



The Truth about All Success!

Pastor Paul Taylor/January 22, 2012

Very few Christians are mature enough to handle success.

Everything we have come from God...HE is the author of all gifting, talents and success.

- **1 Corinthians 8:6 (NIV84)** — *6 yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.*
- **The Gifts of the Holy Spirit: 1 Corinthians 12:11 (NIV84)** — *11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.*
- **The Body of Christ: 1 Corinthians 12:18 (NIV84)** — *18 But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.*

Wrong World View: We attribute success to the person themselves. We have worldly, ungodly values because we live by what we see and think. **1 Corinthians 3:3 (NIV84)** — *3 You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere men?*

Correct Kingdom View: We don't need to be jealous of others and they don't need to be jealous of us. God is the author of all success. So praise God for all accomplishments; yours and theirs. This truth alone brings unity to the Body of Christ. **1 Corinthians 4:7**, *For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?*

A divine partnership: He does the greater and we accomplish the lesser but he loves us and has chosen to work in and through us.

- **1 Corinthians 3:5-9**, *5 What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. 6 I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. 7 So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. 8 *The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor*. 9 *For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.**

What are we jealous of? We don't believe we are truly valuable. We compare ourselves to others who seem happier than we are. **2 Corinthians 10:12 (NIV84)** — *12 We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. When they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are not wise. **Our real value in this life is only seen by God.***

False PRIDE: we believe THE LIE that WE are responsible for our success and our accomplishments. He does all the work and we take all the credit! So God opposes the proud for his name sake - and for our protection.

- **Why Jesus hid himself from the crowd.** **John 6:14–15 (NIV84)** — *14 After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world." 15 Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.*
- **Why Peter rebukes the crowd.** **Acts 3:12, 16 (NIV84)** — *12 When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Men of Israel, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? 16 By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see.*

- **Why Paul and Barnabas tear their clothes. Acts 14:13–15 (NIV84) — 13** *The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates because he and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them. 14* *But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of this, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting: 15 “Men, why are you doing this? We too are only men, human like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made heaven and earth and sea and everything in them.*
- **They ALL know the danger of the LIE.**

False Humility: we know we deserve some recognition, but we know it is wrong to boast, so we beat ourselves down. People can end up fearing success! God has a better way.

We are conduits, of God’s power to HELP get the job done. To partner with God is an honor; a privilege. We do not deserve it, we didn’t earn it; don’t forget it. Within this truth, we have the choice to cooperate or not, but we are still accountable for what has been given to us by His choosing. The final credit is always His, but He has chosen to share His joy with us.

Praising God for our success AND the success of others is both the ONLY safe and true response.

- **John 15:11–12 (NIV84) — 11** *I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.*

HOMEWORK - Pride and Jealousy proofing our lives:

- Collect the praise you receive, and willingly give it back to God.
- Ask Jesus to forgive you for believing The Lie, that I am responsible for my own success, for and teaching others this world’s system.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to clean you from your insecurities, fear of success and fear of failure and learn to live in true humility and we can enjoy being a conduit of God’s success.
- Enjoy God’s success through you and through others!
- Then let’s ask the Holy Spirit to come to this Church in POWER!!!