

Divine Success

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I've always marveled at people who seem to move so effortlessly in their successes. Successful people, in my view, are those who are successful not only in terms of financial comforts, but are living with passion and energy in all they do. Those who have abundant resources but are constantly exhausted and constrained by the time-consuming tasks required to maintain these resources, are not, in fact, successful. Those who worry about losing what they have acquired are so attached to their "things"; the people around them often suffer the manifestation of this anxiety.

So what distinguishes these two types of success? I would suggest that the *reason* or *motivation* behind desired success is what sets the two apart.

Most people work hard in order to earn or provide a sense of security to themselves or their loved ones. Yet security is really a perception based on the past, or a memory of the past. The idea here is to "protect" oneself or others in anticipation of the future. Hence, the motivation is based on fear, fear of not having enough.

The outcome of this fear is that the kind of work needed to preserve this security is energy wasting in that it is repetitive and based on ideas leftover from the past. One's actions are stale and uncreative, resulting in feelings of emptiness and a lack of joy or newness. Nothing creates more burnout, relationship conflict and addictive, distracting behaviors such as boredom. One only has to observe workaholics and notice that the fulfillment of their wealth is directly proportional to the sacrifice of their health, their family time and their personal growth.

So what would the other type of success have as a motivation? I would suggest it would be one's pure expression of their true spirit and creativity, their true self. When we are conscious of who we are in terms of our purpose for "being here", when we are conscious of this in the choices we make and we take action based on what is truly coming from the heart, the outcome is joy. This becomes a higher and more fulfilling definition of success.

Deepak Chopra, in The Seven Spiritual Laws of Success, suggests that the first path to all success is in the "field" of pure potentiality, the field of all possibility, creativity and knowledge. In order to access this "field", one has to learn how to

self-refer rather than object-refer. In other words, we need to listen to our own sense of self without fear of people, events or objects, that which is outside ourselves. We need to quiet our internal dialogue that is riddled with our own judgments and those we perceive are judgments of others. We need to acknowledge that our attachment to "objects" (symbols of power) is not always permanent (one only has to look into the past as evidence of this) but our attachment to our true self *is*.

There are many ways of developing our path to success. Through meditation, through giving, through acceptance, through taking responsibility and not blaming and through creating intentions based on common good, we can begin to create a flow of energy that is released into our universe. Trusting that this holds the power to creating all that we want allows for space to witness examples of opportunity and possibility that is presented in front of us. Call it karma, serendipity, law of attraction or just plain good luck; I'll just call it love.

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