

Principles for Spiritual Success

Joshua 1:1-9

Introduction:

1. Many people spend a great deal of time striving for what they consider success (wealth, fortune, fame, etc.). Many books written to help people achieve success.
2. Our focus should be on how to achieve spiritual success
3. **Josh. 1: 6-9** provide us with 7 principles to achieve spiritual success

Discussion:

I. BE STRONG

- A. **Josh 1:6, 7, 9**
- B. It is necessary for God's people to be strong
- C. **Psalm 31:24** - "Be strong and let your heart take courage, All you who hope in the Lord."
- D. **1 Cor. 16:13** - "Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong"
- E. **Eph. 3:14-16; 6:10** -
- F. **2 Tim. 2:1** - "be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus

II. BE (VERY) COURAGEOUS

- A. **Josh 1:6, 7, 9**
- B. Courageous - not deterred by danger or pain - brave.
- C. Paul, after his defense b4 the Sanhedrin council (**Acts 23:11**)
- D. Courage comes from trusting in God (**Acts. 27:21-25**)
- E. Courage to endure hardship - **2 Tim. 2:3**
- F. "Dare to stand like Joshua"

III. BE CAREFUL TO DO ACCORDING TO all THE LAW

- A. **Josh. 1:7**
- B. be careful = observe.
- C. To Joshua - the law of Moses (**Josh. 1:7**)
- D. To us today, Christ has ALL authority - **Matt. 28:18-20** - teach to observe all things he commands
- E. **Acts 20:26-27** - "I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God - KJV"

IV. DO NOT TURN ASIDE FROM THE WORD OF GOD TO THE RIGHT OR TO THE LEFT

- A. **Josh. 1:7**
- B. **Deut. 4:1-2; 12:32**
- C. **Prov. 30:6**
- D. **Revelation 22:8-19**

V. MEDITATE ON THE WORD OF GOD DAY AND NIGHT

- A. **Josh. 1:8**
- B. Meditate - to ponder, consider, think deeply or carefully about (something). [as opposed to Eastern philosophy]
- C. **Psalm 1:1-2 ; Psalm 119:97-104**
- D. **Deut. 6:4-9**

VI. DO NOT TREMBLE

- A. **Josh. 1:9**

- B. Do not be afraid, fear keeps many from achieving success spiritually (**Matt. 25:25**)
- C. No need to fear men - **Ps. 118:6; Matt. 10:28**

VII. **DO NOT BE DISMAYED**

- A. **Josh. 1:9**
- B. to experience consternation or distress - to become discouraged
- C. **Gal. 6:9** - "let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary"
- D. **2 Cor. 4:1**
- E. **Isaiah 41:10** - "do not fear, for I am with you; do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God...."
- F. Song # 657 "Be not dismayed, whate'er be tide, God will take care of you"

Conclusion:

1. Result of doing these? You will make your way prosperous (**Josh. 1:8**) and then you will have success (**Josh. 1:7,8**);
2. Take comfort knowing God will b w/ you (**Josh. 1:9**)(**Josh. 1:5**) - **Rom. 8:31**
3. We can be more than conquerors thru Him who loved us (**Rom 8:37-39**)
4. This road to success begins by being obedient to God's word!