## **Faith Matters**

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# Daily Devotional - Success God's Way

AUGUST 26TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

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#### Proverbs 3:5-6

What causes some people to fail and others to achieve their goals? One theory is that background, education, and ability are the main factors. But why, then, do we hear stories of victory achieved by people who have come from difficult backgrounds, struggled with disabilities, or had little instruction? Surely, something else determines whether we accomplish our objectives.

Contrary to the word's common definition—which usually involves fame, fortune, or power—true success means becoming the people God wants us to be and reaching the goals He has set for our lives. Hebrews 12:1 offers His perspective on this: "Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us."

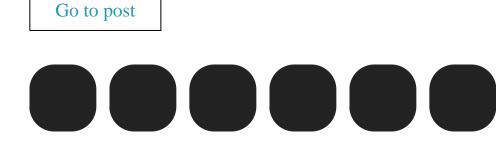
Here, we see the keys to success. First, it is important to find encouragement from the lives of other believers who have seen Christ's faithfulness and followed His direction. Next, we should get rid of anything that holds us back from obeying God. Finally, we are to persevere, even through difficult or discouraging times. Today's passage answers our original question: We achieve success only by relying on Jesus for guidance and strength.

God has a wonderful plan for blessing and fulfillment in your life, and part of His plan is that you live with purpose and perseverance. The Father's guidance will become clearer as you read His Word, pray for direction, and seek godly counsel. Does your definition of

### success for your life match the good plan God has for you?

LAST UPDATED ON AUGUST 26TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

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