

# Chapter 1 - Guaranteed Success

Saturday, June 27, 2015

11:56 PM

1. Guaranteed Success - pic of two paths (one narrow - life success, one wide - destruction, lack of death)
  - a. God's Design
  - b. God's Direction
  - c. God's Destiny
  - All a result of Godly Discipline (mental focus - rehearse God's word)
  - Joshua 1:8 - You shall have 'good success'
  - Define success - Maximizing your potential/Accomplishing your Assignment

What would you do if I told you that there is a way that you can Guarantee Success in (or for) your life? How much would you pay for it? How hard would you look for it? How long would you search for it?

First, let's figure out if YOU have what it takes to be successful? Spoiler ALERT - being talented, gifted, smart, cute, hard working, etc. does not Guarantee success. The question is NOT do you have the potential to be successful - God gives opportunity to us all. The right question is 'Do you understand success and are you willing to do what it takes to achieve it?' In order to understand success and find out if you have what it takes to be successful, you've got to define success.

Success is not merely getting a degree, job, relationship, or becoming famous (although many of those things come with success, they don't define it). After taking time with thousands of young people, the best definition of success that I can offer you is this - Success is Maximizing your Potential and Accomplishing your Assignments. It may seem a little weird talking about potential and assignments, because the conversation immediately goes to who gives & measures your potential? & who gives you your assignments? Ultimately, God does. God, our loving Creator, Heavenly Father and Ultimate Grader (Judge).

Success is the result of timely preparation and a commitment to God & His plan for your life.

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Because our lives start in God, the result of putting Godly thinking together with Godly living (putting God's priorities and ...) will always be success. God designs us for success and gives us every opportunity to achieve it! (*What most young people miss is that God wants you to be successful.*- may remove this or move it)

### ~ God's Design

You are designed for Success, not failure - that's why success feels great and defeat (or failure) feels horrible. When God told a young man named Jeremiah "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you. Before you were born, I set you apart for my holy purpose." (Jer. 1:5a GW Version) - He was letting Jeremiah know that his life had meaning & purpose, He was not a mistake or unwanted. God told Jeremiah that He designed everything about him. God determined - his nationality, his parents, his abilities, his appearance, his strengths and his weaknesses - All designed by God! Jeremiah's design was also intentional - God designed him to accomplish a specific purpose or ASSIGNMENT. While your design and purpose are different than Jeremiah's, you are just as important to God and God's plan. Romans 2:11 say that 'God does not show favoritism' (NIV). That confirms that God designs each of us for success! It feels good to know that just because I may be unique or different, God Loves me and designed me to be a winner.

### ~God's Direction

God's Word gives us so much information about living great lives and being successful. There are sometimes where we don't know what to do or which path to take. The Bible's book of wisdom (Proverbs) helps us out. Prov. 3:5&6 'Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.' When searching for God's direction, our search must start with trust. Trust is relying on something or someone. There should be no thing and no one that we trust more than God. But, trusting God with all of your heart takes practice. There will always be a path or decision that we can make that we are SURE goes against God's Word and plan for our life. Trusting God means choosing His way when it is not easy, convenient, or makes sense to our minds. Trust is not blind, It's strategically placed in God who has proven Himself as Creator, Friend, Savior, and All Mighty Lord! When we 'seek his will in all we do' meaning our decisions and actions purposely try to make God happy, God promises that He will guide our decisions and direct our lives. When we have a decision to make or your life needs direction - Trust Him, His Word and Look for the godly way toward success. God promises to orchestrate/direct your Life!

### ~God's Destiny



## God's Destiny

If you hang around godly people long enough, eventually someone will quote Jeremiah 29:11 ' For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.' (NIV)

What most people miss about Jer. 29:11 is that God was letting his people know that He was in charge of the tough times they were experiencing. God was using the tough times to show them that He was in charge and not them. We have responsibility for our life (how we use our time, talents and resources), but not ownership of our lives (Everything we are and have belongs to God). We are fortunate to belong to God and when our relationship with God is healthy (God is in charge and we serve Him with our whole heart) ~ the Destiny that he Designs will happen! 100% Guaranteed!

Fun Fact: God's Destiny is a who and not a where or a what. If God's destiny for you was a where, anyone could get there and probably before you. If it were a what, someone else could steal it or copy it. But, God's Destiny is a Who - That Who is You (sounds like Dr. Seuss!)

Not the who that stares at you in the mirror or the person that's been posting your selfies online. God's Destiny for you is the person that He's transforming you into. God's Destiny for you is the person you're becoming. God will use every experience, every victory and every disappointment to shape your spirit and heart into the person that the HE DESIRES, the person that the World needs, the person that will ultimately make you so Happy and Fulfilled (It's true - Check out Romans 8:28&29). So, because you are gifted and talented, let's maximize everything God has given you. Do your best in every situation and make the most of every opportunity. You will accomplish your assignments when you trust God and live with godly courage and passion. Remember what God told another young leader in Joshua 1:7-9 in NLT ' Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.'" God told Joshua how to Maximize his Potential and Accomplish his Assignments. Joshua needed to use what his mentor had taught him about God and His Word. Read it, Think about it, prioritize it, and do (obey) it!!! God promised that Joshua would be successful in '**everything you do**' when you '**obey everything written in it**'. God is not saying that if you mess up or miss something, you'll fail. But when you use your strength (power) and courage (challenging tough times/circumstances

