

ExtraORDINARY #11 – Paul

Sermon by Todd Lester

November 20, 2016

Joshua 1:8 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.

FALSE MEASUREMENTS OF SUCCESS

1. HOW I _____

1 Samuel 16:7

People spend on things they don't _____ with money they don't _____ to impress people they don't even _____.

2. WHAT I _____

Mark 8:36, Luke 12:5

Use your t____, t____ & t_____ for your growth and God's glory.

3. WHO I _____

Galatians 1:10, Ecclesiastes 10:6

A BIBLICAL DEFINITION OF SUCCESS

S- _____ of Direction

Romans 15:20, Philippians 3:14, Mark 10:51a, Luke 2:49 (NKJV), John 19:30

U- _____

Philippians 4:12, 2 Thessalonians 3:5, Psalm 73:17

C- _____

Acts 20:24, Matthew 16:24

C- _____

1 Corinthians 13:2, Colossians 3:12, Matthew 22:36-40

s _____ vs. e _____ vs. c _____

E- _____ Faith

Philippians 4:13, Matthew 19:26

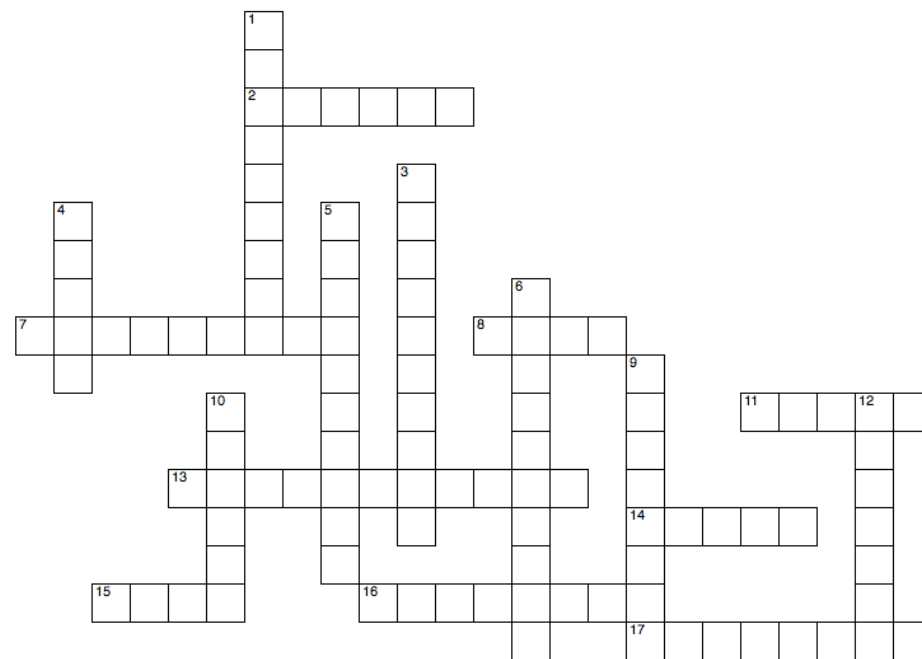
S- _____ to Others

2 Corinthians 12:15, Mark 9:35 (NIV)

S- _____ Power

2 Corinthians 4:8-9, 16-18, Acts 14:19-20

ExtraOrdinary Crossword



ACROSS

- 2 Famous math prof who solved the unsolvable
7 Paul was the greatest _____ of Christianity
8 Joshua 1:8 tells us to think about The _____
11 Colossians 3:12 tells us how to _____ for success
13 Philippians 4:12 teaches us to have this
14 Paul is a comprehensive one for the Christian life
15 What we should be addicted to
16 Jesus said "I must be about my Father's _____"
17 Another word for persistence

DOWN

- 1 Understanding and this go together
3 Fame, or this, is not a measure of success
4 What God looks at
5 Blind man healed by Jesus
6 Following Jesus is not always _____
9 Secret of success: be an eternal _____
10 Love is not a feeling but is this
12 Paul called himself a "_____ of the Lord"

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FALSE MEASUREMENTS OF SUCCESS

1. HOW I LOOK

1 Samuel 16:7 The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.

People spend on things they don't need with money they don't have to impress people they don't even like

2. WHAT I HAVE

Use your time, talents & treasures for your growth and God's glory.

Mark 8:36 And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?

Luke 12:5 Then he said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own."

3. WHO I KNOW

Galatians 1:10 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.

Ecclesiastes 10:6 Fools are put in many high positions...

A BIBLICAL DEFINITION OF SUCCESS

S-ense of Direction

Romans 15:20 My ambition has always been to preach the Good News where the name of Christ has never been heard, rather than where a church has already been started by someone else.

Philippians 3:14 I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

Mark 10:51a "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked.

Luke 2:49 (NKJV) And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"

John 19:30 When Jesus had tasted it, he said, "It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

U-nderstanding

Philippians 4:12 I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little.

2 Thessalonians 3:5 May the Lord lead your hearts into a full understanding and expression of the love of God and the patient endurance that comes from Christ.

Psalms 73:17 Then I went into your sanctuary, O God, and I finally understood ...

C-ommitment

Acts 20:24 But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God.

Matthew 16:24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me.

C-ompassion

1 Corinthians 13:2 If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing.

Colossians 3:12 Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

Matthew 22:36-40 "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" Jesus replied, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

sympathy vs. empathy vs. compassion

E-nthusiastic Faith

Philippians 4:13 For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

Matthew 19:26 Jesus looked at them intently and said, "Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible."

S-ervice to Others

2 Corinthians 12:15 I will gladly spend myself and all I have for you, even though it seems that the more I love you, the less you love me.

Mark 9:35 (NIV) He sat down, called the twelve disciples over to him, and said, "Whoever wants to be first must take last place and be the servant of everyone else."

S-taying Power

2 Corinthians 4:8-9 We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

Acts 14:19-20 Then some Jews arrived from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowds to their side. They stoned Paul and dragged him out of town, thinking he was dead. But as the believers gathered around him, he got up and went back into the town. The next day he left with Barnabas for Derbe.

Handwritten crossword puzzle solution:

Vertical words:
KENDURANC
BARIL
POPULAR
MARI
Y
BUSINESS
T
OPT
I
I
V
A
N

Horizontal words:
HEAD
PROPOSER
DANZIG
CONTENTMENT
H
I
C
HOPE
WORD
DRESS
MODEL
TENACITY

ExtraORDINARY #11: Paul

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November 20, 2016

Icebreaker/Introduction

The 'ExtraOrdinary Crossword' activity is based on things Todd said within the sermon. Participants may find it challenging so it might be good to try as a whole group activity. (answer key is with the scripture page)

Ask if there was anything from this week's message that stood out – either a point that was made which really resonated with them, or perhaps a question or difficulty that came up for them.

Read and discuss [Joshua 1:8](#). Todd paraphrased the ideas in this passage this way: "think about the Word, and apply it to your life, and then you will be successful (success according to God)"

When you hear Paul's name what comes to mind? What about his life stands out to you? (interestingly, Todd didn't touch on Paul's dramatic conversion experience - talk about this)

FALSE MEASUREMENTS OF SUCCESS

1. HOW I LOOK

Focuses on [1 Samuel 16:7](#)

People spend on things they don't need with money they don't have to impress people they don't even like

Why do you think society puts such a high value on beauty?

Have you ever described someone as having a 'good heart'? What do we mean by that?

2. WHAT I HAVE

Focuses on [Mark 8:36](#), [Luke 12:5](#)

Use your time, talents & treasures for your growth and God's glory. How do you try to do this?

Todd said that people are making more and more money and enjoying it less and less. Would you agree?

What kind of attitude do you have toward your possessions?

3. WHO I KNOW

Focuses on [Galatians 1:10](#), [Ecclesiastes 10:6](#)

Do you know anyone who is famous? What does 'know' mean in this context? Would they say that they know you? Is this false measure of success a matter of who I know or who knows me? Can it have more to do with quantity (how many people I know/who know me) than quality (the popularity of myself or who I know)?

A BIBLICAL DEFINITION OF SUCCESS

S-ense of Direction

Focuses on [Romans 15:20](#), [Philippians 3:14](#), [Mark 10:51a](#), [Luke 2:49](#) (NKJV), [John 19:30](#)

Do you have a sense of direction? Have you always? Do you think it gets easier to have this as you get older?

Jesus asked Bartimaeus 'what do you want me to do for you?' and Todd asked us if we could answer that question. Can you?

U-nderstanding

Focuses on [Philippians 4:12](#), [2 Thessalonians 3:5](#), [Psalm 73:17](#)

Todd said that contentment is something that needs to be learned (and that it's a tough lesson). How do we learn it?

What is your level of contentment with your job, finances, family, church? Do you sometimes get caught up in the 'if only' syndrome?

C-ommitment

Focuses on [Acts 20:24](#), [Matthew 16:24](#)

Which do you think is more prevalent: lack of commitment or over-commitment? Are they related?

Can you recall the 3 important things Todd said we need to be committed to? (family, ministry, relationship with God) Do you agree with this list? (would you add 'job' to it?)

C-ompassion

Focuses on [1 Corinthians 13:2](#), [Colossians 3:12](#), [Matthew 22:36-40](#)

sympathy vs. empathy vs. compassion Can you recall Todd's explanation of each of these? (sympathy="I'm sorry you hurt"

empathy="I hurt with you" compassion="I will do anything I can to stop that hurt")

Discuss Todd's statement that 'if you want to live a successful Christian life then you have to love people.'

E-nthusiastic Faith

Focuses on [Philippians 4:13](#), [Matthew 19:26](#)

What kinds of things do people tend to get enthusiastic about? What do you get enthusiastic about? Why do we not seem to usually describe faith this way? (dictionary definition: intense and eager enjoyment, interest, or approval) Should we?

What do you think of Todd's statement that we should be 'addicted to hope'?

S-ervice to Others

Focuses on [2 Corinthians 12:15](#), [Mark 9:35](#) (NIV)

Todd said that the secret of success is service. In what ways do you serve others?

Discuss Todd's statement that the more we give away (including money, time, talents), the more God gives to you.

S-taying Power

Focuses on [2 Corinthians 4:8-9](#), [16-18](#), [Acts 14:19-20](#)

Is there a vision that you have given up on?

Todd recalled being told "the easiest thing to do is quit" - do you think this is always true?

Discuss Todd's statement that 'great people are simply ordinary people with an extraordinary amount of determination'.