

Majoring in the Minors

What is really important in life? What ought to be our highest priorities To be a Christian, a follower of Jesus, is to keep focusing upon what is important and to keep refusing to become preoccupied with what is unimportant.?

Luke 12:13-21 Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." ' "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' "This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."

Readings
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Reflections

SUMMERTIME

Reflections

How do we know what is important? According to Stephen Covey how you spend your time shows what is important to you (what you value). What do you value? If I kept track of how you spend your time, would I able to determine what you value?

Is God important to you? Do you spend time with Him to show that he's important in your life? God values each of us and is waiting for us to demonstrate that we also value Him. How do you demonstrate that you value God above everything else?

Two ways to show that you value God are to study His word and to pray.

Study God's word

Use a concordance to find passages relating to bibli-

cal people and study how they dealt with problems. Are you wrestling with God? Read about Jonah. Are you fearful? Look up "fear and "afraid" in the concordance. You can study verses relating to

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fear and being afraid and discover how other people dealt with these issues.

Search for God's promises that meet your need. Remember God doesn't lie - He keeps all His promises.

The Bible has some very simple truths in it and some very profound. The Holy Spirit will teach you

as you read it. The more you study, the more you will understand.

Pray

Spend time talking with God. You can be honest with him.

If you don't feel like praying, tell him. "God, I don't feel like praying today. I'd rather be reading a magazine or watching television. But you are here, and I want to learn. I am struggling. Help me with this." He will hear that prayer...and he will open his word to you.

Tell him all your heart things. He already knows. He just wants you to invite him to help. He doesn't look at our failures to see where he can condemn us. He looks at them to see how he can help.

— Mickey Kibler

Readings

Don't have a Bible? Access these scriptures at biblegateway.com.

Sunday, August 5, 2007

Luke 12: 13-21

How can you be rich toward God?

Monday, August 6, 2007

Matthew 8: 18-22

What is the cost of following Jesus?

Tuesday, August 7, 2007

Malachi 3: 6-17

2 Corinthians 9: 6-11

Do you offer God the best or does God get what's leftover? God wants and deserves the best from each of us.

Wednesday, August 8, 2007

Proverbs 30:4-6

Ephesians 6: 13-20

How does your spiritual armor compare to this list? Where are you strong? Weak?

Thursday, August 9, 2007

Psalms 119: 66-68

John 14: 15-23

What did Jesus say we will do if we love him? (Obey his teachings). Where do we find his teachings?

Friday, August 10, 2007

Psalms 145: 12-14

God is faithful to all His promises. How does this truth impact your life?

Saturday, August 11, 2007

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-17

Practice talking to God about everything. Go to God with questions, blessings, or anything on your heart and mind. God is always available.

Let's Serve & Invite!

This summer check out this spot for simple ideas about how to extend hope into our community. We'll share practical tips you can use at work and at play, on your own and with your family, to encourage others in the name of Christ.

Invite them to know Jesus: Remember that our purpose to Invite is to draw people to know Jesus. We do this by showing God's love in tangible ways. Bringing them to church is not always the first step...listen to how the Holy Spirit leads you.

Invite them to worship: Summer worship, especially outdoors, may be just the informal church welcome that you friends and neighbors need. Invite them to come with you next Sunday!

Got a tip? Email Serve&Invite@StJohnMD.org