

Success

Word Forms:

- success (n) "Our business is a success. We have earned 10 million dollars!"
- successful (adj) Monica was not successful in convincing her daughter to eat more rice.
- successfully (adv) Richard successfully passed all of his exams.
- succeed (v) Pam succeeded in running her first marathon.

Related Words:

- accomplish (v) "I have many things to accomplish today."
 - accomplishment (n) "What is your greatest accomplishment in life?"
 - victory (n) "We played hard, but we didn't win the victory."
 - win (v) George won his ping pong game against Jim.
 - prosper (v) Our business has prospered over the last five years.
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- failure (n) Joan's business was a failure. She lost all her money.
 - fail (v) "It's better to try and fail, then to never try at all."

Exercises:

1. Susan is a very _____ athlete. She has _____ many competitions.
2. "I've been busy all day, but it seems like I haven't _____ anything."
3. "Did you pass or _____ your science exam?" Becky's mother asked her when she came home.

Questions:

1. How would you describe a successful person?
2. Who is the most successful person you can think of? Why do you think so?
3. How do you think people can be successful in their relationship with God?

Bible Readings:

1. "I built houses for myself...I made gardens for myself...I bought male and female slaves...I provided myself with male and female singers and the pleasures men have with one concubine after another...I grew richer than anyone...If something appealed to me, I did it. I allowed myself to have any pleasure I wanted, since I found pleasure in my work...But when I turned to look at all that I had accomplished and all the hard work I had put into it, I saw that it was all pointless. It was like trying to catch the wind. I gained nothing from any of my accomplishments." (Ecclesiastes 2:1-11, God's Word)
2. "You must be perfect—just as your Father in heaven is perfect!" (Matthew 5:48, TEV)
3. "Christ himself died for you. And that one death paid for your sins. He was not guilty, but he died for people who are guilty. He did this to bring you all to God." (1 Peter 3:18, Easy-to-Read Version)
4. "Death gets its power to hurt from sin, and sin gets it power from the Law. But thanks be to God who gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!" (1 Corinthians 15:57-58, TEV)

Questions:

1. What are some things that one man in the Bible said didn't bring him true success? (reading 1)
2. What are God's standards for success? (reading 2)
3. Who was perfect for us and suffered the punishment for us not succeeding? (reading 3)

4. How do we succeed (win the victory) over death and sin? (reading 4)