

not only a believing Christian; he was trying to live and work as a Christian!

That impressed Patty. And it impressed me. But actually that should be the way every Christian works!

Not only should we strive for excellence in our occupation; we ought to do the same in our work for the Lord.

In a number of Christian settings I have noticed a tendency among believers to be careless, haphazard, and sloppy in work they do for the Lord. I believe that this reflects an attitude that says, "It's O.K. to offer substandard work to the Lord." But it's not O.K.!

How can this attitude be overcome? I would urge that Christians find out where their gifts and talents lie, and then use them for the Lord at a high quality level.

I would urge that Christians put some care, effort, and time into preparation for service for the Lord.

I would urge that we give the best we can to the Lord.

I would urge that we not offer shoddy work to the Lord.

Let us strive for excellence, both in our occupation and in our work for the Lord!

### Conclusion

The Lord wants us to be successful in our lives and service for Him. In order to be a success, we must do the things that make for success.

I have suggested seven practical principles we can all adopt to achieve the kind of success the Lord wants us to have.

Let me repeat these seven principles:

1. If we wish to have success, we must live within our means, and be content with God's provision.