

3.17.2024

The Generous Life

Redefining Success

How do you define Success?

- Parable of the Rich Fool - Luke 12:15-21
- The Rich Young Ruler - Mark 10:17-25

Success According to God's Standards of Generosity

1. How I **SERVE** others, not how they **SERVE** me.

"Jesus called them together and said, 'You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.'" Mark 10:42-45 (NIV)

"The greatest among you must be a servant." Matthew 23:11 (NLT)

2. What I **GIVE**, not what I **HAVE**.

"...Remember the words of the Lord Jesus: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Acts 20:35 (NLT)

"Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you." Matthew 6:2-4 (ESV)

3. My **ETERNAL** rewards, not my **EARTHLY** ones.

"But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus – the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God." Acts 20:24 (NLT)

"Don't store up treasures here on earth where they can erode away or may be stolen. Store them in heaven where they will never lose their value and are safe from thieves." Matthew 6:19-20 (TLB)

“Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.”

1 Timothy 6:17-19 (NLT)

“And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?” Mark 8:36 (NLT)