

LETTERS FROM GRANDPA
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Dearest grandchild,

I'm sure I speak for your parents when I say that all of us want you to succeed. We want you to run faster, jump higher, and go further than we have gone. There are many things that will be helpful to insure your success, but at the very top of the list is your relationship with God.

Joseph, for example, didn't seem to have any friends in influential places. Neither did he have money or education to depend upon His brothers sold him into slavery. His master's wife in Egypt lied about him and had him put in prison His father thought he was dead. About the only thing he had going for him was his relationship with God. That's all he needed! That's the point! In a single day God brought him out of prison and made him the second most powerful man in the world. Note: **“Then Pharaoh took his signet ring from his finger and put it on Joseph's finger. He dressed him in robes of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck. He had him ride in a chariot as his second-in-command, and men shouted before him, "Make way!" Thus he put him in charge of the whole land of Egypt.”** (Gen 41:42-43)

Paul put it like this: **“If God be for us, who can be against us?”** (Rom. 8:31)

Yes! Your studies are important. Yes! Hard work is important. Yes! It is important to be neat, clean, and eat healthy foods. Yes! It is important to be kind and considerate. Yes! It is important to have friends in high places. **THE MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU CAN DO TO INSURE SUCCESS, HOWEVER, IS TO PUT GOD FIRST IN YOUR LIFE!**

- When Noah came out of the ark the first thing he did was to build an altar and worship God. His worship involved sacrificing some of the few animals and birds he had been feeding for over a year.
- When the Hebrew people came into the Promised Land they offered to God the first fruits of their fields and flocks.
- Jesus said that we are to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.

Take another look at the story of Jacob. His wicked father in law cheated him and changed his wages ten times (Gen. 31:7). Jacob would have been a poor man without God. Because God is the ultimate Arbiter and Judge He decided to take away the wealth of Laban and given it to Jacob. Jacob's success was not an accident! It happened because of his close relationship with God! It is never a mistake to put God first in your life!

Success also came quickly to Paul and Silas after they were unjustly beaten and imprisoned in Philippi. Instead of complaining about their misfortune, they were **“praying and singing hymns to God”** (Acts 16:25). That's when the earthquake came, the jailer was converted, and this new believer took Paul and Silas to his house to take care of their wounds and enjoy a meal (Acts 16:25 - 34).

Many years ago I had the privilege of interviewing the late Roy LaTourneau over radio station KOBC in Joplin. His father, R. G. LaTourneau was the famous Christian businessman who lived on 10% of his income and gave 90% away. God gave him the creativity to receive hundreds of patents which enabled him to become a multi millionaire. He produced almost 300 inventions, introduced the rubber tire to the earth moving industry, and invented and developed the "electric wheel". His creative genius enabled him to produce many inventions that helped us to win WW 2, He manufactured 70 % of the earth moving equipment we used during that war. His Life Verse was: **"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you."** (Matthew 6:33).

Here is a link about this famous man:

<http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=R.+G.+LaTourneau+on+You+Tube&view=detail&mid=9AC38CB3A6C380F858249AC38CB3A6C380F85824&FORM=VIRE>

Have a blessed day!

I love you,

Grandpa Boyce