



## ***You Were Made to Solve Problems Part II: Why I Like Problems***

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**Sermon Notes from March 8, 2009**

### **Why I like problems:**

- beginning phase of **promotion**
- my persecution is connected to my **prosperity**
- helps to sharpen your **purpose**
- it is the by-product of my **provision**
  
- **They cause us to review:**
  - **Structure**
  - **Standards**
  - **Strategy**

### **Luke 6:48-49 (The Message)**

"If you work the words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who dug deep and laid the foundation of his house on bedrock. When the river burst its banks and crashed against the house, nothing could shake it; it was built to last. But if you just use my words in Bible studies and don't work them into your life, you are like a dumb carpenter who built a house but skipped the foundation. When the swollen river came crashing in, it collapsed like a house of cards. It was a total loss."

### **Definition of Structure**

- makeup, form, build

### **Synonyms:**

anatomy, architecture, arrangement, build, complex, configuration, conformation, construction, design, fabric, fabrication, format, formation, frame, framework, interrelation, make, morphology, network, order, organization, skeleton, system, texture

### **Romans 12: 1-2**

1 And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. 2 Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.



### Definition of Standards

- moral philosophy, values

### Synonyms:

belief, conduct, conscience, convention, conventionalities, criteria, decency, ethos, goodness, honesty, honor, ideal, imperative, integrity, moral code, morality, mores, natural law, nature, practice, principles, right and wrong, rules of conduct, standard, standards, the Golden Rule

### Antonyms:

corruption, immorality

### Definition of Strategy

- A strategy is a plan of action designed to achieve a particular goal

### Synonyms:

action, angle, approach, artifice, blueprint\*, brainchild, craft, cunning, design, game, game plan\*, gimmick, grand design, layout, maneuvering, method, plan, planning, policy, procedure, program, project, proposition, racket\*, scenario, scene, scheme, setup, slant, story, subtlety, system, tactics

- Strategy is different from tactics. In military terms, tactics is concerned with the conduct of an engagement while strategy is concerned with how different engagements are linked. In other words, how a battle is fought is a matter of tactics: whether it should be fought at all is a matter of strategy. Strategy is relevant to many areas of life, from getting the right date for an event to running a business. For example, the goal of a company may be to increase profits: the strategy chosen might be to undertake an advertising campaign; invest in a new computer system; or adjust pricing.

### You Were Made to Solve Problems

- Strategy is a **plan**, a "how," a means of getting from here to there.
- Strategy is a **pattern** in actions over time; for example, a company that regularly markets very expensive products is using a "high end" strategy.
- Strategy is **position**; that is, it reflects decisions to offer particular products or services in particular markets.
- Strategy is **perspective**, that is, vision and direction.

### The Ultimate Strategy

- **Read** The Word!
- **Hear** The Word!
- **Speak** The Word!
- **Remember** The Word!
- **Live** The Word!
- **Give** The Word!