

SUCCESS IS SPIRITUAL

Biblical success manifests in a window in time but builds impact far beyond that window.

KEY POINTS

Biblical success is spiritual and greater than one person.

- ❖ In Genesis 24:12-14, we find Eliezer, Abraham's servant, on a very important life assignment. Recognizing the significance of the outcome and its value for him, Eliezer did what many others do when faced with defining moments—he prayed.
- ❖ Eliezer addressed his prayer to the Supreme Authority, the Lord God of his master Abraham. Eliezer was a Syrian, and while the Bible isn't explicit in saying he served Yahweh, it's apparent that he knew enough and had experienced enough to place his spiritual trust in the God of Abraham.
- ❖ Abraham had made Eliezer swear an oath that he would find a wife for his son Isaac on two conditions: that the woman he found would be from Abraham's people and not the Canaanites, and that Isaac would never go back to the country he came from because of God's covenantal promise to give the land of Canaan to Abraham's offspring (v.v. 3-9).
- ❖ So, Eliezer prayed, saying, "...Lord, God of my master Abraham, make me successful today" (v. 12). He wanted to be successful, but what did that mean?
- ❖ He was Abraham's original successor, but Isaac's birth had cost Eliezer a big inheritance. Yet he wasn't bitter. Success in his mission meant God showing kindness to Abraham by consolidating the succession to Isaac's lineage. The power was in his hands; he had great influence in Abraham's house. But he was willing to facilitate its transfer out of his hands because success is greater than one person's ambition.

Biblical success is situational.

- ❖ When Eliezer arrived in the country Abraham came from and had travelled to the city of Nahor, it's insightful to see how he chose to position himself, which was at the spring, a source of life (v. 13). He knew that in order to succeed, he had to be situated at a place that people would come to for life.
- ❖ Note that in an earlier situation in Genesis 16, when Hagar was fleeing from her mistress Sarah, Abraham's wife, she, too, positioned herself beside a spring when she ran away.
- ❖ The angel of the Lord came to Hagar at that time, promising to secure Abraham's lineage through their son Ismael. In response, Hagar said, "You are the God who sees me" (v. 13).
- ❖ Now fast forward to our text, where we find Eliezer in Genesis 24:13 standing beside another spring in an episode that will secure Abraham's lineage through Isaac, and he begins by saying, "See..." Success involves positioning yourself in a place where God gives life.
- ❖ Eliezer was familiar with the town that Abraham came from because he had probably lived there with him (v. 11). Now it was called the city of Nahor, the name of Abraham's older brother, but in the intervening years, a lot would have changed, so Eliezer was depending on God's providence.
- ❖ Having that familiarity, one has to wonder why Eliezer didn't just go straight to Nahor's household? Yes, he had the address, but perhaps he recognized that success was only part of his initiative. So, Eliezer waited. He waited at the well because he

KEY SCRIPTURE: Genesis 24:12-14

(all scriptures are NIV unless otherwise noted)

valued divine confirmation over human manipulation. It's the faith element that must always accompany success.

- ❖ While spiritual success is linked to destiny, it is coupled to tangible success in the present.

Biblical success can be verified.

- ❖ When Eliezer went on this mission, he set out not merely on the authority of his master, but also in the confidence of his master's God (v. 14). Yet he didn't let the weight of the covenantal success hang blindly in the air. He sought a sign that would make practical sense, asking that the woman God had chosen for his master's son would not only give him water to drink but also his camels.
- ❖ It would have been culturally polite for any of the women to give a stranger a drink of water—but the camels? Eliezer was travelling with ten camels and wasn't about to ask for them to be watered because they drank a lot and that would require numerous trips and any woman who appeared would only have one jar. But if a woman went beyond his request for water to servicing his camels, then God's promise that Abraham's seed would bless the nations of the world would be intact.
- ❖ "By this I will know that you have shown kindness to my master" (v. 14). This is where Eliezer draws the line from visible, practical reality to the spiritual covenantal reality.
- ❖ This foreigner's small success would play its part in enabling the success of God's infinite plan for humanity. That's why he treated his assignment with such dignity and seriousness. And he needed to verify its success.
- ❖ Biblical success can be verified. Like Eliezer, let's be intentional in our personal mission, recognizing the importance it has for God's mission for humanity.
- ❖ Biblical success is spiritual in nature. It manifests in a window in time but builds impact far beyond that window.

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. Eliezer in Genesis 24:12-26 and Hagar in Genesis 16 positioned themselves at a spring when facing momentous decisions/circumstances. Discuss their situations, their attitudes, and what each person stood to lose or gain. In each instance, how were they successful and how was that success verified?
2. Eliezer asked God for both a sign and success (Gen. 24:12-14). Have you ever done the same? If comfortable, share the circumstance, the type of sign asked for, and the way(s) God verified it.
3. Take time to pray and give God thanks for success, whether or not it has been verified.

PRAYER TIME

You, Lord, are the God who sees, who hears, and who keeps making the way. Thank You!

WEEK OF SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

✓ (Reminds me/Confirms) 🌱 (New idea) 🗨️ (Think about)
! (Do this) ❤️ (Speaks to my heart) ➡️ (Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family.
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD
Your Life Group ~ Your Lifeline

Start-up: If you stood to lose out on an inheritance, job promotion, etc., would you fight for it or bow out gracefully? Why?

PRAYER FOCUS: U.P.C.I. Ontario District departments,
leaders, participants

24-hour Prayer: Daily;

Daily Devotions: Monday - Friday @ 6:30 a.m. & 9:00 p.m.;

Departmental Prayer: Every Thursday (please check schedule)

Corporate Prayer: Every Friday @ 7:00 p.m. (and in person every
second Friday @ 9:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.).

Zoom ID: 898 3191 5909 **Phone Access:** 647-374-4685

FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS

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For email transfers, please use donate@faithsanctuary.com



ANNOUNCEMENTS



**“Trust in the Lord
with all your heart
and lean not on your own
understanding; in all your
ways submit to him, and
he will make your paths
straight.”**

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

FAITH SANCTUARY WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m.
(Listen via phone: 1-844-268-4848)

Monday Berean Bible Study @ 6:30 p.m.
(Zoom, Facebook, YouTube)

Wednesday Bible Study @ 7:30 p.m.
(In person and via Zoom)

Friday Evening Service @ 8:00 p.m.
(In person and via Zoom)

Life Group Meetings – individually scheduled
(see ushers for information)

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

GOD

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

GOD’S WORD

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God’s true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

GOD’S CREATION

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

HUMANITY’S FALL

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God’s plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God’s pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

THE GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God’s judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the “good news” that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

OUR FAITH RESPONSE

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus’ name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

CHRIST’S RETURN

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

JULY 12, 2026



Feed Canada to Feed the World

Reaching the World Through Prayer

~ 2026 ~

Pastor:
Rev. Adrian W. Peel

*“Keep this Book of the Law
always on your lips; meditate on
it day and night, so that you may
be careful to do everything
written in it. Then you will be
prosperous and successful.”*

Joshua 1:8 (NIV)

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