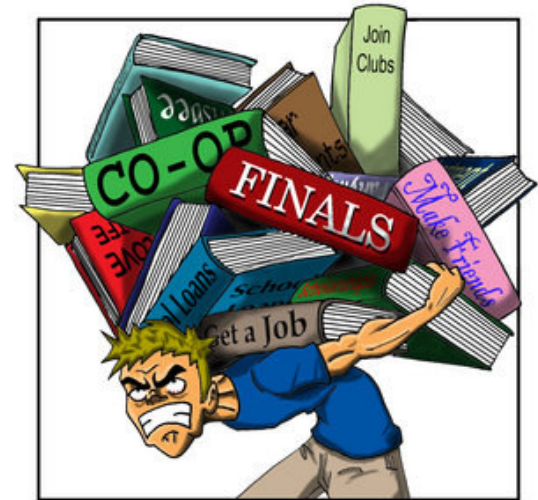


# Christian Time Management

We should be good stewards of one of the most precious things God gave us: time. There are so many demands on our time. How can we use our time most effectively?



# A Brief Testimony...



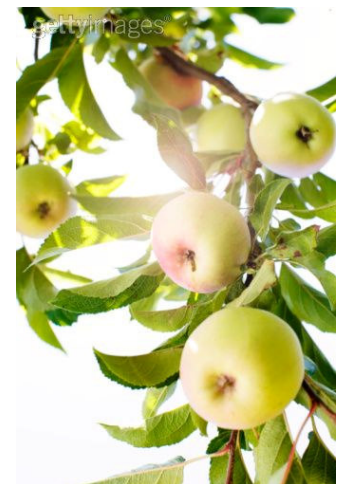
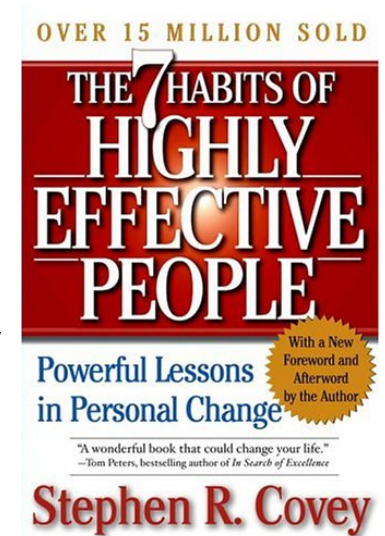
- Flunked out of NU a long time ago
  - Atheist, into punk rock
  - Feeling of meaninglessness
  - Did not manage my time very well!
- Jesus changed my life



- Found love, meaning and hope
- Oriented my life to be a blessing
- Came back to NU and got a Ph.D. while working full time, teaching, parenting 4 kids and doing ministry.

# The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People

- Premise: Change starts from within
- Based on study of 200 years of work, the author found that in last half of 20<sup>th</sup> century, people started focusing more on personality traits, skills, techniques, maintaining a positive attitude.
- Prior to that, there was more focus on character and deeper principles.
- The character is the foundation, and the tactics cannot be successful unless principles of character are correct.
- "No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit." Luke 6:42-44



What do you see?



How about now?



# Seeing things differently

“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

Romans 12:2



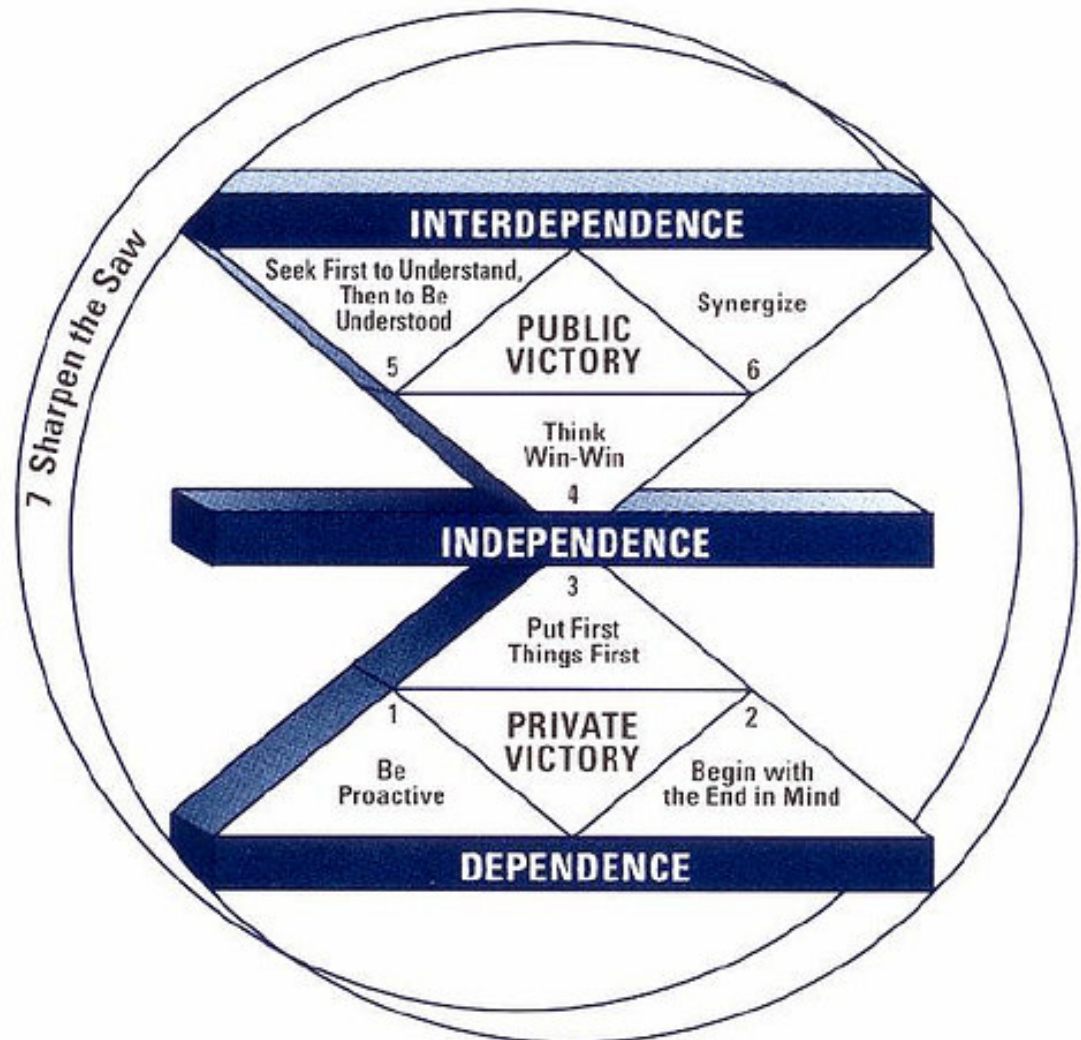
# Dependence, Independence, Interdependence

- Summary:

1. Dependence: we are born this way, relying upon others to take care of us. Someone else is responsible.

2. Independence: we learn to make our own decisions and take care of ourselves.

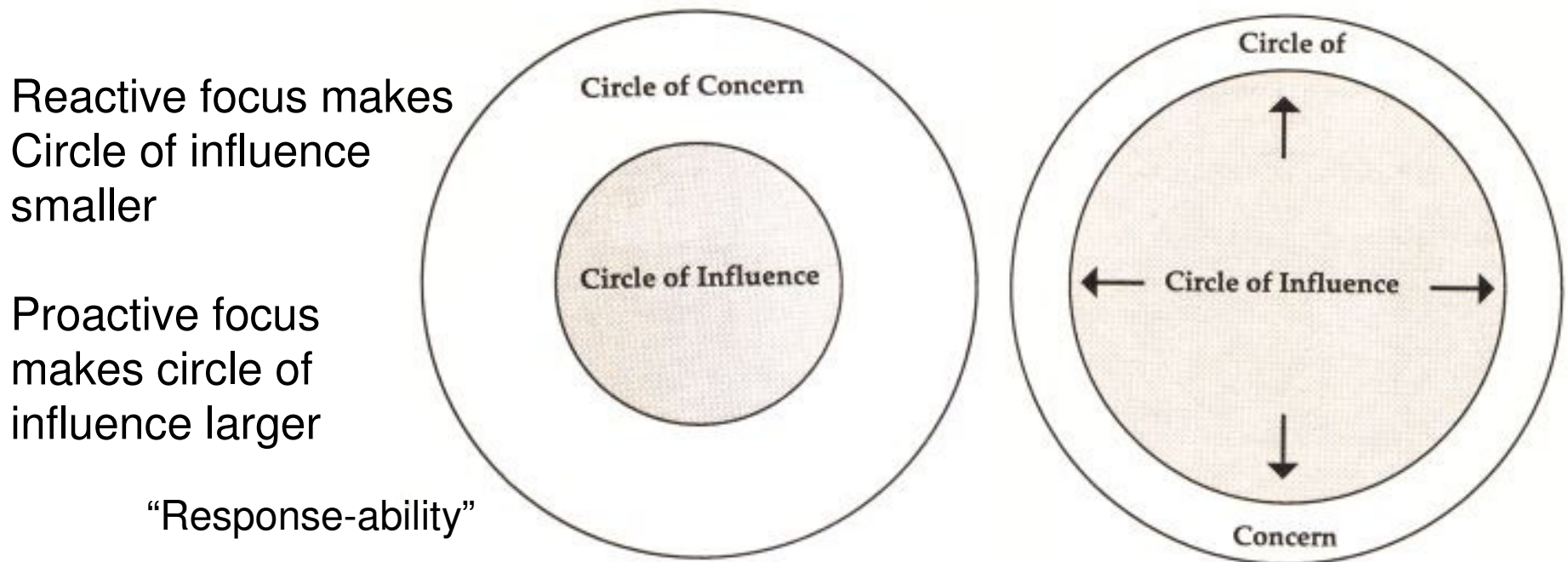
3. Interdependence: we learn to cooperate to achieve something that cannot be achieved independently. “We” are responsible.



“Maturity Continuum”

# Habit #1: Be Proactive

- Step of independence- decisions & thoughts that are independent of environment. We should act based on values rather than based on feelings.



Consistently apply the Bible regardless of situation (don't just react):

“Love one another” (John 13:35)

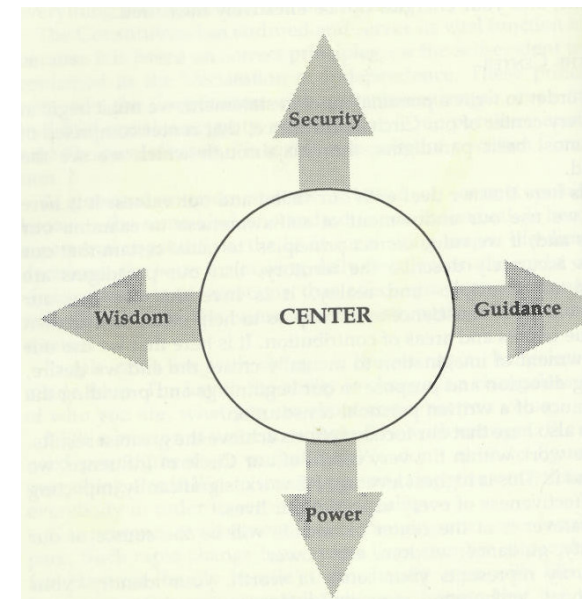
“Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus” (Phil 2:5)



# Habit #2: Begin with the End in Mind

“For we are God’s workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which *God prepared in advance* for us to do” (Eph. 2:10).

- Have a vision of what/who you want to be (Joseph’s dreams)
- Write a personal mission statement
- Questions:
  - Why do I exist?
  - How has God shaped you?
  - What is God calling you to accomplish?



# Habit #2: Begin with the End in Mind (continued)

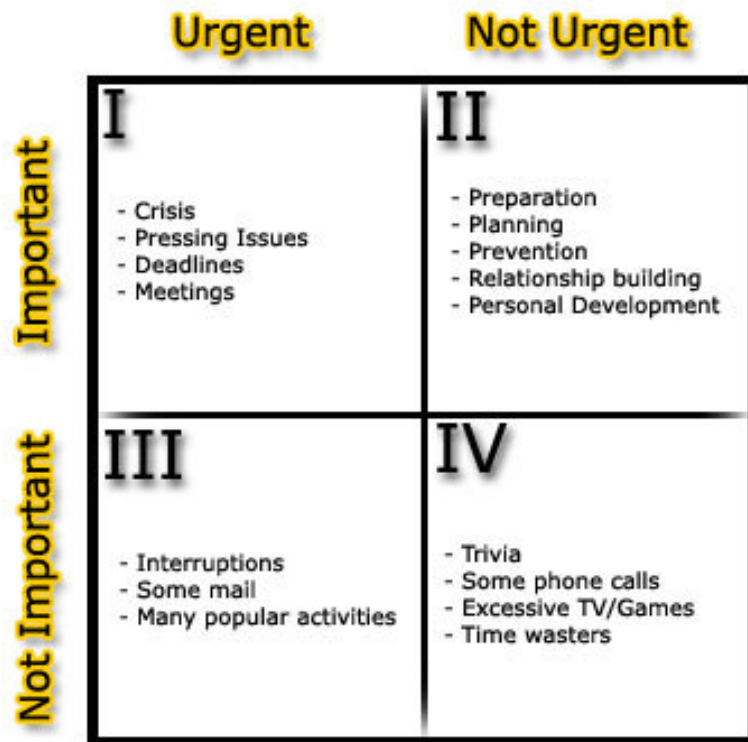
## Questions to help you:

- What are you good at? What are you poor at? What do you like to do? What do you not like to do?
- Most important question:  
*What do you think God's calling is for you?*

[illegible]

# Habit #3: Put First Things First

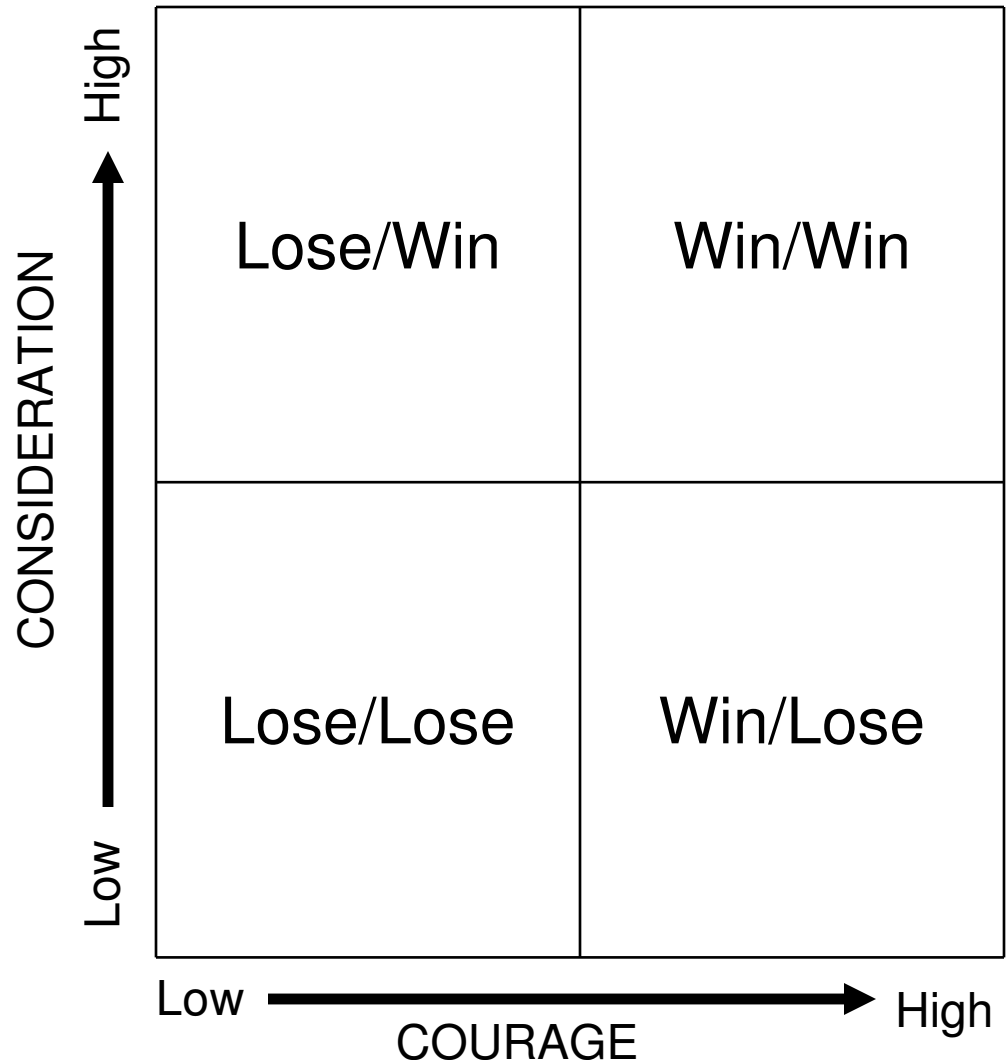
- Based on #2, develop priorities and actions
- “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well.”  
(Matthew 6:33)



# Habit #4: Think Win/Win

- “This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.”

1 Tim 2:3



# Habit #5: Understand First, Then Be Understood

- People first tend to what to be understood first
- “People don’t listen to me.”
- Solution: listen to people first, be empathic, see their situation
- Listening gives credibility to then be understood

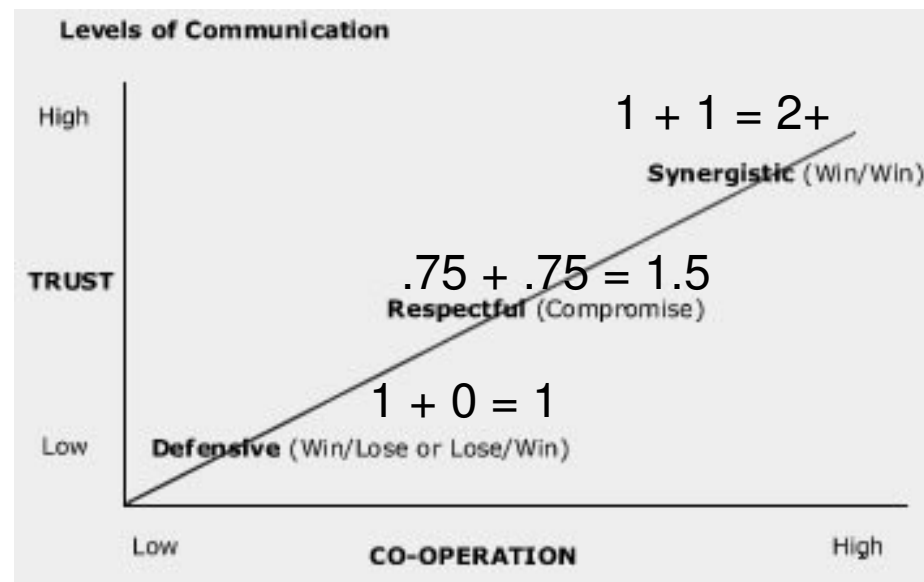
“When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.” Mark 6:34

“Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.”  
1 Peter 3:8

# Habit #6: Synergize

- Coworking is important
  - Whole is better than sum of parts (two people picking apples, or two people getting more votes together)
  - Mutual trust and understanding can find a better solution than one person

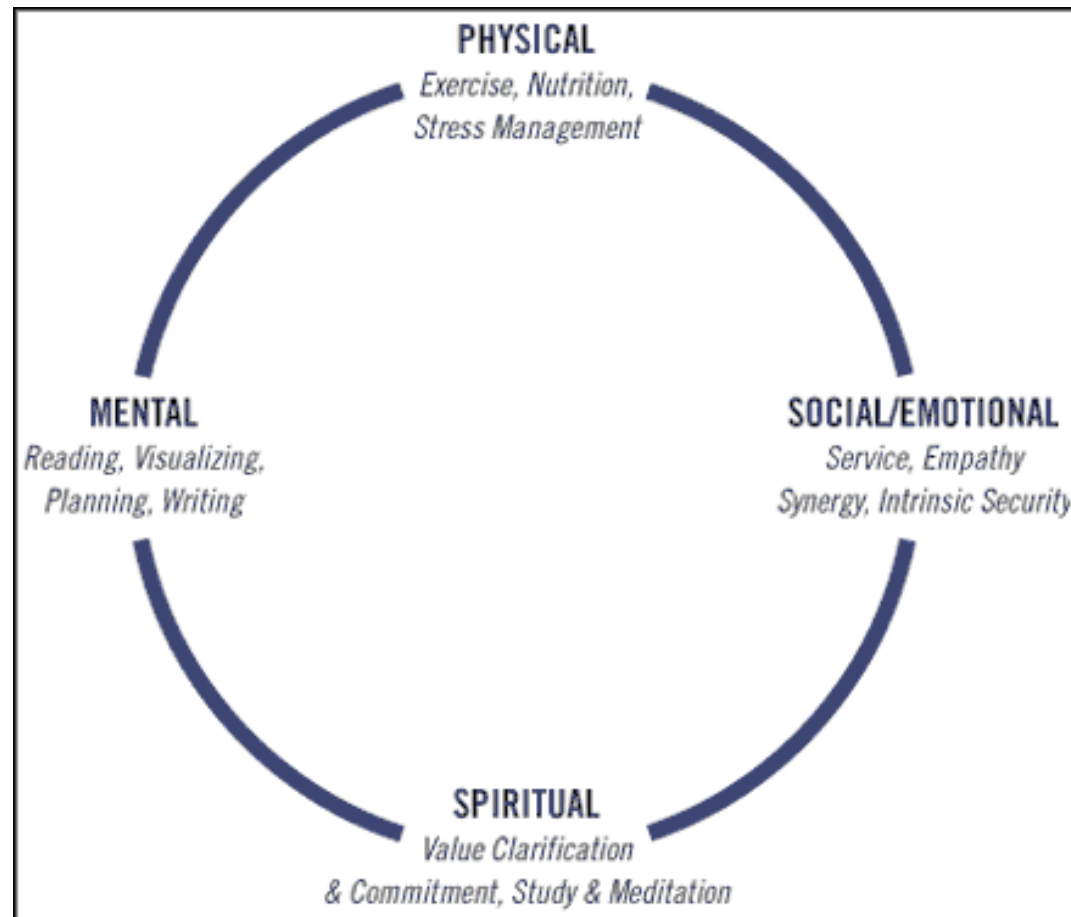
"I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.  
"Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."  
Matthew 18:18-20





# Habit #7: Sharpen the Saw

- Working hard to saw a tree: need to sharpen the saw. Hard work alone is not good enough.



# Quiet Time

Jesus:

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. (Mark 1:35)

King David:

In the morning, O LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation. (Psalm 5:3)

