

God's Priorities for Your Life

*First pay attention to me, and then relax.
Now you can take it easy—you're in good hands.*

Proverbs 1:33 MSG

On your daily to-do list, all items are not created equal: Certain tasks are extremely important while others are not. Therefore, it's imperative that you prioritize your daily activities and complete each task in the approximate order of its importance.

The principle of doing first things first is simple in theory but more complicated in practice. Well-meaning family, friends, and coworkers have a way of making unexpected demands upon your time. Furthermore, each day has its own share of minor emergencies; these urgent matters tend to draw your attention away from more important ones. On paper, prioritizing is simple, but to act upon those priorities in the real world requires maturity, patience, determination, and balance.

If you fail to prioritize your day, life will automatically do the job for you. So your choice is simple: prioritize or be prioritized. It's a choice that will help determine the quality of your life.

If you're having trouble balancing the many demands of everyday living, perhaps you've been trying to organize your life

according to your own priorities, not God's. A better strategy, of course, is to take your daily obligations and place them in the hands of the One who created you. To do so, you must prioritize your day according to God's commandments, and you must seek His will and His wisdom in all matters. Then, you can face the coming day with the assurance that the same God who created our universe out of nothingness will help you place first things first in your own life.

Are you living a balanced life that allows time for worship, for family, for work, for exercise, and a little time left over for you? Or do you feel overworked, underappreciated, overwhelmed, and underpaid? If your to-do list is "maxed out" and your energy is on the wane, it's time to restore a sense of balance to your life. You can do so by turning the concerns and the priorities of this day over to God—prayerfully, earnestly, and often. Then, you must listen for His answer . . . and trust the answer He gives.

PRIORITIES FOR MY LIFE

Making Time for God: Our days are filled to the brim with obligations and priorities, but no priority is greater than our obligation to our Creator. Let's make sure that we give Him the time He deserves, not only on Sundays, but also on every other day of the week.

TIMELESS WISDOM FOR GODLY LIVING

Often our lives are strangled by things that don't ultimately matter.

Grady Nutt

How important it is for us—young and old—to live as if Jesus would return any day—to set our goals, make our choices, raise our children, and conduct business with the perspective of the imminent return of our Lord.

Gloria Gaither

No horse gets anywhere until he is harnessed. No life ever grows great until it is focused, dedicated, disciplined.

Harry Emerson Fosdick

*And I pray this: that your love will keep on growing
in knowledge and every kind of discernment,
so that you can determine what really matters and
can be pure and blameless in the day of Christ.*

Philippians 1:9 Holman CSB

The most important business I'm engaged in ought to be the Lord's business. If it ain't, I need to get off and classify myself and see whose side I'm on.

Jerry Clower

MORE WORDS FROM GOD'S WORD

The thing you should want most is God's kingdom and doing what God wants. Then all these other things you need will be given to you.

Matthew 6:33 NCV

He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it."

Luke 9:23-24 NKJV

In a race, everyone runs but only one person gets first prize . . . to win the contest you must deny yourselves many things that would keep you from doing your best.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25 TLB

MY PRIORITIES FOR LIFE

I understand the importance of reviewing my priorities frequently.

On my priority list, I put God first and my family second.

I place a high value on doing important tasks first and easy tasks later.

Check Your Priority		
High	Med.	Low
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