

THE BIG IDEA CURRICULUM
Sermon: When One Plus One Equals Three
Sermon: 21.2.09
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Small Group Study for Week of February 21-27

The Big Idea: God's view of success is very different to how society defines success

Definition of Success: Discovering what God wants us to do and then doing it.

Discuss the above statement. Do you agree with it? Why or why not?
What other definitions of success can you think of that society may use?

Group Reads: Ephesians 2:10 Read again individually putting your own name in the text "For ... am God's handiwork etc"

Questions:

1. God seems to think quite highly of us - if I don't act as if I am God's handiwork what am I saying about God?
2. Why do we find it hard to believe we are worth so much?
3. What can we do to help us believe this text?
4. Do you get anything else out of this text?

Society's view on success is really that $1 + 1 = 3$. Mathematically it doesn't make sense. Only when we accept God's view of success - the God who made us, the one who planned our life for a purpose - only then does $1 + 1 = 2$ or our lives make sense and have purpose.

Comment on the above statement

Group Reads: Phil 3:4-17

Questions:

What would Paul have had to do to be successful in the eyes of His society?

What did Paul want to do?

Was Paul a success?

Do you get anything else out of these verses?

Conclusion:

God has made us and knows what we need to do to have meaning in our lives and be successful. The question is - are we following His definition of success or our own?

Question: What do we have to do in our lives to change to God's definition of success?