



## *Ready to impact your workplace?*

Success, significance or surrender: When I first started my business career, I was all about becoming successful. I read the best books, dressed for the part and hung around with other successful people.



That was the way you got ahead, got promoted and made more money, right? Then I met the Lord and suddenly the desire for success the way the world defined it changed. I soon realized that I wanted my life to matter, to make a difference, and thus I got off the success train and jumped on the significance one.

What does it mean to be significant in the eyes of the world? It means we matter, that what we have accomplished matters, not necessarily how we did it but what we did. Donald Trump is significant. So are Oprah and Mohammed Ali and a host of others. But significance to God is something completely foreign to the world. It requires a level of surrender, that leads to obedience that leads to “not my will but yours”. And surrender is hard, especially to people who lead in business.

Sadly, most of the best “surrenders” I have experienced personally and witnessed in the business world have come as a result of the “bounce”. Something goes awry. The deal backfires. The bank calls the loan. The market drops. The pink slip arrives. Whatever it is that gets our attention in a negative way becomes the catalyst for surrender. Why? Because God loves us and is faithful to complete the good work He started in us, even if it means we must go through trials to get there.

Last week, we talked about the transformation of our minds and our wills into the mind and will of Christ. Success is often a tremendous barrier to that process because we really don't need God from the safety of success. Significance can become pride and pride will always lead to suffering for the follower of Christ. Thus, we are left with the only real choice we have...constant surrender to the will of God. It is the safest, most successful and ultimately the most significant decision we will ever make. I continue to pray for the success of my work for God to establish the work of my hands, but in that prayer I must surrender the results so they accomplish His will in the process. As a steward, success means that the master of the house receives the reward. As a steward, significance comes from my identity in Him. As a steward, my surrender will lead to my being lifted up and blessed beyond my wildest imaginations.

I need not fear surrender as if surrender will always lead to suffering. It usually works the other way with God. A lack of surrender will often lead to suffering if that is the only way to get me to change course or let go. Surrender, wherever you are will always be the first step. Let's not bounce in order to surrender. Let's surrender in order to soar.

“Lord, I surrender now and ask that you keep me in a constant awareness of my position as your steward. I pray that you would establish and bless the work of my hands, that I may further Your Kingdom.”

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