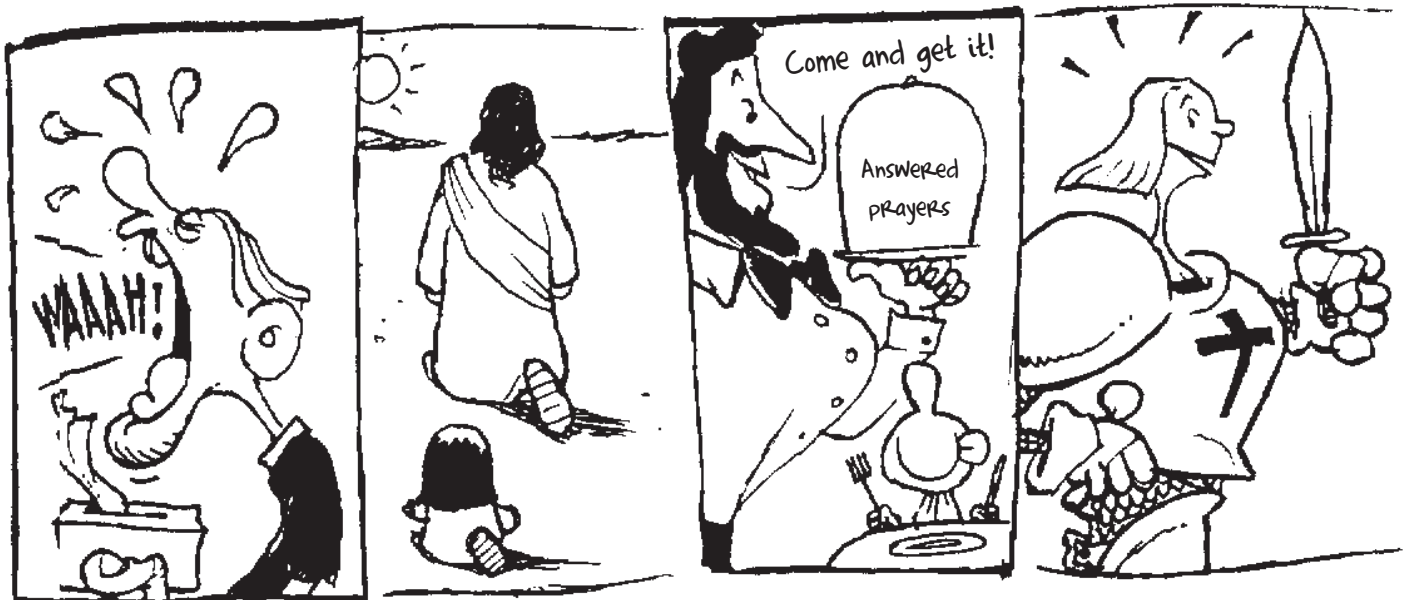


# Patience and Effort Equals Success

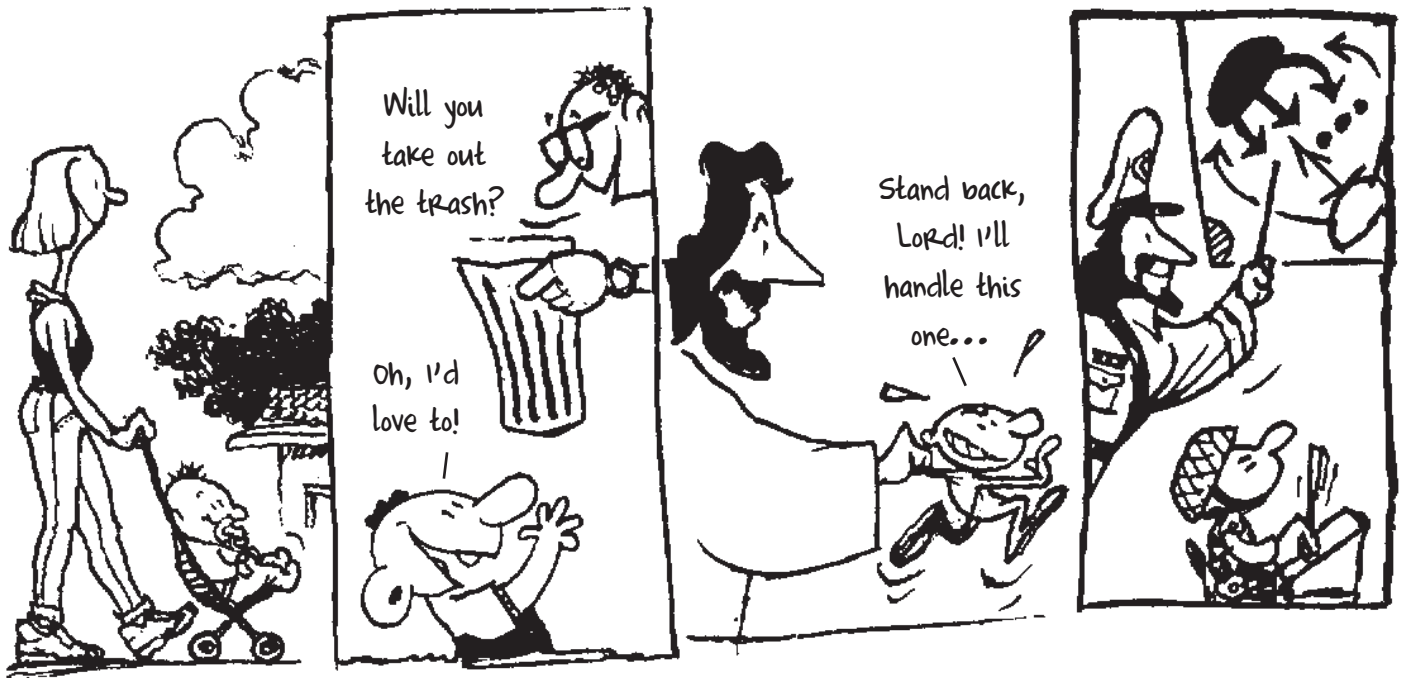
Jesus considers us successful when we live our lives in ways that lovingly lift up others. In fact, He is one of your biggest fans! As you faithfully follow God's Word, you will see that He has outlined ways in which you can find success in the things you do to manifest His love for others. Sometimes no one but Jesus will know about the kind and sacrificial deeds that you do for Him and others, but He sees your heart.



He knows about the times you prayed, the times you were desperate to do the right thing, and the times you were a good follower of Him and His teachings. He will answer your prayer, and He will be there for you. He will "equip you with everything good that you may do his will."<sup>1</sup> Sometimes you need to wait for His specific answer to your situation, and that may take a time of patiently waiting.



But if you're doing what you can to show your faithfulness and responsibility in the little things, and you let Jesus lead you instead of you attempting to lead Him, then He will show you His strategy and direction for your specific situation.



Jesus is like a loving father who will comfort you when you feel discouraged, so turn to Him when you are in need of some help to get through the more difficult times. And if you make a mistake, don't get discouraged! You don't need to be perfect; in fact, you will probably make mistakes, but if you do, just get up and keep trying until you succeed. With patience, effort, and a good strategy, you will succeed!

