**[ 2 ] WEEK TWO - THREAD: Achievement motivation**

DA 21 Young person is motivated to do well in school.

*63% of youth surveyed by Search Institute in the USA have this have this thread of 'ACHIEVEMENT MOTIVATION' in their lives. [JUNIOR COLLEGE WORDING: Children are motivated to do well in school and other activities.]*

**KEY TEXT**: Philippians 3:12-16 “Press on to the Goal”

**BIBLE TEXT:**

*12Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. 13Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, 14I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

*15All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. 16Only let us live up to what we have already attained.*

**TEACHING FOR TEACHERS:**

Press on - says St Paul. He is thinking of a person caught between two points: The first point is meeting God's grace and love, and therefore, believing that God is "for us" and not "against us." The second point, is "the day that God keeps his promise" and brings me through death to eternal life. Between these two points, a person is motivated, to press on, whatever comes against us - because God is always "GOD FOR US." Specifically, this text thinks of "baptism" where a person is forgiven sin, and put right with God. At the heart of this message, is a call for us to look at our lives from God's

**THREAD DISCUSS**

This thread is woven within the heart. Unlike many other threads, this one is strong within many young people. Young people need to be guided on the "inward journey" to think through what motivates them, and inspires them. In a school setting, we can encourage young people to look at their own commitment to learning and to make that a lifelong commitment. With this motivation, young people can set out to find ways to succeed and do well in school.

In developing the desire to succeed, and to do well, and to be motivated to achieve, young people can find themselves improving, with refreshed attitudes towards themselves and others, and overall better outcomes academically. Even their attitude towards their school community can grow stronger and more healthy. This may even impact on their physical and mental well-being.

**ACTIVITIES**

\* Students draw a timeline of their journey through school. List an equal number of moments of achievement and of failure. Talk about the highs and lows of this journey

\* Invite an older person to your group (maybe a fellow teacher) who has continued to do study after graduating from Uni or College. Explore what it means to be a life-long learner. Find out what motivates the person.

\* Study the four pillars of PLC's learning model. How does each pillar motivate students to grow?

\* Organise a "show and tell" of activities that each person is involved in, outside of school tasks. Discuss what motivates each person to do their particular activity.

\* Discuss strategies to talk about REPORT CARDS with parents. How can a student show his/her parents the core points of "achievement" in a report card?

\* Put up motivational sayings. Get group members to pick the best and make posters of them.

Place a box in the centre of the room. Each person thinks about one good thing that motivates them - writes that item on a card, then places it on the box. Keep the box in the room - and refer to it sometimes.

**PRAYING:**

*An example of a prayer for this week:*

Dear God, motivate us.

Give us passion to reach ever higher;

to work towards new challenges;

to achieve good results

and to bless others with the good things,

that you have given to us.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

*These two weeks we could pray for:*

People who are inspiring - that God would give them courage;

quiet times to listen to our own hearts;

passion to use what we have, to help others;

that we would be ready to encourage our leaders;

ask God to bless our teachers;

help for times when we feel empty.