

## *Defying The World*

**“Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you.” Mark 10:50**

*“The Lord has delivered his people...” [Jeremiah 31:7]* The one who died to save us from sin, who conquered death itself is calling you to become the vehicle of His love, to be a worker of mercy and a proclaimer of peace. You are His disciple, His eyes and His hands. You are called, you are sent, you are chosen!

How do you think the average person would define success? We all long to be successful in life, but what does it mean to be successful in life? Is it money, fame, possessions, family, friends or a career? How would Jesus define success?

**“I will gather them from the ends of the world...” Jeremiah 31:8**

What does it take to be a successful disciple of Christ? Is it just attending Church once a week, or praying before meals? To be a true and successful disciple of Christ means that you have to defy the world and all that it has to offer you. You must rise above the pettiness of the world and all of its false promises. You can live for the things of this world and call it success, as society does. But to live for the glory that is greater than anything that this world can offer, that is truly success.

If Jesus has conquered death and sin, why do we fear the world? Why do we fear what everyone else might think? Is that not our goal, to get them to look at us differently and see their lives in a new light? Why are we so afraid to be different, to defy the world and all of its limitations and expectations? We are followers of God, who is Creator, Savior, Redeemer, Almighty and Compassionate! Why do we fear? There is nothing and no one that was, is or will ever be that can ever bring us down in the eyes of God.

*Gentle Creator,  
strengthen me to defy the limitations of this world,  
to stand strong in the face of those who deny and oppose you.  
Teach me to love with conviction and belief that surpasses my ability to comprehend.  
Together we are unlimited in love, and there is no force here on earth  
or anywhere that is stronger than this love.  
Grant that I may live as you call, grow as you lead, and shine as you desire.  
I ask for the grace to exist as an extension of You,  
I give to you, my eyes, my hands, my feet, my desire, and my soul,  
so that I may glorify the beauty of You in all that I do.  
I pray this in conviction through my savior Jesus Christ.*

*AMEN*