

LIFE PROMISES *FOR* SUCCESS

NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLING AUTHOR

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L I F E P R O M I S E S

FOR **SUCCESS**

promises from God on achieving your best



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PART ONE

THE ESSENCE OF SUCCESS

*"I am only one, but I am one.
I can't do everything, but I can do something.
And what I can do, I ought to do.
And what I ought to do, by the grace of
God, I shall do."*

EDWARD EVERETT HALE



LIFE PROMISES

“I know the plans I have for you,” says the LORD. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.”

JEREMIAH 29:11

Look straight ahead, and fix your eyes on what lies before you. Mark out a straight path for your feet; stay on the safe path.

PROVERBS 4:25-26

You can make many plans, but the LORD’s purpose will prevail.

PROVERBS 19:21

SUCCESS IS A JOURNEY

Success is a journey that we all take, and it affects every phase of our lives. In order to thrive during that journey, we have to have a clear view of what success is, what it isn't, and what it will take to achieve it. Many people define success by how much money they make or how far up the corporate ladder they can ascend. Coaches or athletes define it in terms of championships, winning records, or great individual statistics. Championships and wins are fine goals. Goals are important, but it's important to understand that people are not *defined* by their goals and whether or not they reach them. A win or a loss does not make you or me a better or worse human being. This is where, in our society, we've so easily lost perspective on the truth about *who we are*. We have to separate who we *are* from what we *do*. Understanding the difference between purpose and goals is essential to understanding the true definition of success.



LIFE PROMISES

Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness!

ECCLESIASTES 5:10

Commit your actions to the LORD, and your plans will succeed.

PROVERBS 16:3

Don't love money; be satisfied with what you have.

HEBREWS 13:5

How Do *You* Define Success?

John Wooden, the legendary UCLA basketball coach, is one of my heroes. In his autobiography, *They Call Me Coach*, he defines the elusive quality of success: “Success is peace of mind, which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best you are capable of becoming.” That’s a great definition. First, it takes away any external characterization of success and puts the responsibility on the individual to define his or her own success. Coach Wooden wrote his definition in 1972, at a time when many people defined success by the kinds of cars they drove, the houses they lived in, what jobs they had, and what material possessions they owned. In other words, it was a lot like it is today. But Wooden’s description of success transcends the dictionary definition. It’s not the accumulation of material possessions or the gaining of a certain amount of prestige or rank. It’s not moving up the ladder at work, becoming famous, or gaining political power. Success is found in “peace of mind.”



LIFE PROMISES

Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

PHILIPPIANS 1:6

Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Renew a loyal spirit within me.

PSALM 51:10

THE GUY IN THE GLASS

When you get what you want in your struggle for
pelf,

And the world makes you King for a day,
Then go to the mirror and look at yourself,
And see what that guy has to say.

For it isn't your Father, or Mother, or Wife,
Who judgment upon you must pass.
The feller whose verdict counts most in your life
Is the guy staring back from the glass.

He's the feller to please, never mind all the rest,
For he's with you clear up to the end,
And you've passed your most dangerous, difficult test
If the guy in the glass is your friend.

You may be like Jack Horner and "chisel" a plum,
And think you're a wonderful guy,
But the man in the glass says you're only a bum
If you can't look him straight in the eye.

You can fool the whole world down the pathway
of years,
And get pats on the back as you pass,
But your final reward will be heartaches and tears
If you've cheated the guy in the glass.

DALE WIMBROW