

SERMON NOTES:

Living A Rightly Ordered Life | Part 5: What God Looks For

BIG Idea: God does not measure success the way the world does—He looks for faithfulness.

Application: Live with open hands—faithfully honoring God with what He has entrusted to you, beginning with your first and best.

Join us as we read the Bible together in 2026.

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We live in a world obsessed with success.

What is needed? Faithfulness.

1. We are stewards, not owners.

1 Corinthians 4:1–2 (NLT)

¹ So look at Apollos and me as mere servants of Christ who have been put in charge of explaining God's mysteries. ² Now, a person who is put in charge as a manager must be faithful.

Psalms 24:1 (NLT)

¹ The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him.

You don't own it—you steward it.

2. God measures faithfulness, not worldly success.

1 Corinthians 4:3–4 (NLT)

³ As for me, it matters very little how I might be evaluated by you or by any human authority. I don't even trust my own judgment on this point. ⁴ My conscience is clear, but that doesn't prove I'm right. It is the Lord himself who will examine me and decide.

1 Samuel 16:7 (NLT)

⁷ But the Lord said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

Luke 16:10 (NLT)

¹⁰ "If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities."

Faithfulness is not flawless performance—it's steady obedience.

3. Faithfulness is what heaven celebrates.

Matthew 25:21 (NLT)

²¹ “The master was full of praise. ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let’s celebrate together!’”

Proverbs 3:9–10 (NLT)

⁹ Honor the Lord with your wealth
and with the best part of everything you produce.

¹⁰ Then he will fill your barns with grain,
and your vats will overflow with good wine.

1 Corinthians 4:5 (NLT)

⁵ So don’t make judgments about anyone ahead of time—before the Lord returns. For he will bring our darkest secrets to light and will reveal our private motives. Then God will give to each one whatever praise is due.

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