

The Right Picture of Success

It is my belief that virtually everyone who enters this world wants to be successful. I doubt that anyone, from the age of awareness and accountability, thinks that he or she would desire a “throwaway” life without achieving some success. But that word is interpreted in many ways. For some, success means acquiring wealth; others pursue recognition and fame; others want control over people, such as through some governmental position or as an authority figure in industry.

John C. Maxwell, author and speaker, focuses on this subject in what he calls “the right picture of success.” In his book, *The Maxwell Daily Reader*, he writes that “the picture of success isn’t the same for any two people because we’re all created differently as unique individuals. But the process is the same for everyone. It’s based on principles that do not change. After more than 25 years of knowing successful people and studying the subject, I have developed the following definition of success:



“Success is ...

- “Knowing your purpose in life,
- “Growing to reach your maximum potential, and
- “Sowing seeds that benefit others.”

By this definition, Maxwell points out, “you can see why success is a journey rather than a destination. No matter how long you live or what you decide to do in life, you will never exhaust your capacity to grow toward your potential or run out of opportunities to help others. When you see success as a journey, you’ll never have the problem of trying to ‘arrive’ at an elusive final destination. And you’ll never find yourself in a position where you have accomplished some final goal, only to discover that you’re still unfulfilled and searching for something else to do.

“Another benefit of focusing on the journey of success instead of on arriving at a destination or achieving a goal is that you have the potential to become a success today. The very moment that you make the shift to finding your purpose, growing to your potential, and helping others, successful is something you *are right now*, not something you vaguely hope one day to be.”

(more)

Maxwell's insight on success is filled with wisdom. As you consider his thoughts, what about you?

Have you been viewing success as a destination or a journey? It is a question each of us must ponder.

Thankfully, many, many of the associates of Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home, by their actions, show that they believe the latter choice is the right answer.

– Beecher Hunter