

Unless you know what “the win” is, you will never know if you have won. As we finish our Go Bananas series (yet continue our project), we want to stop and analyze whether we have been successful as individuals and as a group. Our focus was on the group in our weekly gathering, but during this study we will focus on each of us as individuals.

What Do You Think?

- What are some of the top things average people in our culture would label as a major “win” in their lives?
- Have you ever stopped to assess, perhaps even write down, what success looks like for you or your family? Why or why not?

“And he said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” Matthew 22:37-39 (ESV)

What Does God Say?

- While everyone may have a different opinion of what success looks like, the Christian’s goal is to align our thoughts with God’s thoughts. He gives a very famous and wide-sweeping definition of success in **Matthew 25:34-40**. Read it and discuss how Jesus’ definition of success compares to our culture’s definition and how either one influences yours.

“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’”
Matthew 25:23 (ESV)

- Several chapters later Jesus tells a story to describe the difference between a successful follower and an unsuccessful one. **Read Matthew 25:14-30**. Answer the following questions:

- What is the common responsibility given to the servants? What is our common responsibility today?
- What is different about the individual responsibility of each servant? What does this teach us about our individual responsibility?
- What are observations you see about the response the master had towards the two faithful managers? What do we learn about success from this example?
- What are some observations you see about the response the master had towards the unfaithful manager? What do we learn about success from this example?

What Will You Do?

- Has there ever been a moment where you clearly knew you had experienced Godly success? Share with the group. What can we do to intentionally pursue these kinds of wins?
- Discuss what success looks like for this group. Are we achieving it? Why or why not? What can we do to be more successful as a Life Group?

If you or your group would like to serve through Go Bananas, get connected here:

www.covechurch.org/gobananas.