

The 5 Most Important Tips You'll Ever Read About Goal Setting

Written by: Annette Sharpe, Founder of *Growing for Success*



Having coached hundreds of clients to success in their businesses and personal lives, there are a few things about goal setting that I believe every entrepreneur should know. Now, I admit that my theories are a bit different than other goal setting programs or advice out there, but I don't care because they work. And being different is a good thing, right?

So here are the 5 most important things to consider when setting goals/intentions to create whatever it is you want in your life:

Tip #1: Remember – YOU HAVE A LIFE!

Don't fool yourself into believing you can do every single thing you want to do, every single day. You have a life, after all. Your life consists of so many different areas: relationships, health, business, money, spirituality, personal growth, etc. If you set goals in *only* one area, you're setting yourself up to lose. While it's a good idea to focus on one main area of your life when setting intentions, for a specific duration of time (at *Growing for Success* we use a quarterly system), it is also important to remember the other areas of your life to maintain balance. To find out how balanced your life is today, visit: <http://www.growingforsuccess.com/freestuff.html>.

Tip #2: Do One Small Thing Every Day

While I do believe that it's very important to prioritize your actions daily, the most important action that you should take as an entrepreneur – every single day – is one small step towards your big dream or vision. This can be something as small as making a connection with a prospective business partner, or simply stating an affirmation. It is way too easy to get caught up in the day-to-day activities of building a business that often weeks or months can go by without getting in touch with your dreams. So every single day, ask yourself this question: *What is the next, small action step I can take to move me closer to my big dream?* Then, DO IT!

Tip #3: Use an Accountability System

As an entrepreneur myself, I know what it's like to set a goal and then allow something more pressing to get in my way of achieving it. But when I know that someone is counting on me to get something done, or that I've given my word that I would complete a task, I do it. Most people are the same way. Especially as our consciousness evolves, remaining in integrity is a big deal.

So what tools do you use to hold yourself accountable? I encourage you to choose a partner in your success. You might choose a colleague or a friend, a business partner or a mentor. Or you might choose to work with a coach. Coaches are trained to work with individuals and groups to help them to envision, begin and achieve their goals. If you have ever considered working with a coach, you might find your perfect fit at

<http://www.growingforsuccess.com/coaches.html>. We have a team of certified coaches ready to help you turn your passion into a profitable business.

Tip #4: Focus on Sharing Your Natural Gifts

People who share their natural gifts with others are happier, more balanced and more successful. You were given your gifts for a reason – so focus on what you love to do, and let someone else do what they do best. When you take up your time and energy doing things you really dislike, you take away from the creative energy force within you. Stop draining that valuable energy! Building a team of multi-talented people with similar goals and values will help you – directly or indirectly – to achieve your goals.

Tip #5: Be Open to Change

One of the biggest mistakes some entrepreneurs make is remaining rigid and over-focused on their goals. I know this might seem like a strange thing to say when I'm writing about how to set meaningful intentions, but consider this: life is fluid and unpredictable. You must allow for some organic growth of your business and that means allowing for change to occur naturally. There are way too many things that we cannot foresee. In fact, even when we believe we're on track to achieving a goal, life has a fabulous way of sending us surprises. So expect them, and allow for them. You will feel much more peaceful as you and your business grow. When the unexpected happens (and I 100% guarantee that it will), take a deep breath, re-assess, and move forward with your next step. By continuing to focus on the small steps, you will build and maintain momentum in your life.

Annette Sharpe is the founder of Growing for Success, a personal growth coaching community with a business focus that specializes in working with entrepreneurs to turn their passion into a profitable business. Visit www.growingforsuccess.com.