

## **Workshop on Success and Ambition – Part 2**

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### I. Introduction.

### II. Characteristics to develop toward success.

#### A. Excitement.

1. The excitement that comes from the expectation of faith. (Proverbs 23:7)
2. The excitement of goal setting and reaching.
  - a. Determine goals.
  - b. Separate the important from the less important.
  - c. Take shortcuts.
  - d. Get all the facts. (Proverbs 23:20)
  - e. Face the facts.
  - f. Plan ahead. (Matthew 6:24; Proverbs 16:9)
  - g. Think through. (Proverbs 22:3)
  - h. Make a decision. (1 Kings 18:21)
  - i. Execute now.
  - j. Be a finisher. (Ecclesiastes 9:10)
  - k. Be time conscience.

#### B. The right to ambition.

1. The desire to be a witness.
2. The desire to influence society.
3. The desire to be used by God.
4. The desire to lead spiritually.
5. The desire to make the most use of your gifts.

### III. Hindrances to success.

#### A. A failure image.

B. The money bag. (1 Timothy 6:10; Proverbs 23:4-5; Ecclesiastes 5:10; Proverbs 30:8-9)

C. Misconceptions about success. (Mark 8:36; John 6:33; 2 Timothy 3:12; Galatians 6:3; Philippians 4:13; John 10:10; Luke 6:26)

D. Laziness.

E. No goals.

F. A fear of failure.

G. Doubts and fears. (Revelation 21:8)

H. Defeated friends.

I. Wrong ambitions. (1 John 2:15-16; Luke 22)

J. The “if” syndrome.

K. Wrong responses to suffering.

L. Broken-heartedness.

#### IV. The sky is the limit.

A. Man is meant to achieve.

B. Man must be motivated to achieve.

C. Inner change is the beginning of the motivating process. (Ephesians 2:10)

D. Motivation must be through daily repetition of positive thoughts and patterns. (Acts 17:11; 5:42)

E. Goal setting is necessary for moving in the right direction. (Matthew 16:21; Luke 19:10)

F. Believing in God’s power to accomplish is a must. (Matthew 19:26; Mark 9:23)

#### V. Key principles.

A. God is totally in charge of our present and future—he will promote success as he pleases. (Psalm 75:6-7)

B. Each person must personally responsible for seeking God’s will. (Ephesians 5:17; Proverbs 12:15)

C. Our worth does not depend upon our ability and position. (1 Corinthians 4:7)

**Application questions:**

1. How would you help a young Christian gain a biblical understanding of success?

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2. What are the keys to success?

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3. What are your goals? Develop a long range life goal statement and write it below.

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