



Guide – Success is in the Details

OUTLINE & SCRIPTURES

Preface: GOD IS THE GOD OF DETAILS (we see this in creation – Proverbs 3:19). Accordingly, we can deduce that over-generalized or oversimplified statements can unintentionally neglect this aspect of God's character.

Do you care what people think about you?

Oversimplified statements that don't help:

- "I don't care what people think about me."
- "I only care what God thinks about me."
- "I only care what people think about me."

SHOULD WE CARE?

"Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. *Then you will find favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.*" – Proverbs 3:3-4 (NIV)

HOW DO WE FIND FAVOR AND A GOOD NAME IN THE SIGHT OF GOD AND MAN? HOW DO WE FIND SUCCESS?

Something is wrong if...

- *Everybody likes us all the time.*
 - As followers of Christ, persecution is promised and assumed (1 Peter 4:12-16; 2 Timothy 3:12; Matthew 5:44; Romans 8:35; John 15:18).
- *If most people don't like us most of the time.*
 - As followers of Christ, persecution or being hated is not our goal (Matthew 5:14-16; Philippians 4:4-5; Colossians 4:6; Romans 12:18).

WE ALL WANT SUCCESS, but our aim is typically wrong. We've missed the details (Proverbs 3:3; 2 Corinthians 5:9; Matthew 6:33).



“Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. *So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and of people.*” – Proverbs 3:3-4 (NRSV)

- The love and faithfulness in 3:3 is not initially or ultimately directed to people; it is love/loyalty (Hebrew: *chesed*) and faithfulness to the Lord, which should envelop how we treat others and how they perceive us.
- Love/loyalty and faithfulness to the Lord affect ought to have us consider all the “details”.

THE PROMISE OF FINDING FAVOR AND A GOOD NAME IN THE SIGHT OF GOD AND PEOPLE BEGINS WITH A COMMANDMENT TO DETAIL OUR LIVES IN THE LORD.