

Are You Sabotaging Yourself?

☒ Do you have a desire to pursue a passion or calling, but every time you make a move in that direction you talk yourself out of it? Maybe you've wanted to start your own business or launch out into ministry, but soon the idea overwhelms you and you give up before you get started.

The Holy Spirit has placed in you a love for children, shown you a vacant building, given you favor with the property owner, and you still won't open your own Christian school.

Or maybe you have a beautiful voice and lead worship at your church, but the Lord is telling you to take it a step further and make a CD, but the moment you run into a problem you say, "That wasn't God."

It's cyclical. God prompts you to do something. You get excited and go to work on your new venture. The enemy plants doubt in your mind, and you come up with excuses why *this* or *that* won't work. Finally, you lose your joy and do absolutely nothing. Three or four months later, you go through the cycle all over again.

I'm sure you know the enemy doesn't want you to pursue God's leading, but let's not give him all the credit. When fear rules your life, you sabotage your own future. But to be successful, it takes faith, personal commitment and confidence that the Father will finish what He has begun in you.

Scripture says He has not given us the spirit of fear (that comes from Satan), but power (the ability to do) love, and a sound (well-disciplined) mind. So stop starting and stopping. Get busy and start that new business, join the mission field, or audition for *American Idol* if that's what you want to do. But by all means, get to work! You can do all things through

Christ who strengthens you.

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