

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE SUCCESSFUL?

Pat Cowden

We may have as many definitions of success as we have people reading this article. Some things are just more important to us than others. I, for one, do not necessarily care about owning a large home or a new car, but to some those things are important. Nothing necessarily wrong with either way of thinking as long as our thinking does not interfere with our service to the Lord.

Success to me is:

- Going to heaven with my wife, kids, you, and with as many people as possible.
- Helping those who were once faithful become faithful again.
- Strengthening the faith of the weak.
- Finding opportunities to help those in need.
- Comforting those who are in need of comfort.
- Having the courage to be truly Christ-like in all things.

Ralph Waldo Emerson defined success this way:

“To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived; this is to have succeeded.”