

Review:

We chase the carrot because of an <u>internal void</u>. Spiritual <u>needs</u> can't be satisfied by <u>temporary</u> things.

- The void within can only be <u>satisfied</u> by <u>God</u>.
- 9 For he satisfies the thirsty soul and fills the hungry soul with good. Psalm 107:9 (TLB) $\,$
- Success is not inherently <u>bad</u>.
- 3 Commit your actions to the LORD, and your plans will succeed. Proverbs 16:3 (NLT)

When it comes to success:

- Identify our motivation for success.
- 4 Then I observed that most people are motivated to success because they envy their neighbors. But this, too, is meaningless—like chasing the wind. Ecclesiastes 4:4 (NLT)

Motivation reveals the **heart** in our pursuit.

Determine our <u>definition</u> of success.

Our definition reveals the <u>purpose</u> in our pursuit.

10 Obviously, I'm not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ's servant. Galatians 1:10 (NLT)

While we <u>strive</u> for success, we are actually <u>longing</u> for significance.

- Success is when I add value to myself.
- Significance is when I add value to others.
- 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'
- 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself." Mark 12:30-31 (NIV)

When God becomes our <u>purpose</u>, people become our <u>priority</u>.

How we make people our priority:

- I prioritize service over status.
- 3 Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.
- 4 Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. Philippians 2:3-4 (NLT)
- I prioritize we over me.
- 44 And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had.
- 45 They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. Acts 2:44-45 (NLT)
- I prioritize worship over wealth.
- 37 "Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink?
- 38 Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing?
- 39 When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?'
- 40 "And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!' Matthew 25:37-40 (NLT)
- $45\,$ For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:45 (NLT)

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)464-5754

Here are some questions that can be used in Connection Groups: These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- Why do you think success is such an alluring carrot we chase?
- Why is our motivation and definition of success important?
- In your own words, what is the difference between success and significance?
- Why is significance better than success?
- Do you agree with the statement "When God becomes our purpose, people become our priority"? Why?
- Why does God want us to make people a priority?
- Discuss the points under the sub-heading: "How we make people our priority".
- What are some other ways we can make people a priority?
- Do you think in Mark 12:30-31 Jesus is pointing us to a selfless life?

Connection Group Leaders: Remind your group of the following announcements:

Bring a Friend BBQ: May 7th

Visit us at www.fresnoguest.com