SURAH AL-INSHIRAH

7. “So when you have finished (with your immediate task), still strive hard, (then toil),”

To stand up/to exhaust oneself

8. “And to your Lord turn (all) your attention.”

To turn to/to devote to

The Mufassireen (commentators of the Qur’an) have said the above two verses can mean several things:

‘When you finish your obligatory prayers pay attention to supplication and ask Allah to give you what you want’.

“When you finish your religious duties, get up for night prayers”.

“When you finish your work/job/school, refer to the spiritual world and say prayers and do religious things”.

“Never be idle or lazy at all. Do not put striving and effort aside. Always be busy and when you finish one task, begin another. And then once you have worked hard, seek to become close to Allah”.

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So we learn from the 2 ayaat that the formula for success is:

“To work hard” + “to turn to Allah, make du’a and rely on Him”

What has Allah promised for those who follow the success formula?

A good life – Hayaatan tayyibah
[Al Qur’an 16:97] 
Protection
[Al Qur’an 22:38]

No fear and no grief
[Al Qur’an 2:277] 
Forgiveness – Maghfirah
[Al Qur’an 5:9]

Taken from darkness into light
[Al Qur’an 2:257]

Blessings – Barakah
[Al Qur’an 7:96]