

“SUCCESS ACCELERATOR” – (Partnership)

Last week I taught on the fact that Success is a Culture and we have looked at six steps toward developing that.

Today I want to look at two more steps (one briefly and then one in more depth):

1. Identify and work through our fears
2. Get the right ‘statement’ over our lives
3. Get a clear and precise Vision
4. Develop a clear and detailed ‘road-map’
5. Infuse our Vision with Hope
6. Settle in our hearts that we will grow
7. Develop a **habit** of intentional Biblical Thinking

Q. How important is developing the right habit in success?

“People are creatures of habit, just as machines are creatures of momentum; for habit is nothing more or less than momentum translated from the concrete into the abstract.

Can you picture the problem that would face our mechanical engineers if there were no such thing as momentum? Speed would be impossible because the highest speed at which any vehicle could be moved would be the first speed at which it could be broken away from a standstill.

Elevators could not rise, airplanes could not be made to fly, and the entire world of mechanics would find itself in a total state of helplessness.

Then who are you and I to think that we could do, with our human nature, what the finest engineers in the world could not do with the finest machinery that ever was built?”

Albert E.N.Gray

Writer, speaker & one of the most successful salesmen of life insurance in the U.S.

If we were to stop and look at the most successful people in the world we would very quickly find that they are people of well defined, fully established habits of purpose ... PLUS ... there is absolutely no way they could have achieved their successes on their own.

Today we are going to look at possibly the greatest Momentum Generator or Accelerator of success in any form.

Please DO NOT minimise or reduce the term 'success' to cover only financial issues. Financial success is actually the fruit or evidence of successful operating in many other areas.

Step 8: RECRUIT AND EFFECTIVELY WORK WITH PARTNERS

The Bible speaks of working with partners many times. In fact God's intention right from the very beginning was that we would work in Unity and Partnership.

GENESIS 2:18, 20, 22

And the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a companion who will help him."

He (Adam) gave names to all the livestock, birds, and wild animals. But still there was no companion suitable for him.

Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

PSALM 133:1-3

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity ... for there the Lord commanded the blessing - Life forevermore.

ECCLESIASTIES 4:9-12 (NLT)

Two people can accomplish more than twice as much as one; they get a better return for their labor. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But people who are alone when they fall are in real trouble. And on a cold night, two under the same blanket can gain warmth from each other. But how can one be warm alone? A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.

1 CORINTHIANS 3:6

"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase."

It does not matter what you are involved in; from corporation to sport, marriage and family, school to employment ... we could never have done it and never will do it on our own.

We must destroy the myth of “I achieved it on my own”!

Even sportsmen and women that compete in what we would describe as an ‘individual sport’; e.g. Swimming, Golf, Cycling, Athletics ... the truth is that they could never have achieved any level of success without the input or partnership of others.

Who built, painted and maintained the pool for Michael Phelps to train in? Who trained him? Who maintains the Golf Courses that Tiger Woods plays on? Who designed and built the bikes that Lance Armstrong rides? Who paints out the arena for Valerie Vili to throw the shot-put in?

Who was it that spent time with you and led you through to making a decision to ask Jesus Christ to be your Lord and Saviour?

You may say “No-one! I came to that decision on my own!” You may believe that you came to a salvation decision on your own but that belief would be WRONG!

JOHN 6:44

No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him;

MATTHEW 11:27

All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.

This might sound a bit silly to those of you who believe and follow Jesus – but –

SALVATION WOULD NOT WORK WITHOUT PARTNERSHIP!

Blessings of Good Partnering:

1. Enables us to achieve
2. Accelerates and Multiplies Success
3. The Key to overcome the lack of resource and know-how.

Let's look at the Wisdom that God gave Solomon in this area:

PROVERBS 15:22

Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.

Now the Bible uses the word Counsellor but this is not reduced to someone with a Degree, or reduced to our common thinking of a 'Therapist'.

They are in the mix but when we read the word Counsel or Counsellor it can be unpacked to mean:

- ∞ Partner
- ∞ Mentor
- ∞ Advisor
- ∞ Key Leader
- ∞ Key Employee
- ∞ Spouse
- ∞ Pastor
- ∞ Connect Group Leader
- ∞ Close and Trusted friend
- ∞ **Someone who brings important advice, instruction, direction, wisdom etc. into any situation.**

In this verse it speaks of plans going 'awry', another translation could be that plans are:

- ∞ Frustrated
- ∞ Stalled
- ∞ Come to a complete stop!

Having the right Counsellors/partners in our lives will help:

- ∞ Assure success
- ∞ Accelerate Success
- ∞ Multiply Success

- ∞ Radically reduce the risk of failing
- ∞ Increase safety

I heard a great story of a very successful man who fine tuned the skill of partnering and has become extremely successful.

At School this man was not an A Grade student, he was more interested in music than arithmetic, but as he grew and graduated he followed the list I read out at the beginning:

1. Identify and work through our fears
2. Get the right “statement” over our lives
3. Get a clear and precise Vision
4. Develop a clear and detailed ‘road-map’
5. Infuse our Vision with Hope

I don’t know if he is a Christian or not ... but the Principles of the Bible work regardless of salvation – that’s why businesses that follow Biblical Principles succeed!

Anyway – this man had a vision to create something that every school child had heard about, studied and almost every boy dreams of ... Dinosaurs!

He did not have the skill to design and create models or graphics; he had a vision of bringing them to life though. So he ‘partnered’ with two of the best firms available at the time; one to do model and animation and one to do special effects and from that incredible partnership came the blockbuster success called Jurassic Park. This man was Steven Spielberg.

PROVERBS 27:9

Ointment and perfume delight the heart, and the sweetness of a man’s friend gives delight by hearty counsel.

Good solid counsel has the same power and effect as an ointment or perfume.

It can relieve pain, bring healing and loosen tightness like a good ointment.

It can be attractive, cover weakness and timidity and open doors and conversation like a beautiful perfume.

Here is some more of Solomon’s wisdom on Partnership:

PROVERBS 4:11

Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counselors there is safety.

N.B. Now a multitude of counselors does not mean you ask around enough people until you find someone to agree with you – that's pointless!

PROVERBS 20:18

Plans are established by counsel; by wise counsel wage war.

PROVERBS 19:20

Listen to counsel and receive instruction, that you may be wise in your latter days.

PROVERBS 13:20

He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will be destroyed.

That last verse raises a very important point. Counsel can be both wise and foolish and it is imperative that we find partners who are the right ones!

How many have had a broken a tooth? It doesn't matter what you are doing at the time ... you have to get that tooth fixed as soon as you can! It stops many things: eating, speaking, sleeping, smiling and the list goes on!

How about rolling you ankle, or even breaking it? How much of an effect does that have on you?

PROVERBS 25:19

(KJV) - Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint.

(NLT) - Putting confidence in an unreliable person is like chewing with a toothache or walking on a broken foot.

7 STEPS TO FINDING THE RIGHT PARTNER.

1. Assess my own strengths and weaknesses – I do not want a clone of me!
2. Identify talents, abilities and strengths that I need in a partner to compensate for my weaknesses.

3. Look for a person who shares the same or similar vision so that we can compensate and complement each other. PARTNERSHIP IS TWO WAY TRAFFIC!
4. Look at the character and integrity of the potential partner. Look for the ‘3 C’s’: Character, Competency and Chemistry
PROVERBS 29:24 - Whoever is a partner with a thief hates his own life;
5. Look for a partner who is as committed and willing as you are.
6. Is the person positive or negative? Don’t partner with a negative person.

PROVERBS 22:24- 25 - Do not make friends with a hot-tempered man, do not associate with one easily angered, or you may learn his ways and get yourself ensnared.

7. Look at the potential partner’s natural drives and gifts. Look at what they have done personally and are already doing. Don’t look at what they have managed –but what they have done!

Here’s a final thought for today:

This is a journey. For some they have received a revelation of what should or should not happen, how things should or should not be done.

There is a need for those of us who have that revelation to walk alongside others encouraging them to find that revelation or make that change or decision ... but it has to be them that does it. Allow them to seek their partners, seek the wisdom that you have ... allow them to take the time and make the effort to “draw the bucket up from the well because - **revelation gained quickly at no cost is not revelation at all – just information**”.

PROVERBS 20:5

Though good advice lies deep within a person’s heart, the wise will draw it out.

PROVERBS 19:8

Those who get wisdom do themselves a favor, and those who love learning will succeed.