



D'WELL BITES

26 FEBRUARY
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Uzziah was privileged to become king of Judah when he was only sixteen years old (v.3). Though he was young for such a great responsibility, the Lord helped him and gave him success. He became powerful, overcame the enemy nations, became famous and reigned in Jerusalem for fifty-two years.

The secret of his success?

"He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD" and "As long as he sought the LORD, God gave him success" (vv.4-5 NIV). If you hope to succeed in life, the first step is simply to walk closely with the Lord.

Young King Uzziah was able to stay close to the Lord, in part, because he was instructed by a prophet named Zechariah, to fear the Lord (v.5). He probably understood his need for God, humbled himself and learned to depend upon the Lord.

One truth I have learned is that it is important to have others impart spiritual truths into our lives and encourage and challenge us in our Christian walk. As such, it is important to attend church regularly, be part of a caring Care Group and stay connected with godly friends that they may impart spiritual encouragement into our lives.

Unfortunately, like many today, when King Uzziah became successful, he became proud and strayed from the Lord. He entered the temple of the LORD to burn incense (v.16), which only the priests could do and when he was confronted for his wrong, instead of repenting, he raged at the priests. As a result, he was afflicted with leprosy and confined to a separate house until he died. What a tragic end.

If we are not careful, we too can begin well and be successful, but as we prosper, get drawn away by the very success God blessed us with. Thus, let us also guard our hearts that we may remain faithful till the end.