

The Climb to The Top

Luke 10:40-42, Jeremiah 17:9-10



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Keynote Address

- **There is a disproportionate number of students who choose to study a few specific majors.**
- **More students sign up for these majors than statistically have a natural skill or desire toward that particular study.**
- **People flood into these life choices and careers not because of a gifting or calling, but rather because they are success-struck.**
- **The idol of success is probably the sneakiest of any of the idols.**
- **When our identity is in our achievements, we may not move God off the throne, but we make Him fight for space in the room.**

Martha and Mary

- Two important phrases in Luke 10:40-42:
 - "Martha was distracted"
 - "Mary has chosen"
- How often do we live our lives with good intentions, instead of spending time with Jesus?
- It is easier to give the vast majority of our time to something that we can tangibly see.
- The tyranny of the urgent is when we allow ourselves to become distracted in a sea of things that "need to be done right this second!"
- The tyranny of the urgent also means that when we ask God, He, too, should do them right this second.
- God is never early, and He is never late.

Choice

- All idols come down to one word: choice.
- Idols do not lure us with something that is overtly sinful, rather they battle for our hearts with distractions of good things.
- We need to re-order our priorities.
- A symptom of someone who struggles with an idol of success or achievement is: Comparison.
- Two main symptoms of having an idol of success or achievement:
 - You have a constant frustration with people in your life who, from your perspective, are not getting it done.
 - You are discontent.
- We cannot put our faith in our merits and achievements because they are not eternal.

Conclusion

- God does not want our successes, He wants us.
- Our existence does not have to be justified by our accomplishments.
- Our significance and value have already been proven and paid for by Jesus.
- Through Christ, we can be "as successful as the cross."

