



Fellowship of Companies for Christ International

White Paper Lessons

5 Keys to Success | Ken Verheyen
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Global In Influence...Kingdom In Focus
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Lesson 4: 5 Keys to Success

P2P Theme: Spiritual Maturity, Servant Leadership, Business Excellence, Kingdom Company

Set Up—Key Words:

Consider some key words that may need defining.

Treasure, pleased with, look— nâbat (naw-bat'), to scan or look intently at, implying to regard with favor or care: cause to behold, consider, regard, have respect for

Bible Text

- I have made everything; that's how it all came to be. I, the LORD, have spoken. The people I *treasure* most are the humble-- they depend only on me and tremble when I speak. Isaiah 66:2 CEV
- I myself created the whole universe! I am *pleased with* those who are humble and repentant, who fear me and obey me. Isaiah 66:2 GNB
- For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I *look*, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word. Isaiah 66:2 KJV

Principles to Practice:

Until the ultimate finish line when we stand in Christ's presence, we can experience degrees of success that bring us fulfillment. **By obeying His commands, honoring His principles and seeking the leading of the Holy Spirit, we can choose to finish each day with a clear sense that we have brought pleasure to God the Father.**

The missionary and Olympic qualified athlete, Eric Lidell famously said: "God made me fast. And when I run, I feel His pleasure." **God can use the fast, the smart and the mighty; but those things don't qualify us for His service, nor do they factor into his definition of success.** For Christians who trust the Biblical account that *all Christ-followers one day will stand at the Bema seat of Christ is the ultimate finish line.* [2Cor 5:10]

This week's Illustration comes from Ken Verheyen, who has experienced successes that the world recognizes and values. Ken's earthly successes are merely milestones on the journey to his ultimate finish line. *Ken's definition of true success is much closer to God's heart, worthy of consideration and study.* I hope it will also inspire others to bring clarity to their own Keys to Success.--Editor

Key Objective:

- Review a Biblical framework for true success and consider creating a written framework of your own.

Illustration



Five Keys to Success

By Ken Verheyen, President, Astro Pak. Ken worked his way through the ranks to serve as President and serve on various non-profit boards. He has been active in FCCI for over 25 years. He resides in Newport Beach, CA, USA with his wife and three children.

My 31 year career at Astro Pak has been nothing short of an amazing adventure, full of fear, failure, faith and success. *On that journey, my Heavenly Father has carefully revealed His word to me and helped me understand what success really looks like.*

In my youth, I thought success related to position, power, prestige and wealth. Since accepting Jesus in 1976, the Bible has reshaped my views. As I began to apply the Bible's teaching on success, my worldly perspectives faded away. Today, I have enjoyed far more worldly success than I deserve. *I can't credit myself—my success is based on what God values more than the values of this world.*

The following list of "Keys" is not a definitive list or some secret method of achieving wealth. It is simply what God has laid on my heart during my work career—my personal playbook. It's what guides my every action and reaction. I am profoundly aware that God is not finished with me yet; so I am listening carefully for what He may want to add to this list.

Key One - Kingdom-centric & Obedient

Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Kingdom - Two things are eternal:

- People (souls) - Focus on people to lead them towards the kingdom
- God's Word - Know His word and imbed it in your heart

Seek His Righteousness:

- Obey Him
- Seek Him
- Be a Follower (devotee, disciple), Not Just a believer (supporter)
- Live it!

Key Two - Servant Leadership

Matthew 20:26-28 - Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

- A servant puts others first
- How can I help?
- What can I do for you?

Key Three – Serve Wholeheartedly

Colossians 3:17 - Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men.

Ephesians 2:10 - You are his workmanship, created for good works, according to His plan.

- Do your best. Don't just Try (Attempt, Struggle, Strive, Undertake)
 - What? - Whatever (anything, whatsoever, doesn't matter what, everything)
 - How? - Heartily (Vigorously, With gusto, Energetically, Thoroughly)
 - For Who? - Work to serve God as a gift (caution: not for "The Man")
- Bring your gifts to the table and use them fully
- The outcome is 100% God's
- Serve an audience of one!

Key Four - God Owns it All

1 Chronicles 29:11-12 - ... for all that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might; and it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all. ...For all things come from you...

- No need to fear not having enough. He will supply all you need
- Share what you have been given. You can't out give the Creator!
- No need to manipulate circumstances to get what you need/want
- If you don't have it, you don't need it!
- No need to take credit for accomplishments, everything comes from Him

Key Five - Live and Give Generously

Malachi 3:10-12 – “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,” says the LORD Almighty. “Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,” says the LORD Almighty.

- Test Him and see what happens!
- Give generously and be blessed!

How Do You Define Success?

Someday soon I will sit at the feet of Jesus. My net worth will not be my measure nor do they define me. First and foremost is to know Him intimately. Then obedience, faith and how I cared for others will be how I am measured. That's Kingdom success! –Ken Verheyen

Defining Success:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kingdom-centric & Obedient | <input type="checkbox"/> A Servant Leader |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Served Wholeheartedly | <input type="checkbox"/> Proper Perspective of Ownership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Generous! | |

Remember, God's definition of success is the only one that matters; and it brings true fulfillment.

Biblical Principles

1. Good leadership always starts with good “fellowship.” John 14:7, 9
2. For a Christian, good fellowship must always begin with fellowship with Christ Himself. John 14:7, 9
3. When pride rears its head, a “fall” is not far away. Christ’s example of humility and the infinite love of The Father inspiring our own spiritual disciplines to move us closer to Christ’s image.

Discussion and Application

1. Ken shares his Keys to Success in a one page document with many people in his work at Astro Pak. Have you ever considered expressing your “Keys to Success” or core values in a similar fashion?

2. The value of words on paper has justified the felling of many trees. What value would you expect [or have you experienced] from expressing your values in such a manner? [this would be a great group project]

3. If your life depended on expressing three core values, what would they be? [a starting point?]

Prayer Focus

If you encountered this truth and needed to ‘do business with God,’ how would you seal the deal with a prayer? God is much more concerned with your heart than your words.

As always, prayers are only meaningful when they line up with who we are and where we are. One of the most powerful prayers we can offer is speaking God’s Word back to him. Could you pray the following to Him with your whole heart?

Lord, you told all of your disciples "Whoever wants to be first must place himself last of all and be the servant of all." Help me to give fully of myself, to become the serving leader whose heart is always inclined to you, looking to you to define my success.—Amen

Additional Scripture to Consider:	Key Thoughts
1. Mt 6:25-33	
2. Is 66:2, Mic 6:8	
3. Mt 20:26-28	
4. Col 3:17-25	
5. Eph 2:10	
6. Mal 3:10-12	
7. 1 Ch 29:11, 2 Ch 7:14	