

Are You Really That Good?



**“The horse is prepared for the day of battle,
but the victory belongs to the Lord.”**

Proverbs 21:31 (NLT)

When God turned my life right side up and I became a financial advisor, I found myself staring in the face of something I never had to contend with in a significant way before – **Rejection**. I remember many times feeling like an enthusiastic puppy who had learned to bring the paper to his master for the first time. So excited, looking expectantly for the “Atta boy!”

After meeting a new couple pondering retirement, I’d put together a financial plan and make my pitch for what they should do to meet all of

their retirement goals. Just like that puppy, so excited by the good job I had done, I waited anxiously to hear “Well done! Let’s move ahead with this.” O the pain of not hearing this right away at the meeting! I’d think, “They just need some time to talk together, I’ll check back in a week, but I’m sure I’ll hear from them first.” The week would pass so I’d drop them a message...no response. Nothing. It was as if a dagger was shoved through my heart.

We can take a few of these blows by making excuses or committing to do a better job next time, but it doesn’t take long to realize this is not enough. I remember one time after a rejection, reeling in self-pity, I was complaining to God. Then he asked, “Are you really that good?”

God doesn’t mince words when he’s teaching you a lesson! His point? I was taking responsibility for the results, a slippery, prideful path. In his wisdom, God knows we are not good enough to handle the results. Since then, he has led me to what has now become one of my go to scriptures:

“We may throw the dice, but the Lord determines how they fall.” Proverbs 16:33 (NLT)

Lesson learned: The results are God’s to determine, not mine. I’m not really that good.

As you pursue your Life Mission, the unique purpose God has planned for you to accomplish while here on Earth, it’s easy to take on the responsibility for the results. The fact is, you’re not really that good. The results are not yours to determine. Such a huge relief when you accept this truth!

The tricky part is this creates a fine line to walk. You might get the feeling, “Why bother if my efforts don’t determine the results?” The fact is, God

says **you** still must throw the dice. Or as Proverbs 21:31 says, **you** must prepare the horses for battle... not God.

Failing to roll the dice yields no chance for victory.

You must actively pursue to achieve victory. God has given you a role to play and preparing the horses for war is no easy task. I can say that personally, this is where I can fall into a trap. As I engage my assignment, I become vested and my perspiration, intellect and creativity lead me to think, "If I do a really good job, I will succeed." Unfortunately, it doesn't work quite like this... I have to remind myself that I'm not really that good.

Should you do a schlocky job then? No!

"Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people." Colossians 3:23 (NLT)

You are to work as though working for the Lord. What would happen if you did a crappy job getting the war horses ready, would God bring victory then?

God still expects excellence.

Rejection has led me to understand a bit more about how God looks at things and honestly, I am so much more at peace knowing what I know now. He keeps me humble.

"Unless the Lord builds a house, the work of the builders is wasted. Unless the Lord protects a city, guarding it with sentries will do no good. It is useless for you to work so hard from early morning until late at night, anxiously working for food to eat; for God gives rest to his loved ones." Psalm 127:1-2 (NLT)

A sense of peace comes over me when I work hard, seek to do excellent work, but leave the results to God.

Now I can sleep at night!

Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

“I get to throw the dice. Victory belongs to the Lord.”

“We may throw the dice, but the Lord determines how they fall.” Proverbs 16:33 (NLT)



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a little like this the other
day.... [Keep reading](#)



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