

**¹sin·gle adjective \ ˈsɪŋ-gəl **

having no equal or like
designed for the use of one person only

²suc·cess noun \sək-ˈsɛs

one that succeeds

³suc·ceed verb \sək-ˈsēd

to achieve the correct or desired result
to attain a desired object or end

Single Success:

one who, having no equal or like, is designed for the use of one person [God] and achieves the correct or desired result, and attains a desired object or end.

¹ "Single." Merriam-Webster.com. Merriam-Webster, n.d. Web. 14 Dec. 2015.

² "Success." Merriam-Webster.com. Merriam-Webster, n.d. Web. 14 Dec. 2015.

³ "Succeed." Merriam-Webster.com. Merriam-Webster, n.d. Web. 14 Dec. 2015.

CHAPTER ONE: SINGLE SUCCES

Success Redefined

First let's be clear. Success is what we ARE, not something we BECOME. Genesis 39:2 confirms that,

...the Lord was with Joseph, and he [though a slave] was a successful and prosperous man..."

(Amplified, emphasis added)

The key, however is in the first words of the text. We are truly successful when God is with us. If God is not with us, we may experience seemingly successful moments or, for want of a better word, momentary 'highs'. In her popular song "More to Life", Stacie Orrico sings, "There's gotta be more to life than chasing down every temporary high to satisfy me." There is more; there is true success.

Momentary success makes us happy; we experience that high associated with meeting a goal, making a new purchase, graduating, getting a new job, promotion etc. True success, however, impacts our lives as well as the lives of others. Joseph's success resulted not only in his own promotion, but also the success of his workplace (Potiphar's house).

And his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord made all that he did to flourish and succeed in his hand. So Joseph pleased [Potiphar] and found favor in his sight, and he served him. And [his master] made him supervisor over his house and he put all that he had in his charge. From the time that he made him supervisor in his house and over all that he had, the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the Lord's blessing was on all that he had in the house and in the field.

(Genesis 39:3-5 Amplified, emphasis added)

One Thing

The first step to being a single success is knowing your "one thing". Jesus is the ultimate model for single success; His life expertly exemplified how we should successfully employ the time that singleness affords us. His one thing was and still is God's Grace. As a baby, he took on human form embodying God's grace. At twelve, he referred this same "one thing" as "His father's business." His three year ministry demonstrated Grace through preaching, teaching, and healing. Ultimately, His death and resurrection epitomized God's Grace. And before leaving, he commissioned his disciples to go throughout the world preaching the Gospel of Grace.

Bishop T. D. Jakes has remarked that though others view everything he does (preaching, writing, film-producing, conference-planning, etc.) as so many different things, he sees it all as one thing - communication.

My “one thing” is that I am called to help transform the intellectually suppressed into the unapologetically creative. What is your calling, your “one thing”?

The rest of this book primarily discusses three main aspects - Setting Goals, Enjoying Perks, Relishing Relationships - that contribute to single success. Several “Balance” sections have also been included in some areas to keep things in perspective; these sections are identified by the following symbol:



CHAPTER TWO: REACH GOALS

Education, Career/Ministry, Money, and Home-ownership are only four of many areas where those who are enjoying single life, can set and reach goals before becoming encumbered with additional responsibilities.

Education

As we discussed in the last chapter, Jesus is the ultimate model for single success; His life expertly exemplified how we should successfully employ the time that singleness affords us. What do should we do with all of this precious commodity - time?