

Habit 2

Begin With The End in
Mind



What does “begin with the end in mind” mean?

- We often begin without a plan. Instead, we should...
- Design blue prints for a house before building it
- Read a recipe before making it
- Create an outline before writing a paper

What does the end look like?

- If you could see a picture first, it would be easier to find a path--like looking at a puzzle picture while putting it together
- What does your future look like? Have you given it much thought?

Crossroads in life

- If you have an end in mind, it makes it easier to make decisions about the big things
 - Do you want to go to college or grad school?
 - Who will you date?
 - Will you have sex before marriage?
 - Will you smoke, drink, do drugs?
 - What kind of relationships will you have with your family?
 - What type of friends will you have?

What about friends?

- They can have a powerful influence on you
- Hanging out with a group of friends that don't have the same principles/values that you do will make you guilty by association, even if you don't do everything they do

What about sex?

- An important decision with huge consequences
- Too late if you wait to make a decision in the “heat of the moment”
- The path you choose will affect your health, self-image, how fast you grow up, your reputation, whom you marry, your future children, and so much more

What about school/work/military?

- You have decisions to make right now about your schooling
- Are you going to take AP classes, college classes at MATC, or have you not thought that far ahead yet?
- What kind of job do you want?
- What branch of the military do you want to join?

You need to take the lead

- If you don't plan for your future, someone else will
- Who? Your parents, your friends, the media (music, tv, movies, magazines)
- Ever not known where to go, so you followed the crowd then discovered that the crowd didn't know where to go either?

A Personal Mission Statement

- Thinking about all of the previous slides will help you develop a personal mission statement
- Once you have developed a mission statement, you can align your goals with your statement