

## Keys to Having Success

Deuteronomy 8.6-9

There is a land that God has prepared for us in 2008. Are you ready and willing to go after it?

There are 3 types of out pouring (Anointings):

1. Brooks
  - a. River (out)
2. Fountains
  - a. Eye (up)
    - i. Going to another level always requires you to go uphill.
3. Springs
  - a. Breaking Forth

There are 7 foods:

1. Wheat
  - a. Wheat speaks of Life
2. Barley
  - a. New Beginnings
3. Vines
  - a. Blood Atonement
4. Fig Trees
  - a. Righteousness
5. Pomegranates
  - a. That which is holy and pure
6. Olive Oil
  - a. The Anointing
7. Honey
  - a. The Word

What is success?

Doing what God has called me to do. Nothing more, and nothing less.

- b. There are three suppositions regarding this statement:
  - i. I know what God has called me to do.
  - ii. I know that I am capable of doing it.
  - iii. I know what God has called me to do, will span my lifetime.
    1. Success in life is determined by how we use our time.

We spend a lot of our lives striving, but never reach the end for which God started us.

We've all heard of near-death experiences; but how many of you know that many people have had near-life experiences. They come close to being fully alive but never discover who they really are.

Luke 5.1-6

### **1. Let go of past failures.** (v.5)

Our failures can limit our ability to move forward.

We have to understand that losing, like winning is habit forming. If we are going to be successful, we have to let go of what didn't go the way we thought they should've gone in 2007.

You thought you should've gotten that promotion and you didn't, so now you are not going to work hard to prove

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your point. That is a losers mentality. Only losers have things to prove.

There wasn't a problem in what Peter heard; the problem arose because Peter filtered what he heard on his past failure - there were no fish for a nights work.

If we are going to succeed (do what God has called us to do), then we cannot filter it.

### 2. Begin with the end in mind. (v.5)

Although Peter heard what Jesus had told him, he could see it for himself.

When Jesus gave Peter these instructions, what do you think He (Jesus) had in mind? Was it what Peter saw?

Isaiah 46.10

*From the beginning I revealed the end. From long ago I told you things that had not yet happened, saying, "My plan will stand, and I'll do everything I intended to do."*

Alice in Wonderland asked the Cheshire Cat, "Would you tell me, please which way I ought to go from here?"

"That depends a good deal in where you want to get to," the Cat answers.

"When Alice replies that it really doesn't matter, the grinning feline say "Then it doesn't matter which way you go."

The thought behind this is: If you don't know where you are going, any road will take you there.

Vision – the place where tomorrow is shaped.

You have to begin 2008 thinking about 12/31/08.

Acts 16.6-10

- a. We have to discern what is God's plan for us, as opposed to our own plan.
  - a. One of the greatest hindrances we can face is to think we are to be or do something else, than what God wants us to do or be.
    - i. Acts 5.38-39
- b. There are 6 benefits of God inspired Vision:
  - a. **Vision births passion** (*Immediately*)
    - i. There wasn't a lot of questioning. They were ready to do
  - b. **Vision unifies like-minded people** (*We*)
    - i. This is teamwork. You need to determine who is to help you achieve your vision.
  - c. **Vision brings action** (*Go*)
    - i. Having vision allows you to accelerate your pace.
  - d. **Vision brings direction** (*to Macedonia*)
    - i. You have to know where you are going.
  - e. **Vision confirms purpose** (*for the Lord had called us...*)

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### f. **Vision is not for you but others** *(to preach the gospel)*

#### c. You are not too old to have a vision

##### i. Joel 2.

People of vision have no difficulty praying because they have something to pray about.

People of vision have no trouble sacrificing because they believe in something greater.

People of vision have no problem believing God for big things because they know that God can do the impossible.

Can you see where you want to be at the end of 2008?

### 3. **Increase your expectation** (v.6)

Two men went fishing. One man was an experienced fisherman, the other wasn't. Every time the experienced fisherman caught a big fish, he put it in his ice chest to keep it fresh. Whenever the inexperienced fisherman caught a big fish, he threw it back.

The experienced fisherman watched this go on all day and finally got tired of seeing this man waste good fish. "Why do you keep throwing back all the big fish you catch?" he asked.

The inexperienced fisherman replied, "I only have a small frying pan."

Sometimes, like that fisherman, we throw back the big plans, big dreams, big jobs, big opportunities that God

gives us. Our faith is too small. We laugh at that fisherman who didn't figure out that all he needed was a bigger frying pan; yet how ready are we to increase the size of our faith?

Whether it's a problem or a possibility, God will never give you anything bigger than you can handle. That means we can confidently walk into anything God brings our way. You can do all things through Christ.

Numbers 13.27-33

The way you see your future determines your thinking today, and your thinking today determines your performance today.

If your vision doesn't call for a miracle it is too small.

Mark 9.23

Philippians 4:13

Nothing is too big for God.

We have to get on the same page as God.

Genesis 15.5 - What do you see? Do you see stars or do you see clouds?

Be prepared for other people to think you are crazy as you pursue what God has deposited inside of you.

Genesis 15.

Sara laughed at what God wanted to do.

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### 4. Purpose in your heart that you are going to be better and do better.

- a. If you are going to be better, you have to make a commitment to do so.
- b. Failure to commit to be better is a commitment to remain the same.

### 5. Spend time in prayer.

- a. If you are going to be better this year, then we must commit to prayer – spending time with God.

### 6. Spend time in the Word.

- a. By spending time in the word, it will create an atmosphere of success.

### 7. Develop a habit of giving.

### 8. Hang out with the right people.

- a. Understand there are people who cannot help you achieve your goals in life. That doesn't mean that they are bad people, they just don't have what you need to get you to where you want to go.

### 9. Be Self-Disciplined (Diligent)

- a. Proverbs 29:18
  - i.

### 10. Be a person of Courage.

- a. Courage is not the absence of fear, but the ability to continue moving forward in the face of fear.

### 11. Take care of your temple.

Do you know what happens when you DREAM? You "Dare (to) Reach Extraordinary Altitudes (&) Milestones."

- 1) DARE. Dare to become someone. Nehemiah did. Esther did. David did. Paul did. Dare to go beyond where your friends are. Dare to prove everybody else wrong, who says that you cannot succeed! ALL things are possible through Christ! (Mark 10:27)
- 2) REACH. Stretch every part of your mind, heart, and soul, and reach for what you want in life and the desires of your heart, not what someone else wants to give you after they take their part. God WILL give you the desires of your heart. (Psalm 37:4)
- 3) EXTRAORDINARY. Dare to reach for the Extraordinary Life! It is waiting on you! Walk in the Extraordinary! Think Extraordinary! Become Extraordinary- but only through the Holy Touch of God- because we serve an EXTRAORDINARY God! (Isaiah 37:16)
- 4) ALTITUDES. You MUST soar higher in life than you ever have with your dream through the Power of the Holy Spirit! The higher the Altitude, the more Magnetic the Pull of your Dream- and the more pleased God is! (Hebrews 11:6)
- 5) MILESTONES. Reach for Extraordinary, Life Changing Milestones! Most people do not ever plan on

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hitting Extraordinary Milestones in their life. Satan convinces them it will not happen. And because of that, they end up getting Millstones of Mediocrity hung around the neck of their future, dragging frustration and doubt all through their life. Jesus' Yoke is easy! (Matthew 11:30)