

SESSION FOUR: THE KEY TO SUCCESS & KEEPING THE 4TH COMMANDMENT

God's formula for success: Matthew 6:31-34

1. Take no thought for your life.
2. Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.
3. I will add all these things to you..

In every age there is a **new development of truth**, a message of God to the people of **that generation**. The old truths are all essential; new truth is not independent of the old, but an unfolding of it. It is only as the old truths are understood that we can comprehend the new. When Christ desired to open to His disciples the truth of His resurrection, He began "at Moses and all the prophets" and "expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself." Luke 24:27. But it is the light which shines in the fresh unfolding of truth that glorifies the old. **He who rejects or neglects the new does not really possess the old.** For him it loses its vital power and becomes but a **lifeless form**. {COL 127.4} (Emphasis supplied).

Christ in His teaching presented old truths of which He Himself was the originator, truths which He had spoken through patriarchs and prophets; but He now shed upon them a **new light**. How different appeared their meaning! A flood of light and spirituality was brought in by His explanation. And He promised that the Holy Spirit should enlighten the disciples, that the word of God should be **ever unfolding to them**. They would be able to present its truths in **new beauty**. {COL 127.2} (Emphasis supplied).

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The **first step** in the path of **obedience** is to **surrender the will to God**. This may seem a difficult thing to do; for Satan will present every possible objection, and will manufacture difficulties, and magnify perplexities before the mind; but take the first step, and the next step on the ladder of progress will be easier. The ladder of progress must be climbed round by round; but God is above the ladder, and his glory will illuminate every step of advancement. **The path of faith and self-denial** is an upward path; its way is heavenward, and as you advance, the misleading clouds of doubt and evil will be left behind. {RH, October 9, 1894 par. 6} (Emphasis supplied).

The warfare against self is the greatest battle that was ever fought. The yielding of self, surrendering all to the will of God, requires a struggle; but the soul must submit to God before it can be renewed in holiness. {SC 43.3}

*And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness
quietness and assurance for ever. Isaiah 32:17*