

Success Forces

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Nathaniel Bronner: It's better to have wisdom than money because if you don't have wisdom, you won't keep your money.

Female: You are listening to brothersoftheword.com. This is part 6 of the series titled, "Success forces" subtitled, "The Success Force of Education" by Nathaniel Bronner. This message is number 5797. That is 5797. Listen to over a thousand free messages on brothersoftheword.com.

(Music Playing: 00:00:25 - 00:00:53)

And now for 5797, Success Forces Part 6, The Success Force of Education.

Nathaniel Bronner: Welcome to Brothers of the Word, because brother, you need the word. And right now, I am in the midst of a series called, "Success Forces." I do believe with every fiber of my being that God wants his children to be successful. Just as we as parents want our children to be successful, so does God as our Heavenly Father wants his children to be successful. But there are forces in life. There are forces that contribute to success and there are forces that contribute to failure. So we have been focusing on the series of the forces that contribute to success.

Success Force Part 1 was called, "Specific Goals." Then the second part was called, "BBQ Goals," for bite size, big, and quick. And third "Daddy's Home", jest the success force of having a father in the house. Part 4 was, "How to Set Goals for the Life You Actually Want," and Part 5, "The Success Force of Good Health. And you can go to brothersoftheword.com and download and listen to all of these, absolutely free. Today's message, "The Success Force of Education."

Now, Second Timothy 2:15 and this was a verse we would recite every single bible study, which simply says, "Study to show thyself approved unto God," a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. Study to show thyself approved unto God. Over Act chapter 7 verse 2, "And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians." As many of you know, I took my youngest son George to Egypt last month and we spent ten days there in Egypt.

Egypt at the time of Moses was the most advanced nation on the face of the earth. When you study Egypt, you find that every

major religion originated in Egypt, just like Christianity. The bible fundamental, all of the Old Testament, Moses was the main writer of the Old Testament. He came out to the house of pharaoh, came out of Egypt. All of the philosophers, all of the Greek and the Roman philosophers, they came out of Egypt, they studied in Egypt and brought that stuff back to Europe, but it came out of Egypt. Medicine, philosophy, mathematics, astronomy, so much stuff, engineering, so much stuff came out of Egypt. So when the bible over in Acts says that Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians; that was serious. It didn't mean just Moses knew by philosophy, it meant he was learned in all of the wisdom of the most technically and philosophically advanced nation on the face of the earth. Moses was a well-educated man.

Sometimes, we think that, you know, leaders, they just jot it out. Do you feel it? No, no, no, I remember when my great grandfather, he was an educated man and he was a preacher, and people would often tell him that, "Rim Rutland(ph), you don't need education to preach. God would put the words in your mouth." And he say, "Yes, God will put the words in your mouth but it takes some education to spit them out." So you need knowledge and education. It is one of the success forces that contribute to success.

There was a young boy, he approached his father and he said, "Dad, why does the wind blow?" And his daddy looked at him and said, "I don't know." He said, "Dad, where do the clouds come from?" He's, "Hmm. I'm not really sure about that." "So Dad, what makes a rainbow?" "Hmm. I don't really have any idea about that son."

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And he said, "Dad, do you mind me asking you all of these questions?" He said, "Not at all. How else you think you're going to learn?" So our point is, you need to learn to ask questions but you have to have a source to have some answers. Or else, if you try to pull from an ignorant vessel, you're going to get some ignorant knowledge. So you do have to have a source or a vessel for you to learn.

You know, many of the professions, they require continuing education. I'm going to just read you up some of the professions.

This is something they have to do. It's not voluntary or optional. In order for them to keep their license, they must take continuing education. Doctors, do you know when your doctor is required to take a certain number of continuing education units, every few years, they got to keep up to date, they must keep studying. After they have gone to college and after they have gone to medical school, after they have gone to internship and even in their residency, they are required by law, they must keep learning; because technology changes and they must keep learning. Doctors, nurses, we have some nurses here; they have to continue to take continuing educational courses to keep their license.

Dentist, acupuncturist, I'm going to say acupuncturist, you know, that's the folks who use a needle just sticking and burying meridians to stop pain or heal or whatever. I say, acupuncture, that thing is thousands of years old. Why they got to keep taking continuing education? But they do. Counselor, social workers, lawyers, paralegals, accountants, techs repairers, financial professionals, cosmetologist, which is the business of Bronner Brothers is in. We have the largest multi-culture(ph) show on the face of the planet; and we have thousands of these hairstylists who come here every year. They're packed in classes. They have not packed in classes just because they necessarily just want to, they're required to learn. They have to have continuing education units in order to keep their licenses. But the reason the board set up these requirements, they know if you don't keep learning, you get rested and you will fall behind.

So, it's a requirement and so many of these professions, nail technicians, architects. Why would a nail technician need to be required in some stage to have continuing education? They're like, "Once you learn how to do nail, that's how to do it." And some things you would think, "That's just how to do it." There are some things that you think right now, "I just know enough. That's how to do it. I got enough knowledge. I have enough experience. That's how to do it." No, that doesn't do it.

One of the success forces is a continuing mentality to keep learning and to keep getting education. Architects, engineers, project manager, safety personnel, all these staffs, they are required by law to keep their license and to keep working in that field to keep learning. Even with what God has given me in my daily commands. I have to spend an hour a day in prayer and that hour is beneficial. I need it. It helps to keep my spirit

anchored, it keeps me at peace. I'm required to spend an hour a day in prayer but I'm required to study for two hours. So God(ph), "You spent an hour with me, but you spent two hours studying." And often times, we just get to prayer and we leave off to studying. We don't learn, we don't improve ourselves and you need to have that connection to God but you need to know some stuff, and you need to have some knowledge.

Education is a power that is critical to success. And if you think education is expensive, try ignorance. Ignorance cost you a fortune. It really does. The bible, even Solomon, who was the wisest man who ever lived, who wrote Proverbs, Proverbs 4:7, "Wisdom is the principle thing, therefore, get wisdom and with all thy getting, get understanding." How much better is it to get wisdom than gold and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver? This is deep. Here Solomon says it's better to have wisdom than money. That's what gold and silver he represents in Proverbs 16:60, it's better to have wisdom than money because if you don't have wisdom, you won't keep your money and if you do have wisdom, you can get money and you can even get more money. So, Solomon in all of his wisdoms, it's better to have wisdom than money.

Someone once told a famous preacher, "God didn't need your education." And the preacher said, "God didn't need your ignorance even. So, you need to constantly be in a learning mode. And what I mean by education? I don't necessarily mean formal education. I'm not particularly talking about college or a master's degree or a doctorate degree.

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Those are important because there is a correlation between those who successfully complete education and those who don't. And often, it's not necessarily that it's a matter of the education itself, it's a matter of the discipline of completion. When you drop out of school, you have a tendency to drop out all the stuff. When you don't complete one thing, you have a tendency not to complete another thing. When you do just enough in school to just get by, when you graduate, you have a tendency to do just enough to just get by. Generally, a person who is A+ in their academic arena, there is a greater probability that they will be A+ in everything else. That's why when corporations go to look for jobs, they're on top of the class.

Right now, the richest man in the world is Jeff Bezos. He went passed Bill Gates. But when you look at Jeff Bezos, Jeff Bezos is valedictorian in his class. He was at the top. So, he was first then he's first in business, he's first in money, but it is a success force. So, just to have the knowledge that I am going to be a learner, and when you do that, when you get into that mentality, I am going to be a learner. I'm going to keep learning all the days of my life. I don't ever intend to stop learning. I'm not going to get too old to learn. It's simple as that.

See, one of the big problems that people have as they get older is their mental faculties start to fade. They can't remember, they can't think, their mental acuity starts dropping. A lot of that is because they stopped using their mind. They stopped growing their mind and when you stop growing, you're going to start shrinking. The mind is a muscle just like anything else. So, when you stop exercising it and when you stop using it, you will begin to lose its faculty. So, if you keep learning, it helps you to keep sharp all the days of your life.

So, I want to just talk about seven ways that we learn and seven days that we get education. The first way is school. This is the most common one and it makes a big difference. Do you know that they build prisons in an area based on third grade reading scores? They built prisons based on third grade reading scores. They can tell in an area, in a neighborhood, in a community, they can tell how many beds(ph) they're going to need in prison by the reading scores in third grade, because they know if a child cannot read or reads poorly, they won't do well in school, they're more than likely going to drop out of school. When they drop out of school, they know it's since a huge percentage of them down the path of crime because all of the other avenues are blocked. When you left at high school degree, it just blocks you out a whole lot of stuff.

Our office is next to the electrical workers unit and I went over there one day because I'm losing people, needed a job and I said, "Look, what do I need to do to get some folk in here to get your electrical training?" Well, actually he said, "I don't know (00:13:01)." I said, "What do I need to do to get some people in just to learn how to become an iron worker? He said, "First of all, they got to have a high school diploma. So, we don't take anybody without a high school diploma." I said, "What that got to do with welding iron?" "We don't take anybody without a high school

diploma.” So, if they don’t have a high school diploma, they couldn’t even get in to learn how to weld.

So, the education, just the formal schooling -- and I did a sermon where I talked about the differences in pay just between high school and no high school then college and no college. Each one of the levels of formal education as it increases; it increases the probability of increased income. That doesn’t guarantee anything, but it increases the probability that you’re going to earn more money. So, first is school. So for those of you, who are in school, stay in school. But those of you, who need to go back to school, go back to school. We’ve had some people here who gone back in an advanced age. And one of the people told me, “Pastor, it’s one of the things you said that made me go back to school.” And you were in a sermon and you were talking about, and you told the story of a man who said, “You know, I will go back to school four years from now.” “After four years old. That would be too old.” He was talking then the person said, “Well, how old would you be if you don’t go in four years?” And I said that thing hit me. So, how old will you be if you don’t learn, if you don’t go back and complete? So, school is important and it changes vibration. It changes a whole lot of thing. So, that’s number one, school is the first one.

Second one is just reading which includes listening. A lot of things in this country and in this world, they are not fair. I’ll be the first one to admit that. A lot of stuff is just not fair. There’s a lot of prejudice. There’s a lot of clash discrimination. There’s a lot of color discrimination. There’s a lot of religious discrimination. There’s a lot of age discrimination. I even talked about last week about, you know, you’re going to make more money the taller you are, just bottom line. I gave three things. I said you’re going to make more money. If you’re taller, that’s just the statistical probability. You make more money as a leader. If you have a deeper voice and you make more money if you buy this in better shape. That’s just the reality of it.

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So, my wife had her college program last week, and then the four winners, all four of them went height order. The winner number one was the tallest, second place was second tallest and third place. And I looked at them and I said, “My goodness! What in the --” It doesn’t mean that height is going determine anything,

it's just a factor. My biggest business mentor and the one who I really admire the most, I read every one of his books, was Ross Perot. Ross Perot was 5'5". He is a billionaire. He's five feet five inches tall, and he has a real squeaky low voice. So, if you ever hear him talk, he got this squeaky voice, he is 5'5", that doesn't mean anything if you're not 6'2". That doesn't mean anything. All it does is it affects probability just like it doesn't mean anything whether you're black or whether you're white, but it does affect probability.

So, reading is the one thing that eliminates all of class discrimination, because nobody can block you out of a book. And when you open a book, the content does not change based on the color of your eyes. It doesn't matter whether your eye is blue, brown, or black. The content of the book does not change based on the color of your eyes. It didn't change based on the texture of your hair or how much melanin is in your skin. It does not change. So, books allow you unrestricted and unbiased access to knowledge and it makes a big difference.

Books are now easier than ever. On my phone, I literally have over 200 books on my phone. And most of my books I prefer in audio format. It doesn't matter how you get it because I can listen as I drive. So often when I'm driving or from outrunning or exercising, I'm listening to a book. It doesn't matter how you digest the book whether you read it on the computer. A lot of people like just physical pages, I prefer my stuff electronic. It doesn't matter how your bible is. It doesn't matter whether you got one big old family bible, you just pick way back 20 pounds. It doesn't matter. And it doesn't matter whether you read it on your phone, what matters is that you read it. It doesn't matter whether you listen to an audio bible. What matters is that you read it in whatever form it is. So reading eliminates all of the discrimination and allows you to get knowledge.

Turn to the person next to you and ask them, "What are you reading now?" And say it will tell you the way person is going just based on the answer to that question. What are you reading now? Because the majority of people -- read nothing. I mean nothing. And see when you're not reading anything. When you look at most of the successful people -- it doesn't mean that all of the highly successful people in the world are big readers, just most of them are. So, it makes a difference about your knowledge and your advancement level just about you're continuing education.

Number three, you need to be around knowledgeable people as the mentor aspect. When you are around people with knowledge, that knowledge just rubs off on you and it changes your world, makes a huge difference. Pastor James had to come pick me up from a place yesterday. He was riding in his car, listening. I said, "What kind of music is that?" "You know, this is search in search." I went to subscribe to the service. So, he changed my whole music listening. He said, "Not only did you get the music but you get this that goes along with it and you can put up to six folk on it. So they have a family plan and you can put your whole family also. So I signed in my whole family just from riding in a car with him.

So, you see who you are around makes a difference in your knowledge level. If you are around people with a high level of knowledge and a high level of accomplishment, it pushed you that way. Now, if you're around stupid folk, I don't even have to explain it.

Number four, belong to organizations. When you belong to certain organizations, the group input makes a difference in your world. Pastor James and I, we attended a CEO meeting, every month would be a lot of big money. We spent six hours, one day a month with the luncheon and it's a round table of just me and who run multimillion dollar businesses. Just being in that organization, it changes our minds. It gives us ideas. They glean from us, we glean from them. Iron sharpens iron. So when you belong to certain organizations that are going somewhere, it makes a difference in where you go.

Number five, you need to attend learning experiences. See churches; that's a learning experience. But I can tell you this as a general rule, you can't learn more in church higher than the level of the pastor. Now that's a deep statement but the pastor generally will not take you any higher than where he is. So, when you choose the pastor, you need -- "Let me see where the pastor is. Do I want to be what that pastor is in this area or that area or that area?"

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Nathaniel Bronner: And if the answer to that is no, you need to find another pastor, and that includes me. Because of some stuff, I have some

weaknesses in and you can't impart what you don't have. It's just a rule about it and you just can't impart what you do not have. So, even when you go to seminars or different courses -- There is a company here called SkillPath, and they have all kind of courses in different business areas, and they had an annual limited plan. I signed up for the unlimited plan. I went to almost every course they had and I would go to different cities because I had gone to one seminar and they talked about, "Look, if you got to take various courses, you can travel and deduct it. All you got to do is take a course. You go to any city you want that they have this course in and you can deduct their whole trip. You can deduct your plane, you can deduct your hotel bill, you can deduct over morsel you eat. So you can deduct everything as long as you take one course and that's it." So just that knowledge allowed me to travel and cut my expenses. I only had to pay for half of it because of my tax bracket. But that was knowledge, that's an increased level of learning but you had to be around some people who did that.

I was in the CEO Group and we were actually out hiking. So it was a group about five or six of them and they were just telling me how they got free cars. I said, "What? I never heard of that." I said no I never heard of it because I'm generally not around that kind of folk. I'm around folk trying scroll to pay their car note. They're telling me how they got free cars. So I'm listening to the knowledge and the very people who could afford it riding around in free cars because of knowledge. That's another sermon.

Number six, just travel. Just travel. Now, sometimes I pass, I just can't travel, yes you can. Most of us have not even been to the stuff in Georgia. To be honest man, we haven't even been to the stuff in Georgia. Travelling opens up your mentality and it opens up your world. A friend of mine used to hang around a lot and he would listen to me about my travel. He said, "Man, you just opened up my whole world." He's on a motorcycle right now heading to New (00:21:56). Going to an 8,000-mile round trip. He said, "I got there from you. I hung around you and you changed the way I think." So travel opens up your world to different life experiences and the way people live and often times it helps you appreciate what you got, especially when you travel all around the world and you go to the high and you go to the low. When you get back to the U.S. it helps you appreciate what you have. When you don't travel, sometimes you find every little flow with everything. When you see some other stuff, you would be saying,

“Whoa! Thank goodness, amen America.” Yes, it makes a difference.

When you don't travel, you look government, this and this that and they got some wrong, he didn't do all -- When you travel, you see the other side of some stuff. And when you travel, it changes your whole vibe and your whole appreciation of something.

And the last one, just direct from God. See, most of my major changes have been the learning and the coaching has been direct from God. Just like I study two hours a day, to be honest, if God hadn't commanded me then I wouldn't be doing it. So, when you develop the communication with God, he will lead you where to go and what to study. Often God will breathe into my spirit, you read this book. So it's number seven on this list but its number one. When you develop a direct communication with the ultimate teacher, it will change what you learn, it will change your knowledge, and it will change your wisdom.

So the Success Force of Education, Albert Einstein said, “Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one learned in school.” And Jim Rohn says, “We must work harder on ourselves than on our work.” When you learn to work harder on yourself than your job, money will come as a result. And I'll end before Jim Rohn said about education. He said, “Formal education will make you a living, self education will make you a fortune.” When you're out of school, it's going to be up to you because no truant officer is going to come and make you go to school. Nobody is going to force you to learn, it's self education. Formal education will make you a living; self education will make you a fortune. I pray that all of us learn and we become continual learners. It will really change your world. What are you really?

Thank you for joining us today at Brothers of the Word. You can go to brothersoftheword.com, listen to the entire series called Success Forces, absolutely free. We thank you for joining us today at Brothers of the Word, because brother you need the word. Amen, amen.

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Nathaniel Bronner: If this message has been a blessing to you and you would like to help support this ministry, go to IWanttoGive.com. That's IWanttoGive.com.

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