

REFRAMED

SAME
SITUATION.



GOD'S
PERSPECTIVE.

REFRAMING SUCCESS



DINNER TABLE DISCUSSIONS

FOR THE FACILITATOR

Welcome to **REFRAMED**, a journey of discovering God's perspective on our current challenges.

Encourage the group to take turns reading and answering questions.

You will be asked questions on the topic. You can open the question to the group as you reach each question.

TOPIC: REFRAMING GIANTS

Sermon audio: outlookchurch.co.za/sermons/288

READER 1

The Bible reveals to us that the world has a set of eyes that it sees everything through. We need to ask ourselves: are we seeing through kingdom eyes, or worldly eyes?

Success is something that is viewed very differently by the world and the kingdom of God. One of the biggest mistakes we can make in our lives is to spend our time seeking out success only to discover that we were looking for the wrong kind of success.

Question 1: How do you measure your success in your life? Do you feel that you are successful?

READER 2

Success is something that is very difficult to measure, so it becomes easy to just use the measures of the world. The world sees success as Power, Finances, and Fame, but the Bible shows us that success doesn't come from these things.

Mark 1 : 45

⁴⁵But the man went and spread the word, proclaiming to everyone what had happened. As a result, large crowds soon surrounded Jesus, and he couldn't publicly enter a town anywhere. He had to stay out in the secluded places, but people from everywhere kept coming to him.

Jesus had healed a man of leprosy and warned him not to tell others of what he had done, Jesus knew that when people knew who he was his popularity would lead to loneliness.

Having a good view of what success is, is critical, that is why we need to reframe our perception of success so that it is in line with what the word of God tells us.

Revelations 3 : 17

¹⁷You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked

We see that real success does not come from circumstances and resources. But instead success comes from a deep dependence on God.

John 15 : 5

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Question 2: Have you seen times in your life where you've had to depend on God completely? Do you feel that you were more fruitful through that?

Revelations 2 : 9

I know your afflictions and your poverty—yet you are rich!

It is clear that God views success very differently to the world. It is not your resources that determine your strength, rather; it is your revelation of the one who holds the resources that is your strength.

1 Timothy 6 : 6

But godliness with contentment is great gain.

When we reframe our view of success we see that success is not perfect circumstances, but rather peace in your circumstances.

Question 3: Are you able to find peace in your circumstances, or do you find it difficult to remain content in difficult times? You might

find that seeking out God during times of struggle will bring you peace.

READER 5

In Corinthians Paul tells us what success in the church looks like. He tells us specifically that success without love is actually failure.

1 Corinthians 3 : 13 - 15

¹³Their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. ¹⁴If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. ¹⁵If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.

If the church is built without love it will merely be a big bonfire of failure. Once we reframe success

we see that success is based on how much we've loved rather than what we've done.

READER 6

John 17 : 4

⁴I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do.

Jesus showed us through his death that real success is through staying faithful and obedient to God with your life. We know that in staying obedient Jesus succeeded in completing the task God gave him and God raised him from the dead.

Matthew 25 : 23

²³“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

Reframed success shows us it's not about what we have done but about how faithful we have been with what we've done.

Question 4: Can you identify a time in your life where you've had to remain faithful to what God has asked of you?

READER 7

For many people finance is one of the hardest areas of life to submit under God's authority. In the Kingdom of God, generosity is the measurement of success rather than the wealth you can accumulate.

Matthew 6 : 19 - 21

¹⁹“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do

not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

It is critical that we understand that where our treasure lies, our heart will be there too. This is why in the Kingdom success is based on our generosity rather than our wealth accumulation.

When we see that being generous is the same as being successful it becomes much easier to prioritize generosity in our lives.

SHARE YOUR HIGHLIGHT

Take turns sharing what stood out to you the most from what we read. What stood out to you and *why*?

ACTION STEP

What action step can you take to respond to God's Word?

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