

The Secret of Sustainable Success Steven Furtick

JOHN 15:4-5, 16

Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you might go and bear fruit-fruit that will last- and so whatever you ask in my name, the Father will give to you.

YOUR	_ IS ONLY AS SUSTAINABLE AS ITS S	OURCE
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YOU NEED A CONSTANT. CONSTANT = A FIXED VALUE that does not change

Constant Calling Core Conviction **Convenience or Conviction**

ROMANS 15:4-6 (msg.)

That's exactly what Jesus did. He didn't make it easy for himself by avoiding people's troubles, but waded right in and helped out. "I took on the troubles of the troubled," is the way Scripture puts it. Even if it was written in Scripture long ago, you can be sure it's written for us. God wants the combination of his steady, constant calling and warm, personal counsel in Scripture to come to characterize us, keeping us alert for whatever he will do next. May our dependably steady and warmly personal God develop maturity in you so that you get along with each other as well as Jesus gets along with us all.

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THE SECRET TO SUSTAINABLE SUCCESS

PASTOR STEVEN FURTICK NOVEMBER 14&15, 2015

1. GET A TRUE GRASP ON WHAT RIVER YOUR ROOTS ARE TAPPED INTO

This is something that is easily deceptive. We deceive *ourselves*. Many of us who would quickly say our resource or the vine we are growing from is God, the Bible, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, but when we do the math on how we spend our time, the things we read, watch, participate in...the people we choose to hang out with, laugh, joke, travel, eat with...TV, online stuff, music, video games - do the math. All of that is tapping into a flow, an influence that forms our thoughts and effects how we speak, react, make decisions, control anger, deal with disappointments, manage prosperity or financial challenges...you get the idea. Really, how much are we really tapped into a constant, powerful flow of God's living word and Spirit?

2. CLEARLY IDENTIFY THE THREE "C"s IN YOUR LIFE

This a wonderfully specific teaching. Love it. There's the CALLING, the CHARACTER, and the COUNSEL (or connections). We talk about it all the time. It is woven into Vision's Core Values and our mission statement. We are answering God's CALL to help others see who Jesus really is... He is calling all of us. Your calling flows through your different circumstances.

The CHARACTER part is perhaps most easy to sidestep...because we can fake this, fool others and even fool ourselves (for a while). The greatest assurance we have to make sure we are genuinely living a life of godly (imperfect, but constant) character is to live an open, transparent life where we actually cannot hide a lack of integrity or practice hypocrisy.

Same with COUNSEL (connections). We are getting our counsel from somewhere. Kind of like the point above - your resource...who are we listening to? Identify. Evaluate. Take these three very understandable but extremely foundational, powerful constants and evaluate how strong you are in these and how you can grow.





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