



● Godly wisdom reflects God's **values**.

Never let loyalty and kindness leave you! Tie them around your neck as a reminder. Write them deep within your heart. Then you will find favor and much success in the sight of God and humanity. Proverbs 3:3-4

● Godly wisdom pursues a **different** success than the world's.

And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Mark 8:36
 4 I also tried to find meaning by building huge homes for myself and by planting beautiful vineyards...8 I collected great sums of silver and gold, the treasure of many kings and provinces...I had everything a man could desire!...11 I even found great pleasure in hard work, a reward for all my labors. 11 But as I looked at everything I had worked so hard to accomplish, it was all so meaningless—like chasing the wind. Ecclesiastes 2:4-11

Wisdom that brings success:

● Success requires **direction** and **diligence**.

Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty. Proverbs 21:5
 So we must not grow weary in doing good, for in due time we will reap, if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9
 So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up, or quit. Galatians 6:9 (Msg)

2 Action Steps:

Allow God to establish a **direction** for your life.

Take a **faithful step** every day towards the goal.

Hard work always pays off; mere talk puts no bread on the table. Proverbs 14:34

● Success requires **wise counsel**.

Plans go wrong for lack of advice; many advisers bring success. Proverbs 15:22
 Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm. Proverbs 13:20
 Moses' father-in-law said, "This is no way to go about it. You'll burn out, and the people right along with you. This is way too much for you—you can't do this alone. Now listen to me. Let me tell you how to do this so that God will be in this with you. Exodus 18:17-19 (Msg)

Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. Proverbs 11:14

Action Steps:

Invite **Wise Voices** Into Your Life

Refuse to make major decisions **alone**.

● Success requires us to **finish** what we **start**.

God-loyal people don't stay down long; Soon they're up on their feet, while the wicked end up flat on their faces. Proverbs 24:16
 If you give up when trouble comes, it shows that you are weak. Proverbs 24:10

For though I fall, I will rise again. Though I sit in darkness, the Lord will be my light. Micah 7:8

...Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness... James 1:2-4

Action Steps:

When you stumble, get back up and **keep moving**.

Focus on **faithfulness**, not feelings

● Success requires us to do all we do for **God's glory**.

Depend on the Lord in whatever you do, and your plans will succeed. Proverbs 16:3
 It does not belong to us, Lord. The glory belongs to you because of your love and loyalty. Psalm 115:1
 So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31

Action Steps:

Surrender your **goals** to God every day.

Look for ways to point people to **Jesus** through your success.



**TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE
 IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.**

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain.
- Proverbs 3:3-4 says that loyalty and kindness lead to favor and success. Why do you think character is more important to God than achievement?
- How does God's definition of success differ from the world's definition of success? Which definition do you find yourself pursuing most often?
- In Mark 8:36, Jesus warns about gaining the world but losing your soul. What are some modern-day ways people can achieve success while neglecting their relationship with God?
- Looking at Ecclesiastes 2:4-11, why do you think Solomon found his accomplishments "meaningless"? What lesson can we learn from his experience?
- Proverbs 21:5 teaches that success requires direction and diligence. In what area of your life do you need clearer direction from God or greater diligence in following Him?
- Galatians 6:9 encourages us not to grow weary in doing good. What is something God has called you to keep doing even when you don't immediately see results?
- Proverbs 15:22 teaches that many advisers bring success. Who are the wise voices God has placed in your life, and how have they helped shape your decisions?
- Why is it often difficult to seek or receive wise counsel? How does pride keep us from growing in wisdom?
- Proverbs 24:16 says the righteous fall but rise again. Can you share a time when God helped you get back up after a failure, disappointment, or setback?
- Which is harder for you personally: starting something or finishing something? What practical step can you take this week to become more faithful in finishing what God has called you to do?
- Proverbs 16:3 and 1 Corinthians 10:31 teach us to do everything for God's glory. What would change in your daily life if God's glory became the primary motivation behind everything you do?

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Wisdom We Need for Success

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