

Truth About Success

By Deborah Millhouse

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During my career as a recruiter, coach and business owner, many people have asked my advice on how to be successful or what is the secret of my success. As I review and take stock of my own life and experience, I feel compelled to share the following with you.

The success you are earnestly seeking doesn't come from a job or career, a larger paycheck, more money, the husband or wife of your dreams, two point five kids, a house with a white picket fence, or a dog named Spot. It comes from a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. He is the only one who can fill the emptiness you may be experiencing in your life. Have you considered a personal relationship with Jesus Christ?

I want you to understand exactly what I mean by a relationship with Jesus Christ. You may be a very spiritual person, but an honest relationship with Jesus is not about being confirmed, baptized or sitting in a pew each Sunday morning. It is not about being baptized as an infant, or repeating a statement when you were 13 years old; it is a condition of your heart. It is about turning your decisions, hopes and desires over to Him. It is about making every decision (about money, career and relationships) with His guidance and according to His truth. If you believe you do have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, ask yourself this question, "Can I remember a time, a single decision in my life, when I asked Him to be the Lord of my life?" If not, you may want to reconsider the intimacy of your relationship with Him. If so, then reclaim that commitment now and rededicate your life to Him, just as He gave His life for you.

When you truly claim Jesus Christ the Lord of your life, you can expect:

- His strength and truth **to remove fear and doubt** from your life.
- His promise for **eternal life** to help you recognize that you are part of His kingdom and not "of this world" but "in this world."
- You are defined as a **child of God** or a follower of Jesus Christ and not defined by anything or anyone else.
- You do not measure yourself or your success based on any material thing, but based on the measure of **peace in your heart and joy in your life**.

A relationship with Him is the only way to have lasting peace

and joy in your life. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain by saying yes to His invitation.

God loves you and wants a relationship with you.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life – John 3:16

Because we are sinners, we are separated from God.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God - Romans 3:23

Christ's death and resurrection was for us, to pay for our sins.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us - Romans 5:8

We come to know God by accepting Christ's payment on the cross for us.

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and not of yourselves, it is the gift of God: not as a result of works, that no one should boast - Ephesians 2: 8-9

We accept the invitation and ask Jesus to be the leader of our life.

If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and **believe in your heart** that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. - Romans 10:9-10

You can invite Christ into your life by simply asking Him to come in and **be in charge** of your life. The words or prayer are not magic; **it is the attitude of your heart that is important.**

Deborah Millhouse's Biography:

Debby Millhouse is President of CEO Inc., which specializes in "Recruiting the BEST for Your Team!" through their full service offering, including direct hire placement, temporary staffing, and human capital services. Founded in 1994, CEO Inc. provides a full service approach to meeting business clients' needs for recruiting great talent. CEO Inc. is one of the only privately owned Charlotte area firms to offer this type of comprehensive service within a broad spectrum of functional expertise in a wide variety of industries.

Ms. Millhouse was named to the *Business Leader* Hall of Fame as one of the top entrepreneurs in the Charlotte area and to the *Business Leader* list of 2008 Women Extraordinaire, which recognizes women of extraordinary accomplishment and contribution. She was also named a 2006 Women in Business Achievement Award winner by *Charlotte Business Journal* for significant business accomplishments.

CEO Inc. was honored by the Charlotte Chapter of the Society of Financial Service Professionals with the 2008 Charlotte Ethics in Business Award in the Small Company Category and was ranked number six out of the Top 25 2008 *Charlotte Business Journal* Best Places to Work in the small business category.

CEO Inc. has been named as one of the top 100 Women-Owned businesses, one of the top 50 small businesses, and one of the top 50 diversity-owned businesses in the state of North Carolina by DiversityBusiness.com, the nations' leading multicultural B2B online portal.