

Lesson 8 – Prioritizing My Priorities

INTRODUCTION

In the previous lesson, we discover that baptism is essential to a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Another important aspect of growing your relationship with Jesus Christ is prioritizing our priorities. This lesson will help us identify the priorities of a Christ-follower and understand how to fulfill them.

WHAT ARE THE PRIORITIES OF EVERY CHRIST-FOLLOWER?

When we enter into a relationship with Jesus Christ it has a tremendous impact on determining who and what are to be important in life. Read the following verses to discover the priorities of a Christ-follower.

Matthew 22:37, 38

1 Timothy 5:8

Ephesians 6:5

Romans 13:1, 2

According to scriptures, the first priority of every Christ-follower is our relationship to God. When we love God with all of our heart, soul, and mind we're giving Him the highest place in our life. In addition to our relationship with God, we are also to properly prioritize our relationships with family, job, and civil authorities.

HOW DO I PRIORITIZE THE PRIORITY OF MY FAMILY?

Each of us is part of a family; father, mother, son, daughter, husband or wife. Read the following verses and identify some of the responsibilities we have as members in a family.

Ephesians 6:4

1 Thessalonians 2:7

Ephesians 6:1-3

Ephesians 5:25

1 Peter 3:7

1 Peter 3:1, 2

After God, our family should be our next highest priority. When our families function according to God's design other people can't help but notice. Functioning by God's design in family relationships will provide opportunities to share the influence of God in our lives.

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HOW DO I PRIORITIZE THE PRIORITY OF MY JOB?

The Bible has a lot to say about the way we are to conduct ourselves at work. Read the following verses and identify some of the responsibilities we have as employees and employers.

Ephesians 6:5-8

Colossians 4:1

1 Peter 2:18, 19

Every job has its share of challenges; an overbearing boss, demanding schedule, less than ideal work conditions, or underperforming employees. Whatever the challenge, remember to serve as if Jesus Christ is your employer.

HOW DO I PRIORITIZE THE PRIORITY OF CIVIL AUTHORITY?

According to the scriptures, civil authorities are established by God. That doesn't mean He approves of every law established by a government. Read the following verses and identify some of the responsibilities we have to civil authorities.

Romans 13:1-7

1 Peter 2:13-17

1 Timothy 2:1, 2

As Christ-followers we are citizens on earth and in God's kingdom. Our citizenship in God's kingdom requires us to honor and submit to governmental authorities, obey the ordinances they establish, and pray for their leadership.

CONCLUSION

As we grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ we will also grow in our understanding of the priorities of God, family, job, and civil authority. At times, we will face challenges in our priorities; new family commitments, increased demands at work and opportunities to lead in our community. However, with God's grace and guidance we can not only navigate these challenges but also learn to prioritize our priorities.

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HOMEWORK

Select one verse that has the most significance to you from each section of this week's lesson. Write out the verses in the space provided below. Ask for God's guidance on how to apply each verse to your life this week.

THE PRIORITY OF MY FAMILY:

Verse(s)

Application

THE PRIORITY OF MY JOB:

Verse(s)

Application

THE PRIORITY OF CIVIL AUTHORITY:

Verse(s)

Application