

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on thorncreek.church/live)

Warming up

1. Was church an important part of your life as a child?

Digging Deeper & Application

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. Does your weekly schedule reflect God being first in your life?
3. Do you agree with this quote from this Oxford Study, "I'm just so busy' has become the new status symbol." Why or why not?
4. Read Proverbs 27:1 and Psalm 90:12. What do these verses say about time?
5. Pastor Ruben said, "Going down the wrong spiritual road starts with a seemingly inconsequential decision to put something or someone before God." Can you give examples of when it's wrong to put something before God?
6. Please read Psalm 127:1-2. Compare with this quote, "But the psalmist decries this as an inferior way of life if the hard work is only for the purpose of providing daily food and clothing for oneself and the family. The higher way of life begins with trusting the Lord in one's work." - VanGemeren. What can you take away from this information?
7. "Long hours do not mean prosperous work. The evening meal may be put off till a late hour; and when the toil-worn man sits down to it, he may eat bread made bitter by labour. But all is in vain without God's blessing." - Maclaren. What are your thoughts about this quote?
8. Read Mark 1:35; Luke 5:16, and Luke 6:12. What do these verses say about Jesus? How often do you get away to be with God?

9. Please read Ephesians 5:15-17. What is it saying? Compare with this quote, "Self-leadership precedes team leadership and public influence. If you can't lead yourself, you can't (and shouldn't) lead others." - Michael Hyatt

10. What are your thoughts about this quote from John Flavel? "Heart-work is a constant work. The keeping of the heart is a work that is never done till life is ended. There is no time or condition in the life of a Christian which will suffer an intermission of this work." Compare with Proverbs 4:23.

11. According to James 4:13-14, how long is life?

12. What is taught about the Sabbath in Deuteronomy 5:12-14?

13. Please read Matthew 6:31-33. What is the message? What decisions do you need to make in life to put God first? Will you do it?

Application

Below are some of the points shared in the message. Discuss how they apply to your life.

- Going down the wrong spiritual road starts with a seemingly inconsequential decision to put something or someone before God.
- Putting God first is a daily choice.
- The greatest thing you can do with your life is to live for God's purpose.