



The Secrets of Success(ION)

October 22, 2023 Message Notes

TEXT: NUMBERS 27:16-17

There can be no legacy without leadership readied and empowered for the task. Jesus' success equips us to be successors in this world – and as successors, we are to live our lives like shepherds helping people find their way.



NOTES

"There is no success without a successor." – Peter Drucker

There can be no legacy without leadership readied and empowered for the task.

It's like two relay runners with no baton to pass or receive.

Isn't it also true that there will be no successor without someone first succeeding?

Secrets of Success(ion)

"Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Go up this mountain in the Abarim Range and see the land I have given the Israelites. After you have seen it, you will be gathered to your people, as your brother Aaron was, for when the community rebelled at the waters of the Desert Zin, both of you disobeyed my command to honor me as holy before their eyes.'"

Numbers 27:12-14

"May the Lord God who gives breath to all living things appoint someone...to go out and come in before them, one who will lead them out and bring them in, so the Lord's people will not be like sheep without a shepherd."

Numbers 27:16-17

That's what God was doing – bringing them out to bring them in, out of captivity to bring them into community with Him, out of slavery in the ways of the world to bring them into freedom in the land of promise.

Moses was going to be in the presence of the Over-shepherd, but he prays that God will provide another under-shepherd.

"...Take Joshua, son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit of leadership, put your hand on him and make him stand before Eleazar the priest in the whole assembly and commission him in their presence."

Numbers 27:18-19

"I will bless you...and all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Genesis 12:2-3

God's plan was through the seed of Abraham and the people of Israel to bring Jesus, the Messiah, to us so all people could enter His life beyond this life, if they will.



There's more going on here than meets the eye.

“...they were like sheep without a shepherd.”
Matthew 9:36

The truest success in this life is making your way safely through to God’s life on the other side and helping others do the same.

Who can lead Israel into the land of promise?

- Only someone who has successfully made it out of Egypt, to the mountain, and through the wilderness of trial and temptation.
- Someone who is still successfully on the journey now

Joshua – who walked in obedient faith, following God's will and work even when his family and close friends don't.

Joshua would be the successor building from the success of his own journey. He was now qualified to help others find their way forward into God's promise.

The New is in the Old concealed; the Old is in the New revealed.

Is there something we are meant to see in the old covenant story about our journey in new covenant blessing?

Jesus is not only our Moses delivering us out of slavery to sin and death on the cross, but also our Joshua who brings us into God's resurrection life of promise in the land here and forever.

“...tempted in every way, just as we are – yet he did not sin.”
Hebrews 4:15

Jesus’ faithful and obedient life before God as one of us qualified him to be the one who leads us successfully to then lead others in his name.

Jesus, after being baptized, was led into the wilderness for 40 days to be tempted.

The evil one tried to take Him down deceiving, twisting God's word, misusing good God-given human appetites and desires to misdirect His steps. Just like he did with Israel and like he does with us.

Jesus’ success equips us to be successors in this world.



“When he saw the crowds he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.”

Matthew 9:36

Pray for successors who will live their lives like shepherds helping people find their way.

Jesus calls His 12 disciples to step into the role as successors by walking in His success over evil – to be extensions of the King and his kingdom.

As Joshua was to lead Israel to possess the land of promise, so also we, as disciples, are to lead people in our land to experience the God of promise in Jesus Christ.

The truest success in this life is making your way through to God’s life on the other side and helping others do the same.

This is why Jesus has his church in the world – to be his body, his heart and hands sharing his success so others can find their way.

Every believer is flawed, which can be off-putting to nonbelievers.

- We are coming through our wilderness, too.
- We are not perfect but are growing and learning to become people that help others.

Today’s Takeaways:

- There is a way to overcome in the wilderness.
 - Jesus’ overcoming victory can be ours. Trust and follow Him.
- The way must be learned by doing.
 - Follow God’s Word in your wilderness and be shepherded.
- Find a successor to share your success with.
 - As you grow, invite them to do it with you

As a church, we do life together and that's where we learn how to succeed in the wilderness and then help others know how.

Push through your fear, step up and do it.

God ultimately let Moses into the Promised Land when he stood with Jesus and Elijah on the Mount of Transfiguration.



God has some things He wants you to see, too. Are you open?



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