

We all want success. To know that we are winning.

Matthew 20:20-28 20 Then the mother of Zebedee's sons approached Him with her sons. She knelt down to ask Him for something. 21 "What do you want?" He asked her. "Promise," she said to Him, "that these two sons of mine may sit, one on Your right and the other on Your left, in Your kingdom."

22 But Jesus answered, "You don't know what you're asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?" "We are able," they said to Him. 23 He told them, "You will indeed drink My cup. But to sit at My right and left is not Mine to give; instead, it belongs to those for whom it has been prepared by My Father." 24 When the 10 disciples heard this, they became indignant with the two brothers.

World's Success: I win... even if someone else loses.

25 But Jesus called them over and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles dominate them, and the men of high position exercise power over them.

World's Success: Privilege and Power for me to enjoy.

26 It must not be like that among you.... "

Jesus commands the Church: This cannot happen among you.

There is nothing wrong with achievements, with position, with power or privilege. But there's nothing right about them either.

26... On the contrary, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 27 and whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave; 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life—a ransom for many."

Success in the Kingdom: Living to make others' lives better, even if it costs me.

Spiritual Maturity is measured by our willingness to sacrifice.

Ephesians 2:19-20 So then you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with the saints, and members of God's household, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone.

Matthew 18:1-10 At that time the disciples came to Jesus and said, "Who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

2 Then He called a child to Him and had him stand among them. 3 "I assure you," He said, "unless you are converted and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child—this one is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 And whoever welcomes one child like this in My name welcomes Me.

Success in the Kingdom: Becoming who God made us to be.

Success in the Kingdom: God-Likeness!

Success in the Kingdom: Instead of "How high can I climb" we begin asking, "Who can I help climb higher?"