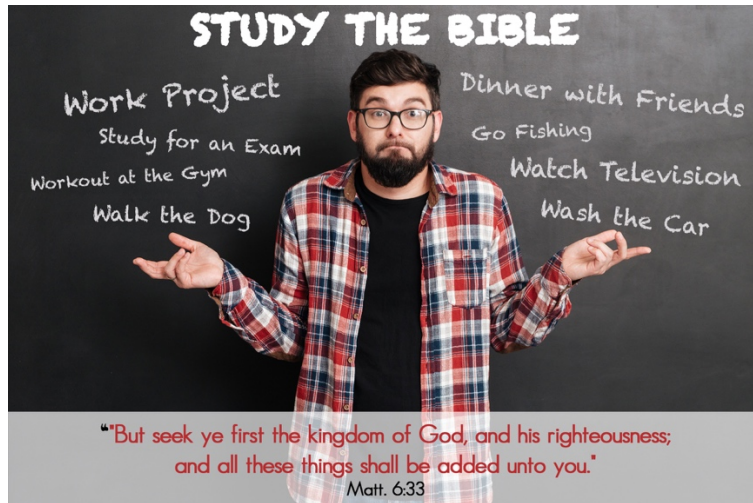


First Things First

Pastor's Desk – July 28, 2019



Setting the right goal(s) is often the priority for success. Our Lord established the highest-priority goal for His disciples in this verse. He did this because He knows that the primary goal, our highest priority, determines the preparations, efforts, and zeal for reaching it."

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by Pastor Teddy Santos

Baltimore Christian Faith Center A Place Where Miracles Still Happen www.BCFC.org

Matt. 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Setting the right goal(s) is often the priority for success. Our Lord established the highest-priority goal for His disciples in this verse. He did this because He knows that the primary goal, our highest priority, determines the preparations, efforts, and zeal for reaching it.

Let's say someone offered us an immense amount of money, potentially billions of dollars, but the exact amount is determined by how well we learn to speak Dutch in two months! We would embark on the most intense crash-course program of learning in our life! We would study from morning to night, burn the midnight oil, listen to language tapes, carry flashcards wherever we went, and seek out fluent Dutch-speakers so we could practice with them.

During those two months, no one could drag us near a time-wasting TV program. We would probably allow nothing to hinder, other than necessary physical activities to sustain life itself - all for the money!

Notice what the Lord says earlier in Matthew 6:

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. (verses 19-21)

Consider these scriptures in the context of what the Lord says in verse 33. Our hearts are in the things to which we devote ourselves, the things we spend our time pursuing. He is helping us prioritize by stating and illustrating principles that will help us make the right choices in managing time. The Lord Jesus says how we spend it, shows where our heart is.

Of course, Bible Study and prayer are very high priority activities. But the enemy also knows this! So he makes use of subtle, indirect approaches, and all too often, he succeeds in distracting our attention from these high priority goals. May the love we have for our Lord, and the zeal we possess for the things of God, take top priority in our every day-to-day; so "...all these things may be added unto you."

In His service,
Pr. Teddy Santos