



# the ephesians project

People helping people!

To all my fellow members of the Body of Christ,

## A Believer's Recipe for Success

God has given us all the ingredients we will ever need to be successful via His precious Word that He has magnified above all His name. I have seen what I believe to be a sure fire recipe that will lead to Godly success with resultant ripe and tasty fruit in our lives:

It is of vital importance that we study the Word of God! Reading the Word is wonderful and it is true that a large percentage of the Word is interpreted right in the verse where it is written; but to get God's approval and to really learn to know Him, His precious promises, and His warnings a believer needs to study. Having the ability to separate truth from error is also a critical element to our success.

**KJV 2 Timothy 2:15** Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth;

Once we learn that God is so trustworthy, and loves us so much that he He has placed His entire reputation on the line, standing behind His Word even to the point of committing it to print; then we are able to get to the place in our lives that we will put our complete trust in Him. We must not pick and choose the areas where we will trust Him, but by doing so in every area of our lives we will allow Him to direct our paths, not relying on our own understanding, education, and prideful abilities.

<sup>KJV</sup> **Proverbs 3:5** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

**KJV Proverbs 3:6** In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

After consistently studying the Word of God and putting our trust completely in Him, and through following the leading of the Holy Spirit, we are able to understand that the battlefield is in the mind. By putting the Word on in our hearts and letting God work within us we are given the wisdom that we must renew our mind on a daily basis taking the fight to the enemy via the

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powerful Word of God. Although the fight has already been won by Jesus Christ we now have to stand against the adversary. Wisdom bridges the gap between knowledge and understanding and this becomes clear as we trust in God. It is only with a mind that is constantly in the renewing process (to His Word) that will we be able to handle the challenges of life.

**KJV Romans 12:2** And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

**KJV 2 Corinthians 10:5** Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Once we make the Word of God a part of us, renewing our minds daily, fully trusting in Him, then we will be in a position to help build up the Body of Christ. By using our gifts and talents, our knowledge of the Word, and our experiences with God, we are able to encourage and comfort our brothers and sisters in Christ. That type of positive believing action will help them to stand on their own and position them to be able to help others as well. We should pursue after with intense drive the things which **unite rather than the things that divide**. Recognizing that we each have a job to do and must do that job to the best of our ability, we must not harbor ill feelings against another for his or her calling and gifts; but rather rejoice in their gifting and help them achieve their goals. Love is seeking the other person's highest good.

**KJV Romans 12:3** For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

**KJV Romans 12:4** For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:

**KJV Romans 14:19** Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

Sometimes when our talents, gifts, and experiences come into play we will sometimes question our role, our calling, or our leading of the Holy Spirit.

**KJV Romans 12:3** For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

Sometimes when I feel led to do something I will question my motivation and too often I along with countless others will dismiss the thoughts as stemming from pride or other negative emotions. For me it is because of my management background. To be a successful manager you have to have a healthy confidence in your ability to lead and get the tasks done. You also have to take pride in your job in order to be effective. When actions are taken within the Body of Christ

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the pride aspect has to be tempered with the love of Christ Jesus in order for the motivation to be right. I prayed about this and as a result of my prayer I received an answer via a teaching by Beth Moore, which was a real eye opener, a "game changer" and at least for me an excellent way to eliminate any pride provoking action. When the following two verses are used together we are able to achieve a "humble confidence".

**KJV John 15:5** I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: **for without me ye can do nothing.**

**KJV Philippians 4:13** I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

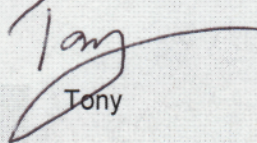
Without Christ we can do nothing; but with Him we can do all things!

When we walk by the spirit all of our actions should result in good fruit; fruit that is good to look at and even better when tasted.

**KJV Galatians 5:22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

**KJV Galatians 5:23** Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Standing with you in Christ Jesus,



Tony