

**Waiting on God in Success**

Dr. Derwin Gray

8.011.19

**Open in Prayer.****Read Mark 4:18-19**

In light of this passage, what are one or two “worries of this age” that are being referred to? In what ways can wealth deceive us?

**Transition Thought:** We don’t want the westernized ideas of success to “choke out” the Word of God in our lives. Follow along with the acronym below to learn what true success looks like for Christ-followers.

**Surrender to love.****Read John 13:1**

- Our motivation for obedience and surrender is Christ’s love for us, not our love for Him. Why is this an important distinction?
- Surrender can look many different ways: You surrender your life to Christ when you first become a believer, you surrender your finances, you surrender your ideas of parenting, you surrender relationships. Every new transition in life requires a surrendering to God’s way.
- In what ways have you surrendered to Christ’s love?

**Untangle from attachments.****Read Mark 4:19**

- Sometimes we may attach our identity to a particular role, title, or position. When this happens and we feel that any of these are threatened we go into attack mode. It’s not that these are bad, but when they take the place of God, this is a problem.
- Are there any unhealthy attachments in your life from which you need to untangle?
- If so, what is the next step in your process of untangling from the attachment?
- “Aim at Heaven and you will get Earth ‘thrown in’: aim at Earth and you will get neither.”  
- C.S. Lewis. What does this quote from C.S. Lewis mean to you?

**Connect with God’s People.****Read 1 Corinthians 12:13**

- Do you find it challenging to be in relationship with other Christians who are unlike you? For example, Jews felt they were above/better than Gentiles/Greeks, even though they were both a part of the same family of God.
- Why is it important to be in relationship with people who have a different background than you (race/class/socioeconomic)?
- Recall a time when you approached someone with the intent of trying to help or fix them but didn’t get the outcome you expected. What did you learn from that experience? (*Note to Leader: Sometimes we try to help people when really all God is asking us to do is love them and walk in relationship with them.*)

**Connect with Jesus’ Mission.****Read 2 Corinthians 5:20**

- What does it mean to be an ambassador for Christ?
- The end of the verse says, “we plead on Christ’s behalf.” How do you see yourself pleading for others on Christ’s behalf?

**Expel** your idols.

Read Colossians 3:2-5

- What does it mean in verse 5 when Jesus says, “put to death”?
- What idol needs to be put to death in your life?

**Sacrifice** is required.

Read Romans 12:1

- Being a leader doesn’t mean you get your way; it means you provide a way.
- What does it mean to be a living sacrifice in your personal context? At home? At work/school?

**Supply** others’ needs.

Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19

- What we do on earth matters in eternity. How are you impacting eternity with what you’ve been given now? (Time, talents, treasure)
- Describe a time when someone was generous with you (doesn’t have to be financial). How did that generosity impact you? How can you be generous with the people around you?

**Soul-tattoo:** Read and meditate on this sermon every day this week.