Answer Key:

Walking by faith...

- Believing
- Obey
- Persisting
- Announcing

Three steps Forward, Two steps Back...

Stop and Remember...

- faith
- hope
- love

The Plan...

- 1. example
- 2. hurdles
- 3. Jesus
- 4. Give Up

Ways to Move Forward...

- past
- mistakes
- others
- opportunity

Moving Forward

Psalm 139:23-24 NASB

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts; (ways of pain) and see if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the everlasting way."

Introductory Statement

Have you been moving forward in your Christian walk? Or do you struggle to enjoy a real relationship with God? Too often Christians consider the act of salvation to be an intellectual decision and not a transformational one. But it is the same power of God that brings about your newfound faith and enables you to grow and mature. Walking with Jesus is not easy. Sometimes it is like taking three steps forward and two steps back.

Walking by faith...

• ______ when I don't see it.

Hebrews 11:1 NIV

"FAITH is <u>BEING SURE</u> of what we hope for and certain of what we

DO NOT SEE."

God when I don't understand it.

Hebrews 11:7 NLT

"It was <u>BY FAITH</u> that Noah built an ark to save his family from the

flood. He OBEYED God, who warned him about something that had

never happened before!"

______ when I don't feel like it.

Hebrews 11:27 JB

"It was <u>BY FAITH</u> that Moses left Egypt and was not afraid of the

King's anger. HE HELD TO HIS PURPOSE like a man who could see

the invisible."

in advance before I have it.

Hebrews 11:22 NLT

"It was BY FAITH that Joseph, when he was about to die, CONFIDENTLY SPOKE of God bringing his people out of Egypt. He was <u>SO SURE OF IT</u> that he commanded them to carry his bones with them when they left!"

Three Steps Forward, Two Steps Back...

1 Corinthians 13:13 NLT

"There are three things that will endure – faith, hope, and love –

and the greatest of these is love."

Stop and Remember...

is our foundation.

is our attitude.

is our action.

The truth is, if you are anything like me faith, hope and love

they are going to fizzle out if I do not keep growing!

Hebrews 10:36 NLT

"Patient endurance is what you need now, so you will continue to

do God's will. Then you will receive all that He has promised."

The Plan...

1. Find an ______.

Hebrews 13:7 NLT

"Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of

all the good that has come from their lives and <u>follow the example</u>

of their faith."

"...We have around us many people whose lives tell us what faith

means..."

3. Focus on ______.

Hebrews 12:2 Message

"<u>Keep your eyes on Jesus,</u> who both began and finished this

race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight

of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with

God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross,

shame, whatever."

"...We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus..."

4. Do not _____!

Galatians 6:9 NIV

2. Remove your ______.

Hebrews 12:1 NLT

"Let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the

sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the

race God has set before us."

"...We should remove from our lives anything that would get in

the way and the sin that so easily holds us back..."

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time

we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

"...So let us run the race that is before us and never give up..."

Ways to Move Forward...

1. Let the past stay in the _____

Philippians 3:13-14 NLT

"...but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us." 3. Share your mistakes with ______.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 NLT

"Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But

someone who falls alone is in real trouble."

4. Take the ______ to try again.

Psalm 145:14 NLT

"The LORD helps the fallen and lifts those bent beneath their loads."

2. Learn from your _____.

1 John 1:9 NLT

"But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive

us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness."

God wants to use our mistakes and failures to shape us.

God has a good plan for your life, and He doesn't want you to be tormented by fear or let it hold you back from your destiny.

His will is for you to walk forward, confident in His love,

trusting Him to take care of you all along the way.