

Defining *Success* in Christian Ministry

INTRO: *Whether he intended to defend himself against slander or else to provide an example for church leadership in Thessalonica, Paul provides us with three principles for successful Christian ministry.*

**I. Successful ministry _____
_____ (2:1-4).**

Paul's boldness came from his firm belief in the truth of the Gospel with which he felt entrusted by God.

**II. Successful ministry _____
_____ (2:5-8).**

*Why we do something is every bit as important as **what** we do. Paul predetermined not to adopt worldly standards for success in ministry..*

**III. Successful ministry _____
_____ (2:9-12).**

People, NOT programs, are the target. Any ministry that does not in some way spiritually benefit people may be considered expendable.

FINAL NOTE: Results are not part of our definition for success because results are *God's responsibility*, who alone is worthy to receive praise! (2:13).