

“BUILDING ON SUCCESS”

How sweet is success! We need to build on past success as we face today. We need to take all the elements of that game that led to our success and incorporate them into future games. We need to begin today to build ourselves and the team that we desire to be. One of our goals as a team should be *“To build with lasting character, something we can be proud of forever.”*

1. **SUCCESS BEGINS WITH FAITH** ~ God places great value on our faith. It is a building block of success. Hebrews 11:6 states, *“Without faith it is impossible to please Him.”* We must all continue to build our faith and trust in the Lord, our teammates, coaches and ourselves.
2. **SUCCESS TAKES TEAMWORK** ~ Legendary Husky football coach Don James had a sign on his desk that captures this thought quite well. It read, “Isn’t it wonderful to see what can be accomplished if no one cares who gets the credit.” It is always about the team. True success comes when a team comes together and excels. Philippians 2:3 shares, *“Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind, let each one of you treat others as more important than yourselves.”* What a great definition of team!
3. **SUCCESS TAKES PREPARATION** ~ Success is when preparation meets opportunity. NFL Hall of Fame Wide Receiver Jerry Rice shared, “Today I will do what others won’t, so tomorrow I can accomplish what others can’t.” He set the pace for his team and through his preparation and hard work accomplished much. Ephesians 2:10 states, *“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”*
4. **SUCCESS IS CONTAGIOUS** ~ The sense of pride and accomplishment that we gain from success causes us to want to attain more. That’s how we build momentum. The Apostle Paul stated in Philippians 4:9, *“Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice and the God of peace will be with you.”*
5. **SUCCESS BUILDS CHARACTER** ~ God desires that each one of us is an individual of character. “You take care of your character and God will take care of your reputation.” God wants to build His character into our lives. As we allow His character, gifts and abilities in us to be put on display, we attain a lasting success that God is proud of and that we can share in. *“And patience produces character, and character produces hope. And this hope will never disappoint us...”* Romans 5:4 “God is more concerned about our character than our comfort. His goal is not to pamper us physically but to perfect us spiritually.” Paul W. Powell

Today is a great day to build on our success and in the process to build great character!