

DEFINING MINISTRY SUCCESS

• Common ministry beliefs:

- 1. If I'm serving according to my spiritual gift, ministry will be easy.
- 2. People will respond to God's Word the same way I do.
- 3. Everyone will listen to the counsel and advice I give them.
- 4. Hard work produces immediate results.

• What is success?

o Success is <u>faithfulness</u>. (1 Cor 4:1-2)

Are you growing in your knowledge and obedience of Scripture?

o Success is <u>serving</u>. (Mark 10:45)

Are you serving others like Christ?

o Success is <u>loving</u>. (Matt 22:37-40)

Do you love God while serving Him?

o Success is <u>believing</u>. (Heb 11:6)

Do you believe what you say you believe?

o Success is <u>prayer</u>. (Eph 6:18)

Are you praying for your group? Prayer brings power to ministry.

o Success is <u>holiness</u>. (Lev 19:2)

God calls us to be holy, as He is holy. Pursuing an unholy life is contrary to God's will and will never yield true success.

o Success is <u>attitude</u>. (Rom 15:13; Num 11:29)

Are you characterized by hope? Do you struggle with jealousy?

*Adapted from *Liberating Ministry from the Success Syndrome* by R. Kent Hughes and Barbara Hughes