

Maximizing Your Success

If you would like to maximize the possibility of moving into the area of success with your business and in your personal life, consider these points.

- Seek help.
- Accept responsibility for your success.
- Minimize interruptions that take away your focus.
- Be flexible to obstacles.
- Change as necessary.
- Be persistent.
- Review your progress.
- Concentrate on your priorities.
- Know your passion, purpose.
- Review written goals.
- Persistence.
- Surround yourself with winners.
- Be flexible.
- When you reach one goal, cross it off your list and get going on the next one.
- Allow time for relaxation.
- Avoid over-commitment.
- Avoid problems.
- Be quick to find solutions.
- Coordinate activities.
- Encourage others and yourself.
- Focus on results.
- Get more important things done.
- Keep people focused.
- Manage staff.
- Promote a team environment.
- Say no more often.
- Share information with others.
- Streamline work flow.
- Think ahead.

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

LUKE 6:38

Note that selflessness is the theme of this Scripture. In short, the principle of enlarged measure is this. We must give if we ever hope to have a return. Secondly, the size of our return is dependent upon the size of our gift. Thirdly, our return will be bountiful, over and above our expectations. In short, when I hoard my money and keep it all to myself, that's all I have. It never increases, but there is a huge opportunity for it to decrease. However when I give it away, God multiplies it. Some people want to tell God that they expect Him to not only meet their needs, but also supply them with their wants. And only *then* will they consider giving something away. I am so sorry, but it doesn't work that way. God's way is that you give first, and then He pours out the blessing. And not only that, the measure of blessing is dependent on the measure of your gift.

Money *Can* Buy Happiness

Let me give you a possible scenario for buying personal happiness. What if your total income were \$50,000 per year? And let's agree that you are by now a faithful and obedient tithe payer (i.e., you give God 10 percent of your increase), and you have become a good steward of the 90 percent God has entrusted you with. Obviously if you are a good manager, you are already living comfortably below the 90 percent remainder. Now let's suppose that you work for someone else and you receive a \$5,000 raise in your annual income. What should you do with that? Should you buy a newer car? How about take a longer vacation? Maybe you could buy more "stuff" so that you need a bigger garage or a larger shed to store it in.

Consider the "happiness" alternative. Instead of using the money to heap new stuff upon yourself, why not use the additional increase to help others? Here are a few ideas:

\$ 5,000	INCREASE IN PERSONAL INCOME
<\$ 500>	Additional tithe to your local church
<\$ 1,200>	Support a missionary for \$100 a month
<\$ 500>	Support a homeless shelter
<\$ 300>	Pay some utility bills of an unemployed person
<\$ 500>	Donate to a food program for the needy

<\$ 500>	Arrange for a poor family to enjoy a nice Christmas
<\$ 1,000>	Help a college student with tuition and/or books
<\$ 400>	Buy new tires for an older person on a fixed income
<\$ 100>	Give to a neighbor child to help with summer camp
\$0	BALANCE OF INCREASE

Try this one time with your increase, and just see whether or not you receive more joy and happiness than you've ever experienced before. Honor the Lord with your increase; honor the Lord with your wealth.