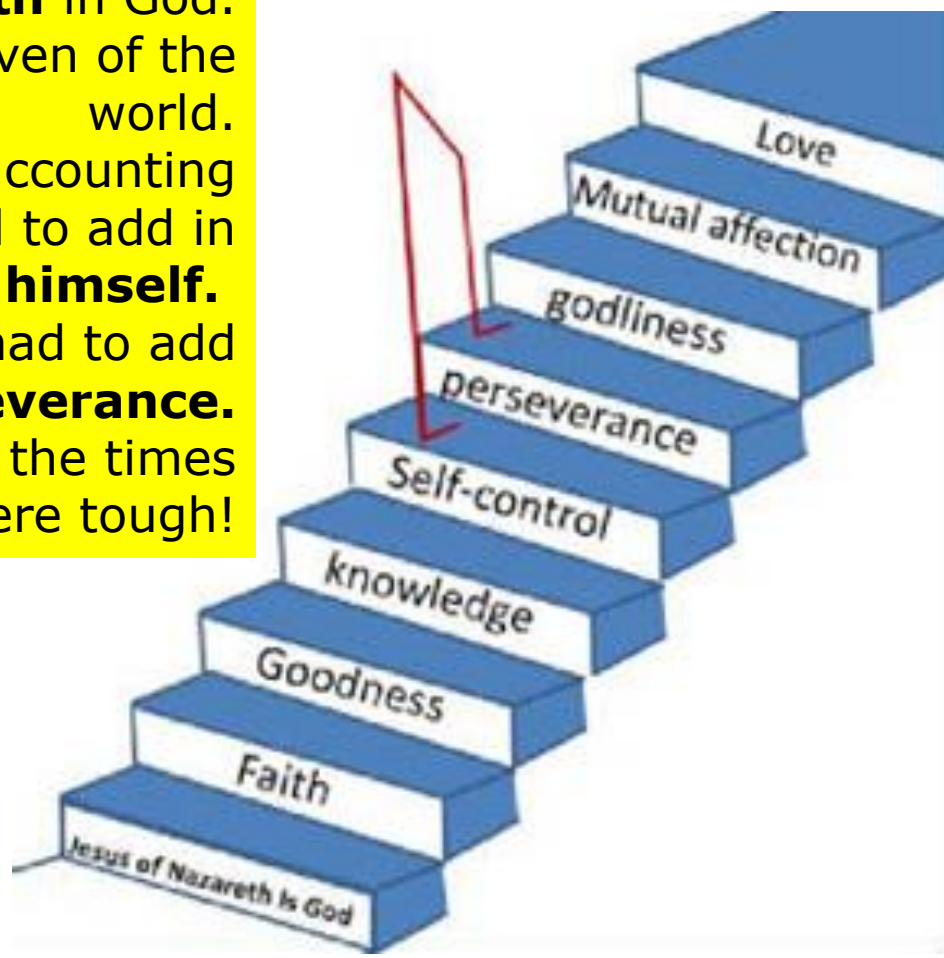
He added **knowledge** of God and even of the world.

He got a double bachelor degree in accounting and financial planning. To this he had to add in the **ability to control himself.**

To the self-control he had to add **perseverance.**

He had to keep going even when the times were tough!

“Don’t give up on God, because God will not give up on you!”
Nick Vujic



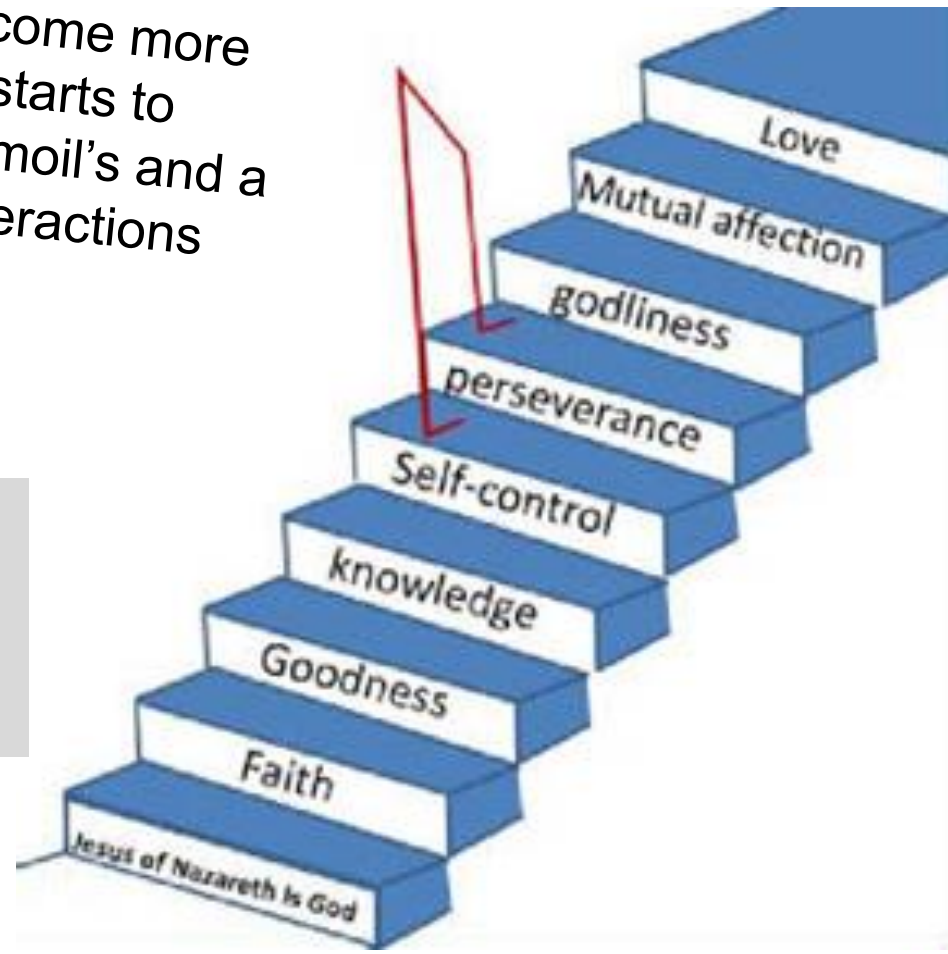
There are steps of growth as a Christian.

We cannot let our emotions explode and flow in any way they want to. They need to be directed by the power of Holy Spirit.

When this happens we become more *stable*, more *peaceful*, *joy* starts to bubble up through life's turmoil's and a *sweetness* engages our interactions with others.

Then, we need to continually work at it.

**Success is not only in overcoming
but in
not giving up on trying to
overcome.**



There are steps of growth as a Christian.

If we do this life around us becomes better and people want to be with us.



Will you allow it to work for you?

....this week?

Jesus loves you and me,
God wants to help!

We need to hand over control, trust God, want to be good, allow Holy Spirit to help us, and we need to persevere!

This worked for Nick! It works for millions of Christians!

It can work for us, if we work on achieving it!

**Success is not only in overcoming
but in
*not giving up on trying to overcome.***



Steps to Success- Perseverance

Nick's not the only one...investigate *Bethany Hamilton* for another view of perseverance ... movie "Soul Surfer"

Bethany Hamilton

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Bethany Meilani Hamilton (born February 8, 1990) is an American professional [surfer](#) who survived a 2003 [shark attack](#) in which her left arm was bitten off, but ultimately returned to – and was victorious in – professional surfing. She wrote about her experience in the 2004 autobiography *Soul Surfer: A True Story of Faith, Family, and Fighting to Get Back on the Board*. In April 2011, the feature film [Soul Surfer](#) was released, based on the book and additional interviews. She has appeared on many television shows since the loss of her arm.



Steps to Success- Perseverance

What will you do...

