

DRIVE / ENERGY

(ἐνέργειαν)

Supernatural drive or energy provided by Jesus Christ through His Spirit.

“For this I toil, struggling with all His energy that He powerfully works within me”

– Colossians 1:29. I heard someone confess recently, "I can't seem to find the right drive, and therefore, it's hard to motivate myself." What this person inadvertently admitted is in fact true. You cannot be motivated to do anything unless you find the right drive / energy. In Ecclesiastes 4:1-8 Solomon recognises three things that motivate men and women: (1) Comfort and fulfillment - verses 1-3; (2) Competition and triumph - verses 4-6; (3) Consumption and greed - verse 7-8. As Christians we must fully understand our motivational needs. Are you relentlessly seeking fulfillment? Do you possess a genuine desire to win?

A scholar named David McClellan identified three main "drivers" that people exhibit. He believes that each one of us generally has a primary driver, and perhaps another driver as a back-up. One driver is "achievement." Achievers like to perform, to get the job done, to complete the task. Getting across the finishing line is what satisfies them most. Another driver is "affiliation." Affiliators put the emphasis on belonging to a group and relating well to others. They are 'people people', and get their satisfaction from seeing everyone happy and content. The third driver is "influence." Influencers seek to have power and authority over whatever situation they're in. They like things done their way. Status is important to them. For them, the name of the game is control.

If you want to succeed in life and fulfill God's divine plan and purposes - you must know what motivates you - what makes you tick! When David was about to confront Goliath he turns to Saul and asks, "What will be done for the man who kills the Philistine" (1 Samuel 17:26). Here, David seems to be motivated by reward. Profit is another key driver and should not be overlooked. The important thing is to understand what causes you to be motivated - what your personal drivers are. I am convinced that you can motivate yourself to do anything once you find the right driver. The good news is that the drive to succeed, to be an achiever, is one of the drives that is hard-wired inside the heart of every believer, and therefore, using success to motivate yourself can be very beneficial.

So how can you use the drive to succeed to motivate yourself? First, you must accept that Jesus Christ has already secured your success. In all matters of life you are more than a conqueror (Romans 8:37). Knowing that success is already a God-ordained part of your future will stop you procrastinating and help you to motivate yourself in the right direction. However, as a Christian you must pursue causes that count. You must have a sense that what you're involved in really matters to God; that way you will find satisfaction in whatever work you do and move from glory to glory.