

○ WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

You, You are God, Majestic, How Great Thou Art

○ WELCOME

Life Goals. Share with the group your life goals for 2018. What challenge/s do you foresee in achieving them?

○ WORD

LUKE 12:19–21

¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry.” ²⁰ But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?” ²¹ So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

We all have goals in life. For the majority of us, the goal would probably be to be successful. Our definition of success, then, is critical because it will have an impact on the goals we are trying to set for our lives.

If we take a closer look at our life goals, we will see that the bottom line of our pursuit for success is the desire for happiness. We want to be happy and it becomes the motivation for all our actions. However, Dwight L. Moody reminds us,

“Our greatest fear should not be failure, but of succeeding at something that doesn’t really matter.”

The reality is, most of us do not understand what true success is. This is why we allow the world to define what success is for us. Many people today are succeeding in something which in their mind is true success but only to find out in the end that they have aimed for counterfeit success. We may have everything this world has to offer like what the author of the book of Ecclesiastes had (**Ecclesiastes 2:4–8**) – houses, parks, gardens, concubines, etc. Yet like him, after having it all, we may still find our lives empty and everything a vanity (**Ecclesiastes 2:11**).

So rather than spend our lives in something meaningless, we must instead find out what makes for true success.

DEFINING TRUE SUCCESS

1. True success is being who God wants us to be.

True success has to do with our being — how we live our personal lives in both private and public. Because God has a design for human life, we are accountable to Him for our personal

development to reach our full potential.

God’s design includes His desire for us to be Christ-like. Spiritual disciplines like regular prayer, reading the Bible, meditating on the Scriptures day and night, fasting, and worship all help in transforming our character towards Christlikeness.

2. True success is doing what God wants us to do.

Doing is the outflow and byproduct of our being. It refers to our mission and public practice of obeying God’s commands to fulfill our roles and our calling in the workplace, the church, our community, and wherever else God has called us to go. Obviously, we cannot abdicate who God wants us to ‘be’ and delegate what God wants us to ‘do.’ God makes us accountable for all of it.

3. True success is hearing God say, “Well done my good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your master.”

C.S. Lewis, the author of the book series, “The Chronicles of Narnia”, said that our lives on earth has only been the title and the cover page. The next Chapter is the One with the Great Story. Someday when we go to heaven it will be Chapter One of our eternal life with the Lord. Our life now is just but a preparation for the future.

The world’s definition of success does not have the most critical components – God and eternity. God’s definition of true success includes a preparation for eternal life and not only for life in this world.

WORD (CONT'D)

The reality about death has an amazing power of altering man's desires for what is important and what is not. When our time is up on earth, we will all leave behind everything we have (**Ecclesiastes 2:18–19; Luke 12:19–21**).

4. True success is being connected with God

We read in the life of Joseph many times that God was with Him and He made him prosper (**Genesis 39: 2, 3, 5, 9, 21, 23**). Joseph's master saw that the Lord was with him and it paved the way for his promotion. Joseph pursued the right life goals toward becoming what God wants him to be and doing what God wants him to do. For this, Joseph brought blessings to others. This is true success, it cannot be just for you but it spreads to the life of many others too.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

1. **Happy Hour.** What is the life goal of the rich man in the parable from **Luke 12:19–21**?
2. **Success Is.** Based on your personal experience as a follower of Christ, how do you define success?
3. **My Road Map.** How does your life goals help you achieve true success based on what we defined today?

WORKS

PRAY CARE SHARE IN ACTION

“True success is becoming all that God wants you to be and doing all that He wants you to do and hearing Him say ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your master.’
– Peter Tan-Chi

What drives you to succeed? How will you use the CCF “#LifeGoals” materials as your entry point?

MAP FOR LIFE GOALS

All of us have a mental map for the life goals that we keep track of. Without a map, life is like chasing after the wind. However, worse than not having a map is pursuing a wrong map. The right map comes with the right definition of true success directed toward life goals that truly matter.

The map to true success is the Bible. God wants us to be successful and prosperous and the way to go about it is to meditate on His Word day and night so that we may be careful to do and obey His commands (**Joshua 1:8**).

The overarching life goal of true success is to please the Lord (**2 Corinthians 5:9–10**) with all our being and doing in the pursuit of entering eternal glory and joy in the presence of God.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

- I. **Thanksgiving**
 - Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives
- II. **Country and the World**
 - Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
 - Repentance and Salvation
- III. **Church**
 - That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
 - Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
 - Ministries and Churches worldwide
- IV. **CCF Facilities**
 - Worship and Training Center
 - Prayer Mountain
- V. **Personal Concerns**
 - Deeper intimate relationship with God
 - Righteous living
 - Salvation of family and friends