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DAY 13

GOD PROMISES TO GIVE YOU GODLY SUCCESS

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KEY SCRIPTURE

PROVERBS 16:3

"Commit your actions to the Lord, and your plans will succeed."

Every ability we have that will lead to success in life is given by God. 1 Corinthians 4:7, Paul asked; "What do you have that you have not received?" His question to the Corinthians implies that a person's ability to achieve success, could come only from God. So, it is God's plan for us to succeed in life.

Measuring success can be different for everyone. For some, it's about a great career, and trying to find satisfaction in all that it offers. And although God gives us the ability to achieve, many credit their work to their success, with no acknowledgement to God. Since having a great career is a gift from God, if you should lose everything, would you consider yourself a failure? Or would you recognize the hand of the Father working for you to become even better?

Achieving worldly success is hard, because you then believe that you must work even harder to keep what you have. But that should not be the mindset of those who commit whatever they do to the Lord.

Joshua's success depended on him studying the book of instruction continually, and obeying it, for only then he would prosper and succeed in everything (Joshua 1:8). Godly success comes from doing the will of God, it is more than a lucky break or sheer hard work. "...God works all things together for the good of those who love him..." (Romans 8:28)

In Proverbs 3:6 we are encouraged to "trust in the Lord with all of our heart" and "acknowledge him in all our ways" the promise is that he will direct our path". It is the wisdom of God that guides our lives and brings us successful outcomes.

Our text verse gives us the blueprint on how to succeed in life. Here we are told to commit our actions to the LORD. So, what does it mean to commit? The word here simply means to "roll upon", in the same way we are encouraged to roll our burden on God and leave it with him. To commit implies a close relationship that requires trust in the one that you are committed to.

The key to godly success is to commit to the Lord in prayer everything you do. Bring the word of his promise to him and obey him. This applies to every area of our lives. He is not ignorant of our needs, but we must bring them to him and trust His providence. He will give

you the desires of your heart! Why? Because He gave them to you! To be ignorant of his promises, is to forfeit his divine providence. As in the words of Joseph M. Scriven:

*O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry,
Everything to God in prayer.*

My father always encouraged us to tell the Lord everything. For when it's urgent for us, He is already there working it out!

When the Lord establishes our thoughts, we achieve the best in life because his plans for us are good. It is quite the opposite when we make decisions without him. This is why we often find ourselves in the wilderness of life because God is having to put things right and making them work together for our good.

The promises of God are for every one of us. So, what are your plans? Have you rolled them on to the Lord? Then you will have godly success!

REFLECTIONS

- ▶ In your own words, define worldly success v. godly success?
- ▶ Many compare themselves to others when measuring their success. How should success be measured considering 1 Corinthians 4:7?
- ▶ The key to godly success is to commit all that we do to the Lord: What does that look like to you?

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you for all your promises and for the understanding that they are for each one of us. May we roll everything we do onto you so that you will establish our thoughts. In Jesus' name.
