

## **DON'T STRESS SUCCESS!**

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*Then God gave the people all these instructions: "I am the LORD your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery. "You must not have any other god but me. "You must not make for yourself **an idol of any kind or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the LORD your God, **am a jealous God** who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods.***

**Exodus 20:1-5a (NLT)**

An **IDOL or IDOLATRY** is:

**A person, place, thing, or thought that we look to as **our source, other than God.****

Is success what we are supposed to be striving for as a Christian?  
Does Success define the quality of our lives?  
Does God evaluate us on how successful we are?

**Our assignment is not to be **successful.**  
Our assignment is to be **faithful.****

*Moreover, it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.*

**1 Corinthians 4:2 (NKJV)**

**Success is not what you have done compared to **someone else.**  
Success is what you have done compared to what you were **created to do.****

*Though I could have confidence in my own effort if anyone could. Indeed, if others have reason for confidence in their own efforts, I have even more! I was circumcised when I was eight days old. I am a pure-blooded citizen of Israel and a member of the tribe of Benjamin—a real Hebrew if there ever was one! I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law. I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault.*

*I once thought these things were valuable, but now **I consider them worthless** because of what Christ has done. Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, **counting it all as garbage**, so that I could gain Christ. **Philippians 3:4-8 (NLT)***

## When Does Success Become An Idol?

- Success is an idol when success becomes [an obsession](#).
- Success is an idol when you become [defined by your job](#).
- Success is an idol when you start to do [whatever it takes to get ahead](#).
- Success is an idol when you begin [neglecting family and God](#).

*And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.*

**Romans 8:28 (NLT)**

