

The Path to Lasting Success
Doing Life God's Way – Part 2 of 11
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Common Definition of Success

- Success = HAPPINESS

Two common paths to happiness...

- **Path #1:** The PLEASURE path. (gratifying desires)
- **Path #2:** The SUCCESS Path. (achieving my goals)

King Solomon reveals the SUCCESSFUL life in God's Kingdom.

Ecclesiastes 2:24–26 (ESV)

²⁴ There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, ²⁵ for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? ²⁶ For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

Success according to God's Way is FAITHFULNESS in the assignments God gives me. (Proverbs 28:20, Matthew 25:21, 23)

Proverbs 28:20 (ESV)

²⁰ A faithful man will abound with blessings,
but whoever hastens to be rich will not go unpunished.

The path to lasting success is WISDOM. (Ephesians 5:15-17, Proverbs 8:12, 20-21)

Ephesians 5:15–17 (ESV)

¹⁵ Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Proverbs 8:12 (ESV)

¹² "I, wisdom, dwell with prudence,
and I find knowledge and discretion.

Proverbs 8:20–21 (ESV)

- ²⁰ I walk in the way of righteousness,
in the paths of justice,
²¹ granting an inheritance to those who love me,
and filling their treasuries.

- **The Three Dimensions of Wisdom...**

- **RIGHTOUS toward God** - it honors Him, lines up with His character and Will as revealed in the Bible.
- **JUST towards people** – doesn't play favorites
- **PRUDENT toward the goal** - Exercises good judgment in the choice of a goal and the application of resources to achieve it, both in timing and procedures.

Doing Life God's Way Chart

Area	God's Way	Key Scripture
Definition of Success	<u>FAITHFUL</u> in assignments God gives	Proverbs 28:20, Matthew 25:23
Path of Success	Wisdom – Doing what is <u>RIGHT</u> , <u>JUST</u> and <u>PRUDENT</u> .	Matthew 7:13-14, Proverbs 8:12,20

My Next Step today is to...

- ☐ Make a list of the assignments God has given me and write a way to be faithful in each of those assignments this week.
- ☐ Apply the 3 Dimensions of wisdom to _____ this week.
- ☐ Come back next week to learn about Doing Life God's Way and the Attitudes of Success.