



Small Group Participant Guide

Proverbs 3:1-6 | What Jesus said about...success

Key Verse: Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good success. (Proverbs 3:3-4, ESV)"

Objectives: Through your time exploring this passage, you will:

Discuss success and significance, how they are related and how they are different.

Discover how God makes success and significance available.

Apply God's wisdom to your life, guiding you to experience true success and significance.

Conversation Starter: Measuring success

Consider each of these scenarios:

- You reach the top of your industry, and are recognized among your peers as a respected leader.
- You live in the home of your dreams, with paid help to keep it in order and from where you can throw lavish parties that regularly show up in the society web sites.
- Your children all have impressive careers and earn considerable incomes.
- You are known as an elite athlete, the person that the owner builds the team around.
- You accumulate significant wealth that allows you to provide for your family for generations to come
- You are a celebrity of renown. Your skill is considered "genius," and the spotlight is a comfortable place for you.

Which of these are most appealing to you and why?

An Opening Appeal (Proverbs 3:1-2)

What does it mean to you to "not forget" God's teaching?

Similarly, what does it mean to let your heart keep his commandments?

Putting these together, you see God directing you to both mentally and emotionally value God's Word with a very high regard. Verse 2 makes claims about the benefit of doing so. What are these benefits, and how does keeping and not forgetting God's Word deliver these promised benefits?

Love and Faithfulness (Proverbs 3:3-4)

What does it mean to you to not let steadfast love and faithfulness to forsake you, to bind them around your neck?

Verse 4 makes another impressive claim, that if you follow the exhortation of verse 3, you will experience the benefits of verse 4. What are some ways you would define or describe having favor and good success in the sight of God and man?

Living toward Significance (Proverbs 3:5-6)

These next two verses put the first four together to translate the intent of the mind and the commitment of the heart into the feet of faith. What is significant to you about verse 5 that articulates what you need to do to live a life of significance?

What does it mean to you to acknowledge God in all your ways?

The promise is that God will make your path straight. What does this mean to you?

Putting all this together, how does this passage in proverbs offer a roadmap to a successful life?

How does this passage challenge you to redefine success?

What is one thing you can do this week in response to pursuing a new standard of success?

Jesus in Focus

Where in this study do you see Jesus: Christ-like practices, examples, principles?

What are some other Scriptures that come to mind or are relevant to this chapter's themes, teachings, or emphases?

What is one "take-away" for you from this chapter?