



Joe Knows Success

Joe knows:

1. Success is dangerous!

- Joseph was in more danger on the “pinnacle” than in the “pit!”
- Worldly success breeds pride and independence.
- Sometimes God’s greatest blessing is withholding worldly success that would shipwreck our lives, families, and our faith.

Proverbs 30:7-9 (NIV)

“Two things I ask of you, Lord; do not refuse me before I die: ⁸ Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. ⁹ Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, ‘Who is the Lord?’ Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God.

- If success outpaces spiritual growth in your life the results will always be catastrophic! (Matthew 6:33)

2. Success is spiritually produced!

Genesis 39:1–3 (NIV)

Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh’s officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there. ² The Lord was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. ³ When his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord gave him success in everything he did,

Genesis 39:21–23 (NIV)

the Lord was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden. ²² So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there. ²³ The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph’s care, because the Lord was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.

Genesis 41:38 (NIV)

So Pharaoh asked them, “Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?”

- Success is learning to bear not produce. (John 15:5)
- Successful people live with spiritual: dependency, awareness, and sensitivity.
- Successful people feed the Spirit and starve the flesh.

3. Success is a platform!

Genesis 41:15-16 (NIV)

Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I had a dream, and no one can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it.” ¹⁶ “I cannot do it,” Joseph replied to Pharaoh, “but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires.”

- Successful people deflect praise.
- Successful people understand why they are where they are.

Genesis 50:20–21 (NIV)

You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹ So then, don’t be afraid. I will provide for you and your children.” And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.