

Set Yourself Up for Success

A. The Matthew Effect

1. The Rich Get Richer/Poor Get Poorer

- a. For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.

Matt 13:12; 25:29; Mark 4:25; Luke 8:18

- b. God is not a respecter of persons.

Act 10:34

- c. Every good gift comes down from the Father of lights.

James 1:17

- d. Isaac sowed and reaped 100x. Became very wealthy.

Gen 26:12-13

2. Giving Tithes, Offerings, Giving to the Poor Open Opportunities—Physical

- a. Tithes—management of what belongs to God.

Malachai 3:10

- b. Offerings—sow at every opportunity.

2 Cor 9:6-11; Prov 11:24-25

- c. Give to the poor and to widows and orphans.

Prov 19:17; Matt 19:21

James 1:27; 1 Cor 13:3

3. Gratitude and Thankfulness Open Opportunities—Emotional

- a. Give thanks in all things.

Eph 5:20; 1 Thess 5:18; Col 3:17

- b. Jesus feeds 5,000.

John 6:11; James 3:9-11; Prov 18:21

4. Changing the Way You Think Opens Opportunities—Mental

- a. Don't meditate on the wrong done to you but on God.

Psalms 119:23, 78

- b. Be renewed in the spirit of your mind.

Eph 4:22-24; Rom 12:2

- c. Educate yourself to gain new skills.

Prov 4:5-8

5. Changing the Way You Hear Opens Opportunities—Spiritual

- a. Caleb and Joshua returning from Promised Land.

Numbers 13-14

- b. Mix faith with what you hear from God's mouth/word.

Rom 10:17; Heb 4:2

6. Don't Forget...

- a. God responds to faith.

Matt 9:2, 22, 29

- b. Don't be weary in well-doing.

Gal 6:9

- c. Seek first the Kingdom of God

Matt 6:33

and all the necessary things will be added to you.