

Pastor Toby Locke • Week 4 • 2/10/19

Learning from Success

Genesis 14:1-15:1

Introduction: You learn a lot about yourself during times of failure AND times of success.

A Story of Success:

- ⇒ A Conflict Leads to a Crisis. (Genesis 14:1-12)
- ⇒ Abram Takes Action. (Genesis 14:13-14)
- ⇒ Abram Experiences Success. (Genesis 14:14-17)

The Lessons Learned from Success:

- \Rightarrow All Success Comes from GOD. (Genesis 14:17-20)
- ⇒ Success Demands a RESPONSE. (Genesis 14:20b)
 - HUMILITY.
 - GRATITUDE.
 - GENEROSITY.
- \Rightarrow Only God Can Adequately <u>REWARD</u> Us. (Genesis 14:21-15:1)

Conclusion:

- Abram experienced failure AND success and learned from them BOTH.
- How about you? Have you learned the right lessons from success?



Debrief Plan: 2/10/2019

Icebreakers:

- 1. Who is a successful person that you admire? What makes them successful?
- 2. Name a famous celebrity who started off as a success but ended up crashing and burning. Where do you think they went wrong?

Sermon Summary: Success can be a dangerous thing if we don't handle it well. Abram learned quickly that all success comes from God, so the best response is to be humble, grateful, and generous. In the end, only God can adequately reward us for doing what is right.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Is there a downside to success? If you think so, tell your group what it is.
- 2. Have you noticed that God is determined that you keep learning? If so, does it encourage or frustrate you? What has God been nudging you about lately?

* All Success Comes from God

- 3. Have you ever talked to someone who makes themselves out to be the hero in all of their own stories? How do you feel around that person?
- 4. Why does it hurt so much to not get the credit for our success?
- 5. Share a few examples of how we tend to take credit for our own successes.
- 6. What are some ways that we can deflect the credit for our success to God and His involvement in our lives?

* <u>Success Demands a Response</u>

- 7. Why is it so hard for us to keep a proper view of ourselves when we've experienced a little bit of success?
- 8. Why are we often so ungrateful for what we have been given? How can we intentionally make gratitude a part of our daily lives and worship?
- 9. What does a lack of generosity tell us about our hearts?

* Only God Can Adequately Reward Us

- 10. Have you ever lived for the rewards that other people could give you? How did it affect your attitude and perspective?
- 11. Why do you think that we tend to be most loyal to the people who reward us for our actions?
- 12. What reward are you most looking forward to receiving from the Lord someday? (It's okay to say it out loud!!!)