

The Canal Builder

Colonel George Washington Goethals, the man responsible for the completion of the Panama Canal, had big problems with the climate and the geography during its construction.

But his biggest challenge was the growing criticism back home from those who predicted he would never finish the project.

Finally, a colleague asked him, "Aren't you going to answer these critics?"

"In time," answered Goethals.

"When?" his partner asked.

"When the canal is finished," Goethals declared.

Not everyone is going to understand the life goals you have set or the work that you do in pursuit of them. You may face distractions galore and criticism in abundance.

Knowing where you are going, and keeping your eye on that target, will produce its own rewards at the end. Pleasing God, and in the process keeping the dictates of your conscience, is far more important than pleasing man.

--Beecher Hunter